Campus renovations commence under new Principal, Dr Philip Brown
Questions and Answers
With the Principal

Describe yourself in three words:
Honest, forward-looking, empathetic.

Why did you choose to come to Newbold College?
Actually I think it was the other way around! Newbold College chose me, but let me just say that I am passionate about maximizing student learning and enhancing teacher effectiveness within Seventh-day Adventist higher education. Yes, we are at a critical period in the history of Newbold College but it is also an exciting period in which to be serving and leading the College as we seek to collaborate and cooperate in growing and developing Newbold College to be the Seventh-day Adventist Christian higher education institution of choice in Europe.

What book is currently on your bedside table?
I’m ‘skimming’ through two presently – one is Radim Passer’s autobiography given to me by Audrey Palderstone entitled 3½ Years or the American Dream in the Czech Republic in which he documents not only his business career and personal life as one of the 100 wealthiest Czechs but also his journey from a non-believer to a devout follower of Jesus Christ. The second is The Mountain Within – the story of Herta von Stiegel, whom I met in London last month, and who led a group of disabled people to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro to raise money for charity. She blends the gripping tale of the climb with leadership lessons and conversations she has had with many of the world’s most influential business leaders. I say ‘skimming’ because all spare moments presently are focused on studying the map of the Croatian coast where a family vacation is planned for this August.

Which one is best – Marmite or Vegemite?
Marmite – although the New Zealand version does taste a little different from the original United Kingdom or South African versions!

Dear alumni and friends,
Welcome! This is my first opportunity, since commencing as Principal in September last year to communicate with you through The Newboldian. Over the past nine months I have learned many things about Newbold – that it is a wonderful place; that it is very close to the heart of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Trans-European Division; that it has excellent staff; and that young people studying here are having their lives changed for the better. I have learned that the Alumni of Newbold can be found across the whole world (and I have already had the privilege of meeting some of you across the globe); and I have learned that the College is making a significant impact on the mission of the Church.

In this decade, as many of you are already aware, we are facing some challenges, mainly in the areas of student recruitment and campus reconstruction. Initiatives have been taken to remedy this and we believe that these will prove successful. The Trans-European Division is supporting the College through a strong scholarship programme and the Newbold College Board of Governors is deeply committed to supporting me in reconstructing and developing the College into a modern, attractive college of higher education in Europe. I believe current and future students deserve a campus where the facilities do not detract from their overall experience.

I believe that healthy learning communities with rich histories such as Newbold can benefit from reconstructing and reflecting on what they do, why they do, and how they do. In that regard you should know that the reconstruction of Newbold has begun. Here on campus I have not just been talking about what needs to be done – rather, via a delicate balance between project-task and people-focus, I am providing direction and seeking to make things happen to enhance the student experience. For example, renovation throughout the campus is well underway, including a major refurbishment of Keough House – the men’s hall of residence (turn over for more details).

Further, we are now recruiting for a new full-time Student Services team from the start of the 2012-13 academic year, comprising a Director of Student Services, a College Chaplain, a Dean of Women and a Dean of Men.

We are also reconstructing our programmes and are developing new partnerships. For example, Newbold is now part of Adventist Colleges Abroad which will provide opportunities for North American undergraduate students to study at Newbold while completing requirements for their programmes at their home college or university in the United States (for an update on all our programmes see page 14).

Recently we took the time to consult with staff and students and the Newbold College Board of Governors in order to update our Vision, Mission and Values Statements. These are presented on the back page.

In closing, let me thank each of you for your continuing financial and prayerful support of Newbold and we continue the reconstruction work ahead. My prayer is that you will continue to choose daily to allow God to continue His reconstruction work in your own life – in His way, in His time and for His purposes.

Blessings and personal regards,

Dr Philip Brown
Principal
Renovation Projects

**KEOUGH HOUSE RENOVATIONS AND REFURBISHMENTS**

A major renovation and refurbishment of Keough House, the men’s hall of residence, began in March this year and is due to be completed by the end of August 2012. The refurbishment will result in the complete transformation of the 50-year-old building and works include:

- conversion of bedrooms into single and double units with ensuite facilities and the removal of existing showers and laundry rooms to make way for kitchen and dining areas.
- complete decoration of all rooms, including upgraded electrical services such as multiple double sockets and data points as well as new light fittings.
- upgrading of plumbing including new basins and taps.
- new flooring and furniture, with lighting to be improved in all common areas.

**THE CAFETERIA**

The refurbishment of the cafeteria is almost complete, with just a few soft furnishings yet to come. The project included installing new flooring and furniture as well as painting. In addition, work was done in the entrance to restore some of the original artwork on the ceiling and walls.

**THE LIBRARY**

Thanks to a very generous bequest from Miss Betty Roberston, the Library has been able to upgrade its front entrance and main enquiry area.

Brighter lighting and new electric and data cables have been installed, as well as heavy-duty carpet. The new furniture includes a customer service unit, an office desk unit and a help-desk unit.

New lockable storage has also been added, as well as a modern wall-mounted newspaper rack.

Betty graduated from Newbold College in 1950 and was a teacher at Newbold School (primary) for many years – retiring from her full-time position in 1990 but still giving many years of service after her official retirement. Sadly, she passed away on 10 September 2007.

**FAMILY HOUSING PLAY AREA AND ALLOTMENTS**

This year, the Principal has responded to requests from our family housing community. Working in partnership with Andreas Lambertz, our Grounds Manager, the Principal formed a community initiative that saw the Family Housing Play Area transformed. This was achieved by setting aside a number of Friday afternoon sessions attended by staff, students and their families.

Also this year a set of 14 allotments was created for students and staff to be able to grow their own vegetables.

**HELP US RE-BUILD THE NEWBOLD CAMPUS**

Please can we ask for your prayers as we undertake these major projects? If you would also consider helping us financially, we would very graciously accept. The total cost of furnishings for each room in Keough House is £2,500. Perhaps as a community you could consider sponsoring one room; for example, this venture would take 25 people each committing to £20 a month for five months.

We would be very happy to receive any gift, large or small.

**HOW TO GIVE**

Newbold College Website:
You can donate online by visiting our website www.newbold.ac.uk and clicking on the “donate” page that you will see on our home page.

Post a Cheque:
You can write a cheque and send this to us by post. Please address your cheque to “Newbold College” and send to: Cashier, Newbold College, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG42 4AN, UK.

Telephone:
You can call the Cashier on: +44 (0) 1344 407421.

If you are a UK tax payer, please let us know so that we can increase the value of your donation through gift aid.

**THANK YOU**

The Newbold College Board of Governors has very generously sponsored a room in Keough House, and for that we’d like to say a heartfelt thank you. We would also like to say ‘thank you’ to you for your support in other ways: professionally, emotionally and spiritually. We are blessed by God to have you as part of our community.

**FURTHER PLANS**

Our next steps for refurbishment on campus are Schul House and the Gymnasium. Schul House is the women’s hall of residence and there is a need for bathroom renovations, an improved ventilation system and new flooring. The Gymnasium is an extremely old building and will need a complete renovation in order to bring it up to standard.
CORNWALL RETREAT

The beautiful coastline of Cornwall was the setting for Newbold College’s annual retreat in September. This year’s theme was “Feel the Passion” and the time spent sharing together as a group was felt to be a real blessing. The group of 87 students and staff included the Principal, Dr Philip Brown, and his family, as well as the Senior Pastor of Newbold Church, Pastor Patrick Johnson, and his wife Kari.

CHOR TOUR TO NORDIC COUNTRIES

The Newbold College Choir headed to Norway, Sweden and Finland for their annual tour this Spring. Eighteen different nationalities were represented in the 30-strong choir, and particular joy was had in welcoming some former students on the tour. The choir members’ lives were enriched by the inspiring experience, and we pray that blessings were also had by the schools and churches who heard the music ministry.

GAP YEAR TRIP TO ETHIOPIA

This October was the third year that Gap Year students, along with Henrik Jorgensen, Head of Student Experience, organised a humanitarian trip to Dembicillo, West Wollega, Ethiopia. The theme was “The Footwashers of Ethiopia” and the focus was on people who were suffering from the foot disease Podoconiosis (Podo) which is a non-infectious but very debilitating disease caused by extended exposure to a silica fibre in soil.

Students were given the opportunity to wash the feet of people suffering from Podo with a special herbal soap, giving them an opportunity for communion on a very real and meaningful level.

NEWBOLD COLLEGE STUDENTS BAPTISED

The Newbold community was blessed with the baptism of Jakub Wisniewski and Matea Mihaljević-Vukić, on 21 April. Pastor Gifford Rhamie, Lecturer in the Department of Theological Studies, baptised the students and Pastor Patrick Johnson, Senior Pastor of the Newbold Church, offered a prayer of dedication.

GODSPEED

Henrik, Thank you for all you have done for our community. You will be greatly missed.

Pastor Henrik Jorgensen has accepted a call to service in the Danish Union of Churches as a departmental director from October this year. Henrik first came to Newbold as a student in 1976 and returned to join the Newbold College staff in 1991 as Dean of Men, becoming Chaplain and Director of Family Housing in 1997; Head of Student Services and Gap Year Co-ordinator in 2005; and Head of Student Experience in 2011.
The story of Sylvia’s Garden over the last few years has been one of triumphs and tragedies. In March 2008, a storm brought down a beautiful copper beech. The loss of a tree was bad enough but it landed right on top of one of the gazebos, crushing the roof and splitting the walls apart. Since we had already restored the roof it was doubly tragic.

Fortunately, after much negotiation, the insurance company paid for its restoration; we now have a fully restored gazebo. The contractors also restored the floor and, on the advice of a restoration architect, put in a new drainage system. Although the insurance money did not cover the full cost, we had enough in the Restoration Fund to turn a ruin into a thing of beauty.

"Then another sad event was turned into a thing of beauty."

Some of you will remember with affection Dennis Porter, who taught US history at Newbold before I came in 1967 and continued to do so until the end of 1968. Dennis’s wife died after a long illness in 2010. She had been (as Vera Lauderdale) preesposed in Moor Close and had loved both the house and the gardens. So Dennis decided to pay for the restoration of the Star Court, next to the restored gazebo. An anonymous donor also contributed. To many of you the Star Court will be a mystery. When I came in 1967 it was not to be seen and only finding the original plans revealed its existence - a few remains of the large cobbled star pattern were found by excavating the site. (See photo top right for just how stunning it looks in its restored state.)

The third tragedy was the theft of York Stone paving near the woodland. Some of it had worked loose after 100 years - this was taken and the rest was left. Once again insurance is covering most of the cost of this piece of restoration which we expect to be completed by the end of the summer.

Finally, some of the curtain walls which divide the Garden into separate compartments had lost their coping and were beginning to degrade. We were advised that urgent action was required. Now every wall has its coping and each doorway has been re-coigned.

The garden Restoration Fund is now empty and there is still more to do to bring the Garden back to its to its original state. Since 1913 is almost certainly the birthday of Sylvia’s Garden, generous birthday presents would be most welcome! This will enable us to continue the restoration. No gift is too small. We have had some very large and generous gifts but without the smaller gifts, some on a regular basis, we could not have achieved what we have. So now it’s over to you yet again. Make an early birthday gift to the Garden. Or mark a significant moment in your life. One couple who met at Newbold, and who had their first kiss in one of the gazebos, are commemorating that event. What memory will you choose to commemorate?

For details on how to give, please see page 6.
Warm congratulations to Marko Lukić who will become the first Newbold College student to be awarded a PhD through our research degrees provision. He will have his degree conferred on 13 July 2012 in Lamberet. The title of Marko’s thesis is: “The Anatomy of Dissension: The Study of the Early Adventist Paradigm from the Perspective of a Modified Kuhnian Theory of Paradigms and Paradigm Changes”.

Marko explains further: “The main contribution of my thesis is moving the discussion of SDA theology beyond the doctrinal level where the big picture of early Adventist thought emerges. Only on the level of the entire paradigm is it possible to understand why Adventism developed in such a way. What is more, I discovered the beauty in early Adventist theology that I had never seen before and fell in love with the mind of the pioneers. They are truly the most ingenious generation of Adventist theologians that have ever lived and, because of my study at Newbold on a doctoral level, I became aware of that. Indeed, I wrote the thesis, but in reality the thesis wrote me back and:

“will cherish, further develop and share this treasure for the rest of my life.”

At the moment I am working as a pastor in Belgrade, Serbia, and as a part-time lecturer at the Belgrade Theological Seminary. Together with my colleagues we are advancing the work of the Lord in this part of the world and witnessing God’s miracles in this regard. I would like to thank the Newbold staff who were part of this journey, especially my mentor Dr. Pedersen and librarians Per Lisie and Lynda Ballifin who worked tirelessly to provide adequate support for my research. I am grateful that I had this opportunity and because of Newbold College I am who I am today. May God bless you beyond measure.”

CALLING ALL NEWBOLD ALUMNI 1970-1985

We are having a Newbold Alumni 1970–1985 reunion weekend at the Newbold College campus on 17 – 19 August this year. We hope many of you have already received an invitation for this event, but for those of you who were students at this time you will know that computers were not the norm, and it is likely that we don’t have every person’s details from that time. So if you are an alumnus or alumna of those years, or you know someone who is, please feel very welcome and pass the message on! Dr. Jan Paulsen and his wife Kari have promised to join us for the weekend and we would be delighted if you could join us as well.

If you would like to register for this event, please email guestc@newbold.ac.uk or call +44 (0) 1344 407550, by 17 July.

2009-12 Alumni Deaths

- Pastor Ron Vince d. 16 June 2009
- Mrs Peggy Mason d. 13 August 2009
- Pastor Kenneth Gammon d. 8 October 2009
- Mrs Vera Porter d. 8 February 2010
- Mrs Heather Thompson d. 3 May 2010
- Mrs Mabel Dunnett d. 20 July 2010
- Mrs Ruth Hulbert d. 12 August 2010
- Mrs Leila Handsides d. 18 April 2011
- Mrs G Vera Cowley d. 20 May 2011
- Mrs Dorothy Taylor d. 14 July 2011
- Mrs Greta Schuit d. 21 October 2011
- Pastor Martin Bell d. 15 October 2011
- Mrs Greta Schuit d. 21 October 2011
- Pastor Robert Surridge d. 17 December 2011
- Mr Francis Robertson d. 22 July 2011
- Mrs Phyllis M Robertson d. 17 April 2012
2011 Beach Lecture

Bad Seeds, Problematic Plants - Colonial Christianity as Occult Practice

by Helen Pearson

Theologian and award-winning Channel 4 broadcaster Dr Robert Beckford gave the 2011 Beach Lecture at Newbold College on Tuesday 11 October 2011. The 90-strong audience included Dr Bert and Mrs Ellaine Beach, sponsors of the Beach Lecture. Introducing himself, Dr Beckford talked about his Pentecostal upbringing, his mother’s prayers and his Maths teacher’s Marxism.

The core of his lecture was the reading of a closely argued chapter from his upcoming book which examines the history of slavery and the relationship of the colonial Anglican Church to slaves and their owners in the West Indies. Beckford claimed that Christian missionaries sought a pragmatic compromise with the slave owners and the islands’ governments and “zombiefied” (or deprived of the power to think) the slaves whom they baptised. They “bewitched” the new slave Christians with the power of the dominant white Christian discourse about obedience to hierarchy and the nature of the slave as a beast of burden. Many missionaries failed to teach Christian slaves that all men have an equal right to full entry into the human family. Those Christians who were not in favour of slavery – Quakers and Methodists – were made less welcome in the colonies.

In an audience containing students, staff and a number of former missionaries to Africa and descendants of missionaries, Beckford’s ideas provoked a fascinating 45-minute question and answer session – for many people, the best part of the event. Beckford made it clear that, as a Christian himself, he was not wishing to play a “blame game” but rather intending to encourage the church to look not only at its heroism in history but also at what he called its “grotesque” behaviour. He drew the attention of his hearers to the Book of Revelation which, he said, “warns the churches against demonic powers behind imperial power.” He encouraged his audience to examine the power of current dominant ideologies – to ask, “whose way of knowing is normative?” and “what faulty categories are we using?” He warned that Christians today may be complicit in “zombiefication” in the areas of trade injustice and gender inequality.

NEWBOLD COLLEGE DIVERSITY LECTURES

Newbold played host to four Diversity Lectures during the 2011-12 academic year:

**September:** Mental Health and Culture – are they connected?, by Rev. Ken Blanton, Jungian Analyst and Minister, United Reformed Church, Bracknell.

**November:** Burkina Faso, Burma and Bracknell: Should the good News sound the same everywhere?, by Gary Krause, Associate Secretary, Office of Adventist Mission – Seventh-day Adventist World Headquarters.

**February:** Wash Me and I shall be whiter than snow, by Dr William Askar, lecturer at Birbeck, University of London.

**March:** European Sunday Rest-day Legislation – an update, by Dr Brighton Kavahih, Ministerial Association Secretary, Seventh-day Adventist Church, UK.

NEW: Annual Bible Conference

Newbold College hosted its first annual Bible conference on 24 March 2012 entitled, How to Read the Bible for all It’s Worth. Over 60 participants attended and heard presentations by staff from the Department of Theological Studies: Drs Aulikki Nahkola, Laurence Turner, Jean-Claude Verrecchia and Cedric Vine. Feedback from those who attended was very positive and participants can look forward to an even bigger event next year. Ben Senty, postgraduate student in Theology, said: “What I liked most about the Bible Conference is the way they contextualised, using past events and making them relevant to today’s events.”

NEW: International Christian Associations

Newbold College is now an international member of the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC). This is an association of 600 small and mid-sized private liberal arts colleges and universities in and outside of the United States.
NEW: 2013 SUMMER COURSES AT NEWBOLD

We are delighted to announce a full programme of short courses that will be offered in the summer of 2013. This will include modules in English Literature, History, Business, Education and Religious Studies. Further details will be added to our website, as well as being included in the next issue of The Newboldian later this year.

The Department of Theological Studies

The Department of Theological Studies at Newbold College is internationally recognised in Seventh-day Adventist circles as being a centre of excellence in biblical, theological and pastoral education. We are pleased to announce the College’s new partnership with the state-accredited Theologische Hochschule Friedensau in Germany, enabling us to offer undergraduate and postgraduate degrees conferred by Friedensau.

School of Business

The School of Business at Newbold College builds on more than 25 years of experience and offers an internationally recognised and academically solid qualification in Business Studies conferred by Washington Adventist University. We have also signed a new agreement with Southern Adventist University, whereby their International Business students will study at Newbold College for one semester as part of their degree – we are really looking forward to welcoming the first cohort of Southern students this September!

English for Speakers of Other Languages

The School of English offers general English courses to students from beginner’s to advanced levels, for which the College is accredited by the British Council through Accreditation UK. These courses are offered during the academic year (September to May). We also run a Summer School in English in July, which is offered in three parts, giving students the opportunity to choose how long they wish to attend. We have recently signed a new agreement with Centro Universitário Adventista de São Paulo – Engenheiro Coelho campus (Brazil Adventist University) and are very much looking forward to having a large group of students from the University here at Newbold in September.

Adventist Colleges Abroad

We are thrilled to announce our new partnership with Adventist Colleges Abroad. The ACA consortium provides opportunities for qualified North American undergraduate students to study in other countries while completing the requirements for their programmes at their home institutions. Modules in the Newbold College ACA programme include a suite of British Heritage modules, from Fine Arts to British Literary Texts on Film and Location, as well as a number of other options from Religion to Applied Music. In addition, all ACA students will be able to experience at least six guided field trips per semester.

University Year in England

The University Year in England gives international students the opportunity to spend up to two years studying on the Newbold College campus, and enables them to choose any appropriate combination of classes offered by the College’s other provision.

THE GAP YEAR

The Gap Year is an opportunity for personal development through academic exploration and volunteer experiences. It is available for one or two semesters and allows students to combine learning in the classroom with other more radical projects such as organising and participating in aid trips to developing countries.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR CEDRIC VINE

Congratulations to Dr Cedric Vine, Lecturer in New Testament Studies and programme leader of the undergraduate Theology programme, who has successfully completed his doctorate with the University of Sheffield. The title of Cedric’s dissertation is “The Audience of Matthew: An Appraisal of the Local Audience Thesis”.

FAREWELL TO NATHAN AND EMILIA SHIELDS

Farewell to Nathan and Emilia Shields who are moving to Finland in September. Nathan has served as Student Recruitment Officer and Emilia as a Residence Hall Warden. Blessings be upon both of you in the next stage of your lives.

FAREWELL TO MANUELA CASTI

Farewell to Manuela Casti, Lecturer in Pastoral Studies, who joined the Newbold College staff in 2008. Manuela recently got married to Steve Yeagley and is now living in Berrien Springs, Michigan. We wish her God’s blessings as she continues to serve Him.

DR HARRY LEONARD

Congratulations to Dr Harry Leonard on the publication of his new publication, The Diaries and Correspondence of Robert Lee of Binfield, 1736 – 1744, of which he is editor. Dr Leonard, formerly Head of Humanities at Newbold and History Lecturer at the College for over thirty years, is still very active in our community and you may have noticed his article on Sylvia’s Garden on pages 8 & 9.

WELCOME TO MARIA ROSENQUIST

Maria Rosenquist has recently joined the Newbold College staff as Marketing Communications Officer. Maria is an alumna of Newbold College (1996-1999) and is particularly enjoying working on such a beautiful campus.
Our VISION
To be the Seventh-day Adventist Christian higher education institution of choice in Europe.

Our MISSION
To foster a Christ-centred and diverse learning community that prepares students for service in an ever-changing world.

Our VALUES

Spirituality
We invite all members of our learning community to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ; to demonstrate personal integrity at all times; and to apply understanding of and respect for cultural differences in diverse environments.

Service
We encourage all members of our learning community to engage in generous service to meet human needs and to participate in activities consistent with the worldwide mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Quality learning and teaching
We challenge all members of our learning community to seek to discover, to inquire, to think, to communicate clearly and to understand life, learning, teaching and civic responsibility from a Christian point of view.

Nurture
We encourage all members of our learning community to realise their full potential; to live full and joyful lives; and to embrace a balanced lifestyle, including time for intellectual development, physical activity, social and cultural enrichment and spiritual growth.