Kathmandu, Nepal – ADRA Nepal staff are working around the clock to deliver much-needed tarps and food to families in remote villages in Dhading and Kavre. Tough road conditions, including rubble from houses destroyed by the earthquake, are making distribution more difficult. In some cases, ADRA workers are driving up to five hours, then walking long distances in the mountainous regions of Nepal carrying tarps and other materials so desperately needed in these remote communities.

'We are going to great lengths to ensure that even those who are hard to reach receive the urgent assistance that they need as soon as possible,' says Robert Patton, ADRA Emergency Response Co-ordinator.

Over the last week, ADRA has distributed 1,278 tarps in Dhading district, 900 tarps in Kavre, 50 tarps in Kathmandu, and 64 tents in Lalitpur. Food distribution has also begun in addition to these ongoing deliveries of tents and tarpaulins.

Families in remote villages are relieved to see they have not been forgotten.

‘There is no food, no water, no gas,’ said 42-year-old Sushila, a mother of four, living in a remote village. ‘We are using firewood to cook. The tarpaulin that houses the entire village has holes, so the rain comes through. There are 45-50 people sleeping under the tarp every night.’

Sushila was at the village temple when the earthquake struck. She, her husband and children survived, but her cattle, which were tied to their home, died under a collapsing wall.

‘Right now what we need most is a place to stay and something to eat.’

ADRA distributed tarps in her village that day.

Continued on page 2
**Rami’s story**

“We need food and shelter. There is nothing left in our village,” says Rami. She is from Lapa village in Dhading. The earthquake flattened her home, leaving her son, Eno, trapped inside. For three days, Eno suffered under the rubble in extreme pain. The collapsed house had fractured his arm and leg. Finally, a rescue helicopter arrived to take him to the district hospital. “He is supposed to be treated in this bigger hospital in Biratnagar. He is in a lot of pain, but our turn has not come yet,” says Rami with tears in her eyes. “The district hospital does not have the capacity to do the surgery he needs right now.”

**How you can help**

Add agencies are asking that those who want to help the people of Nepal give cash donations. “Cash donations enable organisations to respond to urgent needs as they change, which happens frequently in [the] early stages of response,” said Thierry Van Bignot, ADRA’s Director for Emergency Management. “They are the most efficient and allow us to purchase goods locally, ensuring that everything we get is culturally and environmentally appropriate.”

Please donate online at www.adra.org.uk or text ADRAX0 £10 to 70070 to donate £10 to ADRA and make a difference today.

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**Meat analogues – How healthy are they?**

Imagine yourself at a meal, about to sample a wonderfully prepared dish which both looks and smells good. Your dining companions have ordered their meals from the meat menu whilst yours is a ‘vegetarian dish classified as a ‘meat substitute’. They ask you what your meat-free choice is made from. Good question. How would you answer?

Meat substitutes/alternatives are also known as meat analogues, which are described as food products that have similar aesthetic qualities and/or chemical characteristics as do certain types of meat. Some meat analogues, such as Quorn, are made of mycoprotein, which is a highly processed product produced by a fermentation process from a type of fungus called Fusarium venenatum. The fungi are grown in a fermentation vat to which is added carbon dioxide, glucose, oxygen, nitrogen, minerals, vitamins and other undisclosed ingredients. These ingredients enable the fungi to grow under the constant temperature at which the vat is kept. Once the fungi reach the desired size, ingredients such as egg and seasoning are added, then cooked and developed into chunks. Next, it is frozen, which results in a structure that resembles meat.

Other meat analogues such as TVP (Textured Vegetable Protein), also known as TSP (Textured Soy Protein), are made from defatted soy flour, a byproduct of the process whereby oil is extracted from the soybean. It can also be made from oats, wheat and cotton seeds and is very high in protein.

Both Quorn and TVP-based products have their detractors and attitudes (actions) of ‘meat addicts’ towards these products may result in negative reactions from those with food and mould allergies. In response to these claims, others suggest that there is insufficient scientific evidence to substantiate the reports that meat analogues are harmful. However, the safety debate continues, with some reports going as far as suggesting that processed meat substitutes could be more harmful than those from human sources.

‘We can, however, be free from sin’ (1 John 1:9-10). If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.’ (1 John 1:9-10, NIV-UK.)

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**Have you given up sinning too?**

On a busy Friday last year my wife had the misfortune to have our car stall while she was waiting to turn into the Morrisons car park in Grimsby. She immediately tried to restart the vehicle – a few times actually – but without success.

The traffic was congested and the weather warm, factors that no doubt helped sour the mood of the man who chose to hoot at her for the delay! Poor Elize, what could she do under the circumstances but wish her helpless embarrassment away.

Men are sometimes pretty useless in such situations, and I was no exception. Instead of quietly applying a comforting hug after listening to her ordeal, I launched into some poorly timed ‘If-it-happens-again-don’t-do-this … ’ advice.

Stamford

Just a few weeks ago, I was sitting in my car in Stamford, waiting patiently for the traffic light to change. There were a few vehicles in front of me and it didn’t change, the first two moved off smartly. But the third driver appeared engrossed in a conversation with her passenger and made no visible effort to move. Yes! You guessed it. Instinctively, without giving it a second thought, I honked my horn at her! The response from her passenger was swift and emphatic, involving a hand signal that is definitely not listed in The Highway Code!

It was then that my wife pointed out that the car ‘parked’ in front of us was that of a registered driving school with its L-plates clearly on display! Unthinkingly, I had just put cruel and unnecessary pressure on someone who was desperately struggling to master her clutch control.

Why? Why do things like this happen to me? Am I the only one who experiences such lapses? Or are there other believers who end up praying for God’s guidance and grace in the morning … and His forgiveness in the early afternoon? What is it about sin that makes it so malignant – so hard to eradicate? Will we ever be able to confidently claim that we are ‘in remission’?

What about you? Have you reached the place where you are no longer bothered by any inclination to sin? Believe it or not, but a number of our UK members think they have reached this spiritual milestone.

These thoughts from John are fully supported by the comments of a highly respected Adventist author: “The more clearly we discern the purity of Christ’s character, the more clearly shall we see the exceeding sinfulness of sin. There will be a continual confession of sin and humbling of the heart before Him. At every advance step our repentance will deepen. We shall confess: ‘I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) dwelleth no good thing.’ ‘God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.’ Romans 7:18, Galatians 6:14. Let not God be disenchanted by the declaration from human lips, ‘I am sinless; I am holy.’ Sanctified lips will never give utterance to such presumptuous words. Even though it is painful, I personally appreciate that God patiently continues to identify and ‘cauterise’ my character imperfections. How about you?”

‘Elven White, From Trials to Triumph, page 295

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**Limitless Potential**

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Reflections

Are UK Adventists really living beneath the ‘breadline’?

by Cor Saunders

During my travels abroad, especially during my younger years, I visited many of our churches in Europe, South Africa, Chile, Thailand and other countries. There I met and learned to know many wonderful Adventists – people who astonished me at the work they were doing for God in their local communities. Some of them were hard at work in poorly equipped colleges and schools, while others were enthusiastically engaged in various community welfare projects. I found all this to be very heart-warming.

These days I still meet a lot of people, mostly through my work as a publisher, that find that religion often pops up in the discussions I have within my work environment – mostly because a contractor wishes to come in on a Sabbath to catch up on some unfinished tasks.

Recently I have been chatting with one of them, a Christian, about our church’s teachings, especially baptism. Among other things he mentioned that he had been looking around on the church website and at other online documents that provide financial information about our church. According to his research, which was based on 2012 statistics, our tithe income for that year had been £12,400,000 and our membership around 34,200. He had also calculated that our tithes return for that year was a mere 55p per member, which meant that the average Adventist earned a mere £3.85 for that year – just £304 per month!

He observed that this was an astonishingly low average income, which suggested that many of our members were living below the breadline! Then he looked at me for an answer! What would you have said?

I told him that the higher incomes enjoyed by those of our members on a full pension or in work being offset by the fact that many of our members were children and youth who probably depended on their parents for everything, including their education.

But is this really the case? Yes, there are many members who have lost their jobs, or are restricted to occasional ‘zero-hour’ contract work. But does it really look as though we are a church packed with people living below the breadline?

My worry is that there may be something substantially wrong in the church’s teaching that makes for such an astonishingly low per capita tithe across the UK and Ireland.

Some have suggested that there are many members who claim to be returning their tithe – but just not in the UK! Instead they are repositioning the money to their countries of origin. If this is the case, then I find it sad that those who directly benefit from the ministry and resources supplied by the BUC and its conferences and missions cannot find it in their hearts to support it.

It makes me wonder what Jesus actually meant when He said: “Wait, then,” Jesus said, “give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God what belongs to God.” His reply completely amazed them. (Mark 12.17, NLT).

Surely He was expecting His audience to render both their taxes and their tithes within the jurisdiction (both ecclesiastical and civil) under which they lived and earned them.

Perhaps the time has come for us to take a long honest look at what we personally return to the Lord each month and where it ends up.

Reprinted from The Standard Bearer


due back in Kathmandu on Friday. On Wednesday, 29 April, James reconnected with some of the people he met on his Everest trek. He booked himself and Rich into the hostel where these friends were staying. The hostel lodges have been raising funds individually and by groups, purchasing supplies of rice, lentils, tarapuins, rope, shevels, saws, hammers and other necessary items for life support and rebuilding.

The next day James’ group visited the Innovative Social Centre – a family-run children’s home. They took 15 children there. They delivered the rice, lentils, sleeping mats, and so on, and stayed to play with the children.

On Friday, 1 May, James was in the village of Golchunga, on the outskirts of Kathmandu, where they again uncovered a family staple food, their rice harvest. On 2 May, James erected a better shelter for two other families. The monsoon is just weeks away.

The hostel groups are fluid. They are not organised and are connecting with people who have had no help. They are making an immediate difference, which is desperately needed. Until James and Rich flew out on 6 May, they continued to go to some villages to offer help.

To learn more about the spontaneous aid efforts of these tourists contact James via his email at thecomboyer@mac.com.

EOB

Assisting Nepal’s people

Dad is a Doctor!

My eldest son, James, is in Nepal. James, his friend Richard Jones and my wife, Naomi, trekked up to Everest Base Camp between 3 and 17 April. On the way they made friends with people from around the globe. In particular they connected with other young adult trekkers.

When the earthquake hit on midday of 25 April James was worshiping in the Seventh-day Adventist church, Kathmandu. Rich was on the trail to the Annapurna Base Camp. Naomi had flown to Bombay on Friday 24 April.

Initially Rich was out of range of any mobile phones but safe. James stayed in the Adventist compound, sleeping in the church on Saturday and Sunday nights.

Initially food was short. Several aftershocks hit the area several times during these two days. Until Thursday he helped clear the debris from collapsed buildings, helped clean up and took pictures in Kathmandu. He is a professional photographer. The British Embassy called James on Thursday, offering him a place on a return UK flight. James declined, as he knew Rich was


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Cigarette in hand and holding over his shoulder, the young man briskly approached the square where the Coventry Eagles Pathfinders were doing their drill display. He moved to the edge of the pavement to avoid the gathering crowds, and his bag brushed against the table. She smiled and pointed to the three Bibles, which were the only items left on the once-full table.

‘Do you have any free Bibles?’ he asked Sam, who stood behind the table. She smiled and pointed to the three Bibles, which were the only items left on the once-full table.

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He took a few steps, then turned back. ‘I was a good event and I learnt self-confidence – and that there is more to church than staying in the church environment,’ said Shantian.

Words cannot explain the workings of the Holy Spirit. Sabbath, 21 March, is a day the Coventry youth will not forget. Responding to the call by the General Conference Youth Ministries department to ‘Be the Sermon’ as part of the Global Youth Day celebrations, they loaded over 100 pre-packed good bags containing water, cereal, bars, books, GLOW tracts, and copies of Steps to Christ and The Great Hope into the waiting cars. They also loaded a selection of books, printed materials, and personal gifts and then shared their own words of appreciation over a fellowship lunch which included a splendid cake!

Nathalie Johansson joined the Seventh-day Adventist Association June 31 John Loughborough 10am-2pm

Nathalie is the first Adventist in her family, having attended Bible studies with her mother at age 12, joined the choir and then chosen to be baptised at age 14. That commitment has never wavered, and she now plans to continue her theological interests in her spare time and simply states, ‘I walk wherever God wants me to walk.’

SDAA welcomes Nathalie Johansson

SDAA Ltd may be one of the lesser-known entities within the Seventh-day Adventist Church, but a bright new face there will be helping ensure that the legal and property issues affecting the church are well cared for. Nathalie Johansson joined the Seventh-day Adventist Association team at the beginning of April and will be supporting BUC associate treasurer, Stephen Okelo, with report, case and project preparation, as well as more general office duties. All of this may sound daunting to a girl born in Denmark but of Swedish and German parents. However, she has wanted to live in England since graduating in 2010 with an MA in English studies. ‘It was very interactive talking to people and I felt I made a difference in their lives,’ quipped Chipo. ‘I had a good experience meeting people and talking about God,’ Aaron added. Lunch was cut short as the youth had to go out again and perform more acts of kindness. They spent the afternoon at Brandon House, a nursing home for dementia patients. Here again the youth sang songs and interacted with residents. The highlight of the day was when, halfway through the programme, one of the male residents burst into tears and thanked the youth for brightening his day. Tears welled up in the young people’s eyes as the reality of God’s love reflected back on them.

As they all headed back to church to start the week of prayer, the question everyone was asking was, ‘Why don’t we do this more often?’ The Youth leader confirmed a plan to run the event again in the summer and, God willing, every quarter if not once a month. Surely the Coventry youth have been a sermon well lived.
If you entered the Advent Centre in London at about 10am on 22 March, you would be forgiven for thinking you’d arrived at the scene of a mass choir practice. The majestic sound of over three hundred women raising their voices in praise filled every corner of the church building and even wafted to the street outside. The pews were awash with various shades of purple because the attendees had complied with the instruction to ‘wear something purple’.

This was the scene at the BUC Women of Virtue Conference and Exhibition Experience. Guest speaker, General Conference Women’s Ministries director, Heather-Dawn Small spoke on ‘Lessons from the Life of a Virtuous Woman’, highlighting our tendency to describe ourselves in terms of our physical appearance. She spoke of the billion-dollar industry focused on attempting to rid us of our imperfections, and drew our attention to the fact that, as women of virtue, we ought to be spending our time on eternal things—‘for often under silken apparel there is a threadbare soul’.

The whole day was geared towards encouraging, edifying and enriching the lives of women through the thirteen attributes identified in the Women of Virtue (WOV) programme. In the hall downstairs thirteen exhibition booths provided a practical, colourful visual representation of these attributes. Heather-Dawn Small remarked about the ‘Women as Homemakers’ exhibition, saying: ‘This is such a beautiful representation of the homemaker. There is no evidence of the drudgery sometimes associated with this role; rather, an expression of Godly creativity.’ She described all the exhibits as ‘very creative and spot on’ in their interpretation. Exhibits covered were: A woman of godly character, Women as singles, Women as wives, Women as homemakers, Women as providers, Women as mothers, Women maintaining their appearance, Women of strength, Women who are industrious, Women as investors, Women as community activists, Personal development, Encouraging and affirming excellence.

A unique feature of the day’s proceedings was that of getting ‘A Man’s Perspective’ on the Proverbs 31 woman, which saw two Men’s Ministries leaders, Pastor Andrew Rushford-Hewitt from the north and Doctor Chidi Njgwaa from the south, field questions from WOV team members, Val Grosset and Pifira Zita. During the lively discussion that ensued, Dr Njgwaa encouraged women to ‘Talk to the king inside’ when addressing their husbands, and not to put them down but to pray for them and value the importance of respect in the home.

Another man on the programme was Gregg Wilson (licensed minister) from Bedford Central Church, who very ably threw some light on what it meant to be ‘At the gate’. He concluded that when women are loved they become the abundant producers of home life, the root of a happy and healthy community, and that the man in Proverbs 31 was a righteous man who was known at the gate because of the excellent works of his wife.

It is hard to fully describe all the aspects of the excellent programme presented on Sunday. In the words of Heather-Dawn Small, ‘This is stuff that women can participate in, they can see, touch and hear—it is a holistic experience. I cannot see anyone coming here and not being impacted by this programme. This is preparing women for heaven. I’m very impressed with the fact that my sisters are so dedicated to focusing on their character because that’s really all we have to take with us when we leave here.

The ‘Women of Virtue’ programme was introduced at a BUC Women’s Ministries retreat in October 2013 and officially launched during the weekend of 26-27 April 2014. Founder and director of the programme, BUC Women’s Ministries director, Sharon Platt-McDonald, says that the idea of WOV is not a new one, but one that had been spoken to her about the life of the virtuous woman outlined in Proverbs 31:10-31 for many years. In 2001 it was further the idea of formatting 13 key principles which now form the basis for the Women of Virtue programme. She is supported by a team of volunteers who all work to their particular areas of giftedness.

Sunday’s event was attended by a significant number of non-Adventist women, who participated enthusiastically. One woman was heard to say: ‘This is such an amazing opportunity to see God in the everyday roles of women. I will certainly come again. It’s made me think.’

Sheila Samuels, who was attending her first Women’s Ministries conference, felt it was well worth it. She wrote: ‘The highlight was your guest speaker, Heather Small—a woman whom I admire. She was planning to leave on Monday but decided to stay on to hear the Women’s Ministry at Kingstone Church for funds to buy the manual as we could benefit from its guidance.’

Heather-Dawn Small is excited about the potential for this programme to be rolled out globally through the GC Women’s Ministries department. ‘When we present this next year at our advisory, I am hoping to let the division leaders experience this programme. It is the only way they will be convinced to implement it. My associate director and I will be pushing this programme as we travel.’

As the vision for the programme has grown, so has the need for dedicated volunteers to pray for them and value the importance of respect in the home. The comments received were all very positive and many hearts were obviously touched this Easter.

What will another year grow?

JUDY H-J (MIDDLESBROUGH COMMUNICATIONS)
Global Youth Day at Hemel Hempstead

Our Hemel Hempstead teens were part of the eight million Adventist young people who took part in the Global Youth Day on 21 March. The teens took over the worship service, including the sermon. We began with an enthusiastic welcome by Yuli, followed by an equally joyous song of praise, ‘Lord I Lift Your Name On High’. Prayers and readings followed, by Katherine and Sarah, Dylan, Sara and Dominique. The younger children listened intently as the children’s spot was taken by Ingabelle and Anastasia, after which the two of them performed a beautiful violin duet.

During the message Panashe, Tatyana and Matthew challenged us to see things from their perspective and to remember that the most challenging time in life is when you are young. It is the time when you want to do so many things but may not be old enough!

Tweets should honour their parents as they often need their guidance. But teens know that they make mistakes and ask us to be patient, as God is still working with them. Despite the pressures of school and college, teens are still in church week after week and need to be valued for their commitment just like the youth in the Bible were. Matthew invited teens and adults to affirm: ‘I am God’s masterpiece and nothing will stand in my way!’

Paul King

BUC Youth Congress

Despite jet lag from transatlantic travel, Pastor Ricardo Delahaye was on full form at the opening night of ‘Reborn’, the British Union Conference Youth Congress, 2-6 April, 2015. He certainly caught the attention of the 200+ youth and teens with a no-holds-barred discourse on ‘scandal’ — starting with the present day but then harking back to the Old Testament story of David and Bathsheba.

Pastor Delahaye, currently ministering in Norwich, Connecticut, challenged some of the preconceived notions surrounding the story, asking why King David was not at the war front himself, and pondered on the danger of being idle. ‘A palace roof is always a dangerous place for a king,’ he noted as he gave a description of the hazards and the history for both David and Bathsheba, stating that ‘all sin is sin, whoever you do it with!’

More importantly he emphasised that ‘God is more interested in our salvation than in anything else,’ and that ‘God will sacrifice our reputation so that we can get His salvation.’

Youth travelled to Newland Park in Buckinghamshire from across the whole of the UK and Ireland, resulting in a broad but warm mix of accents, cultures and music. While Pastor Delahaye spent most of his time with the SEC Teen Conference running concurrently on the same site, the older youth found themselves blessed by the ministry of two additional speakers, Sebastien Baxton, the founder of R3 Inc, a think tank that seeks to create opportunities for youth to serve God in meaningful ways; and Jiwan Stefan Moon, a world church associate youth director. Dr Moon shared very practical advice on living the Christian life on a university campus, particularly with the ‘Follow Me’ programme.

There was an abundant choice of workshops, with the ‘Smart Love’ sessions on relationships proving to be particularly popular. Other workshops included themes of Bible study, making Christ relevant either online or in the context of where you live, last-day events, leadership, and the biblical basis of values.

The weekend included great music from talented singers, both during the services and in the late evening cafe, where the ice-cream machine was a definite hit with those attending. Other activities included a prayer room with time for meditation and thought; Sunday morning’s interactive games on the playing field; and plenty of time throughout for the development of friendships. ‘I was impressed by the “potter and the clay” sermon,’ stated Keri Rothwell from Ireland. ‘She liked the idea that “as long as the clay was moist he could remould it.” It taught her to “trust that God knows what He is doing. God never gives up on us.”’

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Pastor Victor Hulbert

Langley youth play

On the evening of Good Friday, the Langley Youth department performed a play on the subject of ‘Denial’, focusing upon Peter’s threefold denial of Jesus. It showed that it is just as easy for us to deny Jesus today by what we say and do. In the accompanying photo the actors pose with Pastor S. M. Gill on the far right.

Robert Surin

Basildon District Health Impact Day

On Sabbath, 18 April, we were able to take Sabbath into our community via the health message. We hired a hall in the community that is regularly used by members of the public. The atmosphere was light, friendly and welcoming. Our purpose was simple: to show acts of kindness in the form of these free health checks: BMI calculations, body fat analysis, hip/waist ratio measurements, blood pressure monitoring, peak flow assessment, the Harvard Step Test, one-to-one counselling sessions, tips on healthy diet and lifestyle, and raw food juicing. We also offered our guests a cup of tea, which gave us an opportunity to have a chat and get to know them a little better. On leaving, each one of our guests received a gift bag, which included both a Focus and a Celebrations magazine and other pieces of local literature, which were well received.

During the five hours spent in the hall, 20 people came through the doors and willingly stayed for up to two hours at a time. Many of them enjoyed the juicing demonstrations; some of them were even taking notes! It gave us an opportunity to display that we as a church see health and wellness as a combination of both the conventional treatments that are available to us, and how foods and a healthy diet and lifestyle can help in the healing process. The feedback from the community was extremely positive. On the evaluation forms, all 20 guests said that everything we did was of interest to them and all were willing to be invited to future health programmes. One woman said it has made her ‘think more seriously about her health’. We have already made follow-up contacts, and our prayer is that through our efforts here in Basildon we can win our world for Jesus Christ.

Health Department

Pastor Nicardo Delahaye

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Pastor Victor Hulbert
**East Kilbride becomes a church**

The small company of East Kilbride became a church on 7 March. Thirty years ago, on 7 September 1985, the new Adventist company of East Kilbride was formed with William Wilson, Ian Kelly, Margaret Edgar, Martin and Florina Clee, and Morap Sharp as original members. They first met at a school, then a local community hall, and for just over 20 years at St Andrew’s Methodist Church.

A number of the Scottish Mission’s interns have launched their ministry in East Kilbride: for example, Denis Baldwin; David Nuttert and his wife, Julie; Bryan and Isobel Webster; Cooft Smith (who is now married to Rose); Bob and Joy Smart; Brian and May McCornac; Gordon and Flor Smith (now in America); Marcel and Claudette Gisaldas; Andrew and Krista Willis; Clifford and Ophelia Herman; David and Janice Hatch; and Filip and Taylor Bajc (now in Tennessee). In late 2014 Senior Pastor Victor and Candice Harewood joined us at the beginning of their retirement to supervise our latest interns, Pastors Rory and Ivana Mendez (husband-and-wife team). And what of the members over the years? Sadly, a few have died, and we remember Elizabeth Robson; William Wilson; Marjory MacDonald; and Glasgow member Harry Dornan, who was a regular at our services. Members who have moved away are Morap Sharp (Australia); Martin and Florina Clee (Hastings); and their daughters Dawn-Louise and Caroline, both married and living in England. Original members Margaret and Jean are still with us, as is Jean’s daughter Jacqueline. We also have Gordon and Pene Saqgers, who are presently working hard in Malawi, and my family, who joined through a Bible and video study (my husband Peter and son Stephen are both deacons).

A few have transferred here from other churches, such as Doreen and Carole; Paulo (Angolista); and our latest member, Thyaine, who transferred from Jamaica on our special day.

We are a family in East Kilbride, not just a church. Twice a year we go to a restaurant for a ‘night out’. We enjoy events and we celebrate special birthdays and anniversaries together. Although few in number we conduct a Pathfinder programme and run a youth class for Thomas and Stephen. We have had several baptisms over the years: most lately held in the baptism of East Mains Baptist Church.

On 7 March many joined us for our usual morning service and lunch – which was a lovely meal, much of it made by Paulo, who is a chef. In the afternoon 90 people gathered from all over Scotland to hear Scottish Mission president, Pastor Bernie Holford, tell us that it was a day to reaffirm our identity and our purpose as ambassadors for Christ. Our pastors, Rory and Victor, led us in Scripture readings and song, and we listened to the Glasgow Choir, musicians Helenvi and Yvonne from Crief, and our own Rainbow Singers Choir. Two of our former interns joined us, Pastor Marcel Gisaldas and Pastor David Hatch. Also visiting were Claire, granddaughter of original member William Wilson, and Mr Rod Shanks from St Andrew’s Methodist Church.

We look forward eagerly to the next stage in our growth, and our new members.

**ASNA: connecting people, changing lives**

The fifteenth ASNA (Adventist Special Needs Association) family respite and training weekend took place from 10 to 12 April at the beautiful Sunningdale Park Hotel, Ascot, in favourable weather.

Ninety delegates enjoyed the social, spiritual and emotional support provided during the weekend. This event was organised by ASNA through its Connecting People: Changing Lives project and was designed to provide an opportunity for families and people living with disability to come away for respite, and for disability co-ordinators and other volunteers to receive training.

This year’s theme, ‘Trust God’s heart’, focused on understanding our challenging experiences as ‘gifts from God’, as well as opportunities for spiritual growth. The delegates were admonished and encouraged by the insightful and Bible-based seminars of Jerome Knight and Nigel Nicholls.

A new family attending for the first time spoke of how they found the weekend ‘refreshing, relaxing and spiritually uplifting’. A mother with a young girl with autism, when asked about the weekend, said, ‘Love, love, love in all the hard work and dedication of the organisers and volunteers. I feel each year goes from strength to strength. This event is firmly in our family calendar’.

Fabrice Baker-Livingstone from ADRA-UK said: ‘Having never attended an ASNA workshop or weekend before, I was welcomed into the ASNA family’ as soon as I arrived. The weekend was full of activities for both adults and children with special needs, as well as seminars for the carers covering topics that many found useful.

Throughout the weekend all the children participated together in activities led out by Caroline Kamara (ASNA trustee), and then performed as a choir at the concert, much to their parents’ delight! The concert on Saturday night was one of the highlights of the weekend and included wonderful music and a variety of songs, skits, and dances by the delegates.

Sunday morning activities included a wonderful arts project depicting the love of God for the adults with special needs, and outdoor activities for all the children. The weekend culminated with the thirteenth ASNA AGM on Sunday morning, where ASNA members and visitors were invited to provide feedback on the weekend and make recommendations to the trustees regarding the work of the charity.

Fabrice concludes: ‘For those of you who may have doubts, the ASNA weekend is a fun, friendly and interactive weekend away! Why not attend the next one?’

ASNA would like to recognise the support and contributions from the SEC, ADRA-UK and the ASNA membership. It also thanks churches such as Newbock, which raised over £8000 from a church music concert. All the funds go towards ensuring people with disabilities are supported spiritually, emotionally, physically and socially.

**Something to rejoice over**

Reuben and Sonesta of Langley Church have something to rejoice over.

He had been diagnosed with a heart complaint that required a procedure that could only be done in theatre.

Reuben was admitted to the hospital in the morning according to schedule and prepped for the operation... but at the last minute the specialists’ checks revealed that there ‘was nothing wrong with his heart’!

Praise God! He was immediately discharged and went home rejoicing!

**Big-hearted Holloway**

On 4 April the Holloway church family opened their hearts to the local community. They spread the love of Christ among them through gifts of sweets, fruit baskets and food bags for the less fortunate. These were also accompanied by uplifting Christian literature. The ill and elderly in the local church were also given fruit baskets. What a pleasant way to demonstrate the love of Jesus!

**NEC Camp Meeting Transport**

Brother Hubert Smiley will be arranging the usual coach transport to Camp Meeting this year, taking passengers from all areas between Wolverhampton and Birmingham on the way. Call him on 01384 213 803 or 07868 288 310 or email him at hubert.smiley18@gmail.com, or failing these methods call 07831 981 114 or 07736 509 625 for details.

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NEWBOLD COLLEGE

extend the trainee programme to a career path may be available upon successful completion of the trainee period.

ADRA-UK trainee programme

ADRA-UK is offering the opportunity for someone to work with our office for a one-year period (starting summer 2015). The ADRA-UK trainee programme will offer the successful candidate the opportunity to work within a high-profile NGO in programme development. The programme designed to give individuals practical experience in different locations around the world in preparation for a possible career in international development.

The trainee will be involved with supporting ADRA-UK’s implementing partners on proposal development for ODI and the EC, donor compliance, monitoring and evaluation and donor reporting.

During the year 2015 the trainee will be based primarily at our Watford office with short-term placements overseas with our partner offices in developing countries.

ADRA-UK will provide access to professional training at various levels in international development during the year.

• A Bachelor’s degree or NVQ in a relevant subject;
• A strong interest in relief and development issues;
• Excellent analytical, written and verbal communication skills;
• Fluency in English;
• The right to work in the UK prior to submission of the trainee application;
• Being able and willing to travel to challenging areas of the world;
• A passion for serving hurting humanity;
• Being an enthusiastic motivator;

With the aim to expand the trainee programme to a career path may be available upon successful completion of the trainee period.

The deadline for receipt of applications is 30 June 2015.

NEWBOLD commemorates E. G. White centennial

Newbold’s Ellen G. White SDA Research Centre hosted a centennial commemoration of her life and ministry recently. The event, which attracted approximately 370 people to the college campus over two days, was designed to commemorate the upcoming anniversary of the prophetess’s death later this year, on 16 July. Newbold’s Centre director, Dr Rudi Antić, and Dr Merlyn Burt, Director of the Ellen G. White Centre at Andrews University, gave talks during the event, which focused on Ellen G. White’s work and the impact it still has today almost 100 years after her death.

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Cheltenham Teens and Tweens day

On Sabbath 7 March people came from Loughborough, Stoke-on-Trent, Stanborough Park, Crocombe, Swindon and Witney for the second annual Teens and Tweens day at Springbank Community Centre, Cheltenham.

It was a great opportunity for young people between 8 and 17 (and their families) to meet for worship and friendship. It was great to see that one of our young people, Abigail, had brought along a school friend too.

The morning began with a session on the theme of ‘Super-heroes and Role Models’ for all age groups. Once in their groups they discussed modern super-heroes and biblical super-heroes, including, of course, Jesus; the ultimate superhero. The older youth then demonstrated the example of David by drama, while the younger ones decorated colourful masks, with each one representing a positive Bible superhero and a reason for choosing him/her.

The worship service was preceded by a time of vibrant praise led by young instrumentalists using violins, flutes, a cello, a trumpet and an acoustic guitar.

The main speaker for the morning was Pastor Julian Hibbert, who spoke on the theme of the well-known contemporary song – ‘How Deep the Father’s Love for Us’.

After lunch we took to the nearby hills for a beautiful sunny walk with plenty of opportunity for everyone to get to know each other better, and for the young people to use some of their energy.

For vespers, Cheltenham pastor, James Shepley, shared his thoughts about Daniel, whose trust in God was rewarded by the miraculous sparing of his life.

Vespers was followed by soup and rolls prepared by a few of the Cheltenham ladies, and some games for the young people to round off a very special day. The planning for next year has already begun!

Mark Sinclair

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Wednesfield Pathfinder induction

The Pathfinders and Adventurers of Wednesfield (Wolverhampton) were really excited on 4 April. After being dormant for several years their club had new vigour.

The young people practise hard, work hard, pray together and laugh a lot . . . together! They emphasise teamwork as they drill and march, and this was put to the test on 4 April.

Before they entered the church the youth checked over each other’s uniforms, fixing and ‘preening’ until all were looking just right. As the children marched into church an older teen whispered, ‘Left, right, left, right, keeping everyone in check. And when lines were slightly forgotten tiny whispers of prompting were heard from fellow club members.

It was a proud moment to see those yellow-and-blue scarves around the necks of the young people, knowing that for many of them this club marks the beginning of their road to the Kingdom.

Mark Sinclair (Area co-ordinator) joined them for the day and all present found his words encouraging.

The children chose to close their induction ceremony with the more-than-appropriate song, ‘We are marching in the light of God’.

JO FISHER MITCHELL

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You are invited to Newbold’s reunion for staff and students of the 1990s. Reconnect with friends during the worship and social activities over the weekend, including a cruise on the River Thames in Windsor and a special high tea on campus. The sermon on Sabbath will be taken by former Newbold principal, Andrea Luxton.

Registration is now open, and earlybird prices are available for those who register by Monday 1 June. There are limited en suite and shared rooms available so book now to secure your place. Full weekend packages start from £90, and include:

• all meals (Friday night to Sunday lunch, including a banquet lunch and high tea on Sabbath)
• two nights’ accommodation
• a trip to Windsor with a two-hour steamer cruise on the River Thames on Sunday morning

For more information, please visit: https://www.newbold.ac.uk/1990s-reunion.html

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Sunset

Sunrise times are published with permission from data supplied by the Collingwood, St. Albans. North

Local Card Hot Col Sept

May 22 05:08 05:37 05:37 04:54
23 05:08 05:37 05:37 04:54
24 05:05 05:18 05:18 04:42 04:42
June 1 05:13 05:13 05:13 04:38 04:38
12 05:35 05:35 05:35 05:35 05:35
13 05:38 05:38 05:38 05:38

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