

BUC Lay Bible Workers' Convention

by Richard Daly

Photography: Theo Guthrie and Kevin Thomas

Each year the British Union Conference (BUC) Lay Bible Workers' Convention continues to grow, and this year was no exception. In fact, the theme for the event held at the DeVere Conference Centre in Staverton last year (23-25 November) was 'Going Big!'

With 20 presenters – six from overseas – and 450 lay members from around the BUC having 50 seminars to choose from, the event was a great success.

Dr Kirk Thomas, BUC Evangelism Director, and his secretary, Kerrine Guthrie, prepared a well-organised programme that left attendees on a spiritual high and better equipped to deal with mission and evangelism in the local church.

The Friday evening commenced with an enthusiastic welcome by Dr Thomas, followed by the first of the overseas guests, the popular Dr Louis Torres, who taught the attendees how to lead people to Christ, discern the movement of the Holy Spirit in their lives, and deliver effective Bible studies.

The main speaker each evening was Dr Clifford Jones, President of the Lake Region

Conference in the USA. He presented expository messages on biblical themes surrounding the task of being equipped and empowered to engage in mission and ministry. He also challenged the audience to put cultural differences aside and learn to 'speak the same language' so as to experience the revival of Pentecost.

Some of the highlights of the weekend included a powerful testimony by Michael Garkov (ASI Europe Treasurer) on his evangelistic trip to Zambia, and the spiritual warfare he and his wife, Miroslava, faced while there. In spite of this, they persevered and 46 people were baptised.

Another highlight was the first baptism at a BUC Lay Bible Workers' Convention. Married couple, Mr and Mrs Sadiq, who had been studying with two Newbold ministerial students for the previous seven months, were baptised in the hotel swimming pool. Coming into the Adventist Church from another faith was a huge step for both of them and they experienced family disownment, loss of work and spiritual opposition. Yet, despite this, Mr Sadiq declared after his baptism: '*The fellowship made us feel at home. I saw Jesus in people today.*' Mrs Sadiq said, 'I was scared going into the water. Coming out, I was calm and assured.' Those students who worked with them are members of the South England Conference (SEC) Adventist Muslim Relations (AMR) team and had this to say: 'It is inexpressibly joyous when someone

gives their life to Christ, especially those who are from a non-Christian background.'

With a vast array of seminars, notable presenters included General Conference Publishing Director, Pastor Almir Marroni, who spoke on 'The Past, Present and Future of Literature Distribution'; Neville Neviling from AWR360, who spoke on 'Cell-Phone Ministry'; and Pastor Sam Davis, former SEC President, a welcomed returnee, who led out on the topic of 'Bible Worker Strategies for Success'.

Added features for the weekend included the prayer room, WOW club for the teens with SEC speaker, Pastor Max McKenzie-Cook, and a praise team led by Tina Brooks, all of which catered for a vibrant spiritual atmosphere.

The efficient SEC media team not only ensured that the sound and audio-visuals ran smoothly, but also provided livestreaming of the main presentations. The rebroadcasts can be seen at <https://www.facebook.com/adventist.org.uk/>.

The comments by those who attended were positive and included statements such as: 'Inspiring weekend with lots to take away with me'; 'I feel more motivated now to get involved with my church and community'; and 'I always enjoy coming here. I never fail to learn something new.'

In closing, Dr Thomas shared some of the plans in store for the near future, including evangelistic training and programmes in North Wales, a SEEDS conference and the hosting of General Conference initiative events. It certainly seems that when it comes to the equipping and training of members, the BUC Sabbath School and Evangelism department is thinking big and moving forward.



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Your invitation . . .

If you are interested in receiving a complete copy of Dr Brighton G. Kavaloh's paper entitled,

'Church on Gender Self-Identification and The Law',

which was commissioned by Pastor Sam O. Davies, SEC Communication and Media Department director, then please email your request to editor@stanboroughpress.org.uk.

We will forward you a PDF of the document, footnotes, diagrams and all, which is unfortunately too long for us to publish in *MESSENGER*.

It is also unwise to edit or summarise a carefully written document of this nature. According to Pastor Davies, the document will also appear in the January issue of the *SEC Communicator*.

2019

- Senior Youth Leader Prereq Training **Jan 11-13**
- Relationship Weekend **Feb 15-17**
- Aberdaron Work Retreat **Feb 17-24**
- NEC Spring Ski Trip **Apr 19-28**
- Prayer Warriors **May 3-6**
- Big Six **Jun 16**
- NEC Youth Roadshow **Jun 24-29**
- Camp Meeting **Jul 1-7**
- Athletics Day **Jul 14**
- Aberdaron Junior Camp **Aug 4-11**
- Aberdaron Earliteen Camp **Aug 11-18**
- Aberdaron Youth Camp **Aug 18-25**
- ASC Student Training Retreat **Sep 2-8**
- NEC Students Day **Sep 28**
- iWorship **Nov 22-24**

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Julian Hibbert, Editor

The backstory . . .

By now you will have noticed my curiosity regarding the meanings and origins of various terms, phrases and sayings, and today I'm at it again. This time my quest for meaning involves the term **'backstory'**, one that seems to have come into common use quite recently. According to *Oxford Living Dictionaries*, a 'backstory' is a 'history or background created for a fictional character in a film or television programme.'¹

What I have noticed, however, is that the provision of backstory is no longer confined to the writers of fiction. Print and television journalists are now using the term to describe their efforts to get to the 'story behind the story', which is probably why one dictionary has expanded its definition of the term to include: 'The set of background conditions and events leading to a real-life situation.'²

In reality, then, the backstory is often the real scoop of the day. It carries the reader or listener beyond the obvious 'Who?', 'What?', 'Where?' and 'When?' of a breaking story, to the all-important 'Why?'

Malala Yousafzai

In *The Times* of 27 October 2018 Malala Yousafzai was rightly described by Janice Turner as 'the most visible daughter in the world.'³ I know that I was not the only one who wiped away tears after watching her address the UN on her sixteenth birthday, during 'which she called on world leaders to provide free schooling for all children.'⁴ It was powerful stuff.

This fifteen-year-old had openly defied the Taliban by encouraging young Pakistani girls to pursue their education as far as they could. Their response came in October 2012 when she was shot in the face at point blank range while on her school bus. In doing so, however, the Taliban scored an impressive own goal; for, despite this brutal attempt on her life, her determination grew, and she soon had the attention of the world focused on her cause.

The backstory . . .

Since her shooting, Malala has become a household name to many around the world. In October 2014 this led to her being the youngest-ever recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, sharing it equally with Kailash Satyarthi of India 'for their struggle against the suppression of children and young people and for the right of all children to education.'⁵

All that aside, here is where the value of a **backstory** kicks in; for, in the case of Malala Yousafzai, the 'story behind the story' is amazing in its own right. It answers that all-important question: **Why did Malala become a champion for the education of young Pakistani girls?** Janice Turner's piece in *The Times*, published seven years to the month after that fateful shooting, contains the backstory.⁶

It unfolds like this . . .

Ziauddin Yousafzai (Malala's father) grew up in a country where women were seen, yet unnoticed. According to Turner, 'His five sisters were not just uneducated but their births uncelebrated, their very names unrecorded.' They were allowed – like all other girls in Pakistan's Swat valley – to play in public with boys until 12 or 13, after which they 'disappeared into the prison of their homes, behind the shroud of their veils, to be readied for marriage and a lifetime of serving men.'

Let me turn again to Turner's telling of the backstory: 'What is remarkable about Zia Yousafzai, now 48, is he saw the invisible women. He noticed that his sisters had tatty, frayed shoes while his were new and clean; that while his father wanted him to learn and excel, all he sought from his daughters was silence and obedience. And Zia did not, like other men, see this as his birthright but as a grotesque injustice, which he pledged to end. He vowed that when he had a daughter, she would not be invisible.'

Zia's wife, Toor Pekai, grew up in similar circumstances. She doesn't know either her birthday or year, because her arrival wasn't registered either! She had 'almost no schooling'. Once married, however, life changed dramatically for her. She 'ate with him, not alone in the kitchen; when his friends came, she did not veil her face; he allowed her to visit the market or the doctor without a male chaperone and walked beside her in the street.'

Before the birth of Malala, their first child, Zia had already established the Khushal Public School group, which developed into an 800-pupil primary school, to which were added separate high



schools for girls and boys. And, as time moved on, he would let his daughter accompany him 'to neighbouring villages where, "We were like girls' education preachers." He'd speak to the men while she addressed the women.'

His efforts were entirely consistent with his earlier pledge that 'when he had a daughter, she would not be invisible.' Here it is in his own words:

'I could see that if my vision is the empowerment and independence of women, freedom to be themselves, then the goal and the mission is to educate them. So that is why I was more interested in girls' education, because it was the greatest equaliser.'

Back to the backstory

Let's return for a moment to that vital question: **Why did Malala become a champion for the education of young Pakistani girls?** The backstory has revealed the answer, hasn't it? She became what she is because of **the clear vision, courageous efforts and positive encouragement of her amazing father.** 'Any girl could have raised her voice,' says Malala. 'The difference was, I had a father who did not stop me.'

Here is a hard reality to reflect on: **each one of us is part of at least one backstory. How positive has your contribution been?**

¹<https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/backstory>
²<https://www.thefreedictionary.com/backstory>
³<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/zia-yousafzai-interview-how-malalas-father-became-a-feminist-in-pakistan-mm0cldh0z>
⁴https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2014_Nobel_Peace_Prize
⁵<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/zia-yousafzai-interview-how-malalas-father-became-a-feminist-in-pakistan-mm0cldh0z>

Never too old!

by Rudo Chengeta
(Women's and Prayer Ministries leader)

They say what we do for ourselves alone dies with us; but that the good we do for others is priceless and lives on throughout eternity. This is probably why we feel forever indebted to those who are kind and charitable towards us – which is why Pauline Bisson is such a rich blessing to our Bradford Central Church and the surrounding community. She is one of our Women's Ministries sisters (over 80 years of age) who devotes most of her time to doing good deeds, and is well-known for her kindness and strong determination.

What is most remarkable about Pauline is that she is a woman of action who endeavours to live in the fear of the Lord and the encouragement of Holy Spirit. Although she is in her old age and doesn't even have any special machine or equipment at her disposal,

Pauline uses her hands to make blankets, gift cards and other types of artwork. She crochets blankets for babies and adults and gives gift cards to people in need. Sometimes she raises money for ADRA from selling her gift cards or blankets. She says that it takes her a lot of time to make one piece, but that doesn't stop her from helping others. 'Last night I worked all night crocheting, as I needed to finish the frills of this blanket,' said Pauline one day when I visited her.

She is also available to teach anyone who is willing to learn from her. Her other ministry is prayer for the sick. Furthermore, she inspires others through her example of healthy eating – she successfully reversed her diabetes through



her diet regime. Her service is indeed an inspiration to other people, and as she continues to crochet her pieces together for the needy, she is crocheting her name into history (His story).

Adventist wins prestigious award

by Pastor Richard Daly (BUC Communications)

On Thursday 4 October last year, Croydon Church member, Anne-Marie Headley, won the 2018 'Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Senior Leader of the Year' award at the Black British Business Awards (BBBAwards) ceremony, which is a celebration of the extraordinary and inspiring work of entrepreneurs and business professionals within the UK who demonstrate significant contributions to the financial performance of their enterprises.

In her acceptance speech Anne-Marie had this to say: 'It is an absolute honour to receive this recognition alongside all of the amazing

finalists this year, who are all demonstrating excellence in their respective industries. It spurs me on to want to continue to make a difference, to continue to push boundaries and hopefully blow open the doors of opportunity to the huge amount of talent in our community. Thank you to my mum who is here tonight, thank you to the village of people who have brought me to this point, and thank you to God for continuing to give my life purpose. Thank you.'

Anne-Marie is Strategic HR Business Partner at Uber, Northern and Eastern Europe, and has close to two decades' experience in



Photo quality as supplied

the IT industry. She specialises in transforming Fortune 500 companies, scaling growth companies and building high-performance cultures. At Uber she is responsible for organisational development, workforce culture and employee experience.

Local community values Adventist's contribution

by Pastor Richard Daly (BUC Communications)

Dr Robinson Osei Addaih, a member of the West Bletchley Community church, was recognised by his local community in a special ceremony in honour of his relentless service, commitment to social cohesion, loyalty and impact on the lives of ethnic minorities. The ceremony, held at the Stantonbury Theatre, Milton Keynes on Sunday 4 November last year was attended by a number of dignitaries – including the Mayor of Milton Keynes, members of the Milton Keynes Equality Council, executives of various Ghanaian groups and church leaders.

The venue, holding up to 300 people, was filled to capacity with members of the community, many of whom had been the recipients of the support and advice provided

by Dr Addaih in areas of immigration, financial and legal counsel – most of which was done for free. Dr Addaih has served the community for over 30 years, working as a senior analyst. He has also been a magistrate for 15 years and occasionally sits at the Crown Court.

We applaud the work of Dr Addaih and the example he has set as an Adventist in being at the forefront as an inspiration to the youth and adults, both inside and outside the Church. He



epitomises what God calls each of us to do when being the 'salt' and 'light' – to make meaningful contributions in our local communities where we worship each week; and to be seen as someone who genuinely cares for the community and practices Christian values and acts of love that result from a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Faithfulness pays dividends

by Mike Cowen (Communications)

It is always encouraging to hear of a young person who has kept to their principles and come through with honour. Taylor James of Grantham is one such person.

From an early age Taylor had cars on his mind. In fact, it was that word, 'car', that he used first when he started to talk! When others in his nursery/reception classes in the Dudley House church school were busy with letters and numbers, Taylor preferred to line up model cars on the mat.

When it came to his GCSE's, Taylor enrolled at his local college to take a two-year course in vehicle maintenance and electronics. Within his first year, he was put forward for an apprenticeship at a local vehicle dealership. However, after a promising start, the interview came to an abrupt end when he mentioned that he would not be available for work on his day of worship, Saturday. Undeterred, Taylor worked part-time in the local branch of a car parts dealer during his time at the college.

During his final year at college he applied at the local Kwik-Fit branch and was offered a job, but again, Sabbath work posed a stumbling block. Taylor began to wonder if he would ever get a job! But God was listening to his prayers

and those of his family, and on completion of his studies he was offered a job where the department he would work in was closed on Sabbaths, and he could leave early on Fridays when needed.

It was a short while later, however, that Taylor's former college tutor made contact to see if he would be interested in an apprenticeship with Jaguar Land Rover – at a branch just a few miles from his home. This was the kind of opportunity Taylor had dreamed about.

During an informal telephone interview the subject of not working on Saturday and leaving early on Friday because of his religious beliefs was raised and Taylor indicated his willingness to make up any 'lost time'. The response was very positive, and the face-to-face formal interview confirmed this. First impressions were promising: attitude and appearance impressed the interviewer, prompting him to say that he

probably had a 98% chance of getting the placement.

After two days of the company checking work schedules, etc, and much prayer at home, Taylor was called with the good news that he had been successful, and that he had been offered a place with Jaguar Land Rover! God had heard those many prayers, and He had reserved a special place for a faithful young man.

On 19 November last year, Taylor started his long-prayed-for career, and with rewards far above what he might have expected



Christmas made happier for Hampshire care leavers

For the past two years Winchester Church has allocated money each Christmas to purchase Christmas gifts for young people in Hampshire who have recently left care, and may well find themselves on their own at Christmas.

There are currently over 750 foster care leavers in Hampshire. These are young people aged 18-plus, taken away from their families due to neglect or abuse, who recently left their foster families and face the prospect of Christmas without a family – or sometimes even a home.

Last year throughout Hampshire more than 2,000 gifts were donated (some by Winchester Church) for such care leavers, and these gifts had a really positive impact on these vulnerable young people.

Winchester Church also regularly collects gifts and money for the Winchester Basics Bank, which again benefitted from the generosity of the church members this past Christmas.

JUDITH REDMAN



Winchester Church members



The Grantham team sort through the abundance of toys collected by the bikers

Bikers' Christmas Run

On 25 November last year the annual Bikers Christmas Toy Run came to Grantham.

As in past years, the Grantham church took responsibility for collecting all the items brought by the 270 motorbike enthusiasts to a central point in the town.

These were transported to the church by two church members using their large business transit van – where a team were waiting to unload and sort the toys according to age and gender, ready for the various children's groups and schools in Grantham to collect as many items as they wanted. More than 1,000 items were distributed to the 16 such groups and organisations in Grantham the following day alone! They were overjoyed at the generosity of the bikers and the hard work of Karen Shelbourn and her team of church members.

Once again it was a positive witness to see some of our local community leaders visiting the Grantham church.

MIKE COWEN (COMMUNICATIONS)

377 years of experience

Twenty-six couples attended last year's North England Conference *Endless Love Retreat* (9-11 November), held in Nottingham and organised by Pastor Paul Liburd of the NEC Family Life department.

For the opening evening's icebreaker, Pastor Liburd had the 26 couples arrange themselves according to the number of years they had been married. Three couples had been married for only seven months, while the veterans were Leebert and Vinette Hughes, who have been married for 44 years. In all, the total 'marital' age of the couples in attendance was 377 years. Pastor Liburd urged couples to tap into the wealth of experience and wisdom in the room by talking to each other throughout the weekend.

The first Sabbath seminar was on *Communication Essentials*, aimed at helping couples develop effective communication and listening skills in their marriages. The speakers, Leebert and Vinette Hughes, cited Ephesians 4:15-32, that talks about speaking the truth in love; reconciling conflicts quickly; building others up; and responding biblically rather than impulsively.

Leebert and Vinette then challenged couples with another seminar on *Conflict Resolution*, suggesting that criticism, defensiveness, hostility and angry withdrawal were four deadly behaviours in a marriage. Couples were then given the opportunity to discuss and identify which of the five conflict resolution styles (harmonising, avoiding, directing, cooperating and compromising) best describes their relationship.

After lunch, Pastor Paul and Jeanetta Liburd took the couples on a journey of forgiveness and reconciliation. It was a thought-provoking session, full of real-life stories of people who forgave what seemed humanly impossible to forgive. After a short break, Pastor Andrew and Andrea Rashford-Hewitt presented on the subject of *The Marital Bed*. Sex in marriage is a topic that is not talked about often, but the presenters emphasised its importance and the need to be open about it, as it's a gift from God.

A couples' retreat would be incomplete without a Saturday evening banquet. This event saw couples dressed to the nines for an evening meal, and official photographs taken by Donald McKenzie. However, the real star of the evening was Andrew Hazel, who treated the couples to an evening full of laughter.

The last two presentations on Sunday morning were entitled, *Mine*,



Yours and Ours. Dr Victor Samwinga's presentations aimed to empower couples with tools to foster oneness in dealing with financial matters in their marriages. Financial dysfunction can lead to money worries, stress, money fights and ultimately divorce. His second presentation focused on the ten principles for handling money for couples who wish to experience healthier finances.

Throughout the weekend seminars couples had the opportunity to interact with other couples, as well as to discuss with each other new ways of thinking and handling issues in marriage. Counsellors were also available all weekend for those who needed them.

After an engaging question-and-answer session, the retreat was brought to a close with a solemn commitment service, where couples renewed their wedding vows.

According to Rob and Cathy Zimbeva, 'The sessions were inspiring. We never switched on the TV for the two days we were at the retreat. We focused on ourselves and had plenty of time to reflect on the topics that were discussed. It was also inspiring to see loving couples who appeared to be genuinely in love, happy to be together and having fun. The sessions were thought-provoking and we have started implementing lessons learnt, and are also sharing with family and friends. The *Endless Love* retreat was romantic and spiritual. We will definitely attend future sessions, God willing.'

Others are already talking about doing the same next year.

LYNNE SESINYE-SAMWINGA AND JEANETTA LIBURD

Photos: Donald McKenzie

Sutton-in-Ashfield investiture

On 24 October last year we held both the first and the last investiture of Adventurers and Pathfinders at the Sutton-in-Ashfield church. This was the first, because the two groups have only been functioning for twelve months or so; and the last, because from 11 November we have been worshipping at our new church in Mansfield Woodhouse.



That said, the ceremony itself was heart-warming: proof that these youngsters are proud and happy to serve the Lord and to be taught in His ways.

In addition to our regular congregation, we were also joined by members of the Nottingham Central church, some of whom were among the flag bearers as well as in the main platform party. These visitors were all in uniform and looked very smart.

Each honour or award handed out testified to both the hard work of the recipient and the dedication and the tirelessness of those adults who have given of their time to educate and guide their young charges – no thanks required!

Looking at those young people being invested reminded us of the blessing our church has received over the last few years in regard to the many children who now grace our church. These young people are our future. They are the next generation of leaders, teachers and evangelists – charged with reaching the world with God's word and the Three Angels' Messages.

DIANE MORTON (COMMUNICATIONS)



MSA Retreat

The South England Conference Ministerial Spouses Association (MSA) annual retreat was held at the De Vere Hotel in Milton Keynes from 19 to 21 October last year.

The theme was *Our Spiritual and Emotional Well-being*, and the special guests were the spouses from the British Union Conference. Mrs. Marlene Levy, first elder of the Croydon church, was the guest speaker. She is a qualified counselor, specialising in a number of mental health-related areas. Also in attendance was her husband, Dr Chris Levy, who practices emergency medicine and currently serves as the director of the UK chapter of the Adventist Medical Evangelism Network.

The spiritual leader for the weekend was Pastor Maureen Rock from the British Union Conference, where she serves as the Director/Principal of the Adventist Discovery Centre. Elisabeth Sanguesa, General Manager of the Stanborough Press Ltd, was also present.

Mrs. Levy's presentations were informative, interactive, uplifting and profound. She started with *Forgiveness and our emotions*, reminding the group that forgiveness was a deliberate release of feelings. We have to forgive to live. We explored forgiveness in the Bible and its spiritual

benefits to us. We looked at a biblical view of intimacy and the role it plays in our marriages. We participated in a workshop on stress management: *From stress to empowerment*. We also looked at what constitutes a healthy marriage and how to share ministry with our spouses. One very important topic was, *When to seek counseling and from whom*.

Dr Chris Levy reminded us to invest in ourselves during his presentation, *Brain Health for Pastoral Spouses*, challenging us to check who is responsible for the health of our families. The answer from God's word puts that down to the wife/mother. She sets the tone in the home – hence we, as ladies, have to take care of our bodies and minds. We were given many helpful tips from Dr Levy on how to accomplish this. We looked at various medical conditions that could affect our health and well-being – and how to avoid them.

Pastor Rock is a powerful speaker and she guided us through the Adventist Discovery online courses, encouraging us to study the Word of God for ourselves in the comfort of our homes and to share it with our families and friends. Her presentation, entitled, *'I am not alone and I did not sign up for this'* left us deeply motivated to carry on in ministry. She reminded us that we are never alone in ministry; God is with us and we are ministers in our own right.

For the first time ever we had the Stanbrough Press with us. Their objective was to encourage us to reawaken our love for the written word. Spouses had the opportunity to purchase wholesome food and Christian books and literature for the entire family.

To round off the weekend, Janice Mingo's presentations reminded us of the importance of natural oils and minerals in relation to our health and well-being.

Thanks to all the spouses who took the time to attend this retreat. We will continue to lift you up to the throne of God daily.

MARGARET JOHNS (COORDINATOR, SEC MSA) AND MAXINE DALY

Lay preachers' graduation

Barnsley Church was privileged to host the graduation ceremony for the Area 3 lay preachers' course on Sabbath 21 October last year. The event was well attended, with family and friends of the graduates filling the hall and a pot luck lunch provided after the service.

The graduation was conducted by Pastor Kumi, the Ministerial Association Secretary, and Pastor Simon, the pastor for Barnsley, Doncaster and Scunthorpe. Pastor Kumi's sermon on Romans 10:11-15 was thought-provoking, and Pastor Simon addressed the group before the certificates were awarded. Pastor Kumi then prayed for the newly-qualified lay preachers before the close of the service.

Congratulations to Michael Allen, Irma Askej, Jane Dube, Hatina Guchu, Sandra Henry, Mihaela Ichim, Marang Kesuface, Simbi Mayahi, Godfrey Peters, Lauren Salisbury and Nomkita Siyoni on completing the course.

This was the culmination of a series of training days held in the



Barnsley church, during which the candidates studied God's word and the elements of sermon delivery. Several members of the group have already been involved in local church services and others are set to preach in the near future.

If you feel called to spread the gospel in a more formal way, please contact your local pastor about taking the lay preachers' course.

LAUREN SALISBURY



Hope Sabbath School in Bristol

On Sabbath 27 October last year, Pastor Derek Morris, known to thousands across the globe as the host of Hope Sabbath School and President of Hope Channel International, brought his unique style of Sabbath School to Bristol's Hope Sabbath School day of fellowship.

Morris was actually born in Bristol, where his parents attended the Lodge Causeway church, before moving to Newbold College when Pastor Morris was six years old. In fact, Pastor Morris still has relatives in Bristol, including his cousin Elizabeth, who attends a Baptist church, and who came along to the event.

On the day the main auditorium was filled to capacity by more than 300 people, while 55 children had their own church services in other rooms. Visitors came from as far away as Newcastle, Hastings, Walthamstow, Luton, and Croydon.

The highlight of Sabbath School was the Hope Sabbath School class format. This comprised a panel of 12 church members from the area, selected to represent the diversity of the Church in the UK.

Pastor Morris skilfully guided the panel through the key points of the lesson, asking questions of the panel, and with every person taking part. In addition several of the panel members gave testimonies of how God had led them in their lives, and also how certain people in their churches had been an inspiration and help to them.

For the morning message Pastor Morris built on the topic he had started in the vespers service the night before at Bristol Central, highlighting some of the distractions that can prevent us from labouring for Christ, and the need to 'pray' (implore, beg, cry out) to God to send out labourers into the harvest, and especially to be willing to go ourselves.

In the afternoon Pastor Morris explained more about the work of the Hope Channel, which now has a global television network with more than 53 channels in different countries, each creating content in their own local language – including one in Brazil, which recently signed up their one millionth Bible study interest.

One common theme for the day was of the power of media to influence lives and introduce people to Christ, whether this be through the Hope Channel television stations, Adventist World Radio, or online or traditional media.

Pastor Morris showed some moving video testimonies of life-changing stories from Hope Channel viewers, interspersed with special musical items. He also gave his own testimony, which included several miracles – including the story of how God can work through the smallest of means, such as the dropping of a leaflet for Bible studies through his grandparents' door in Bristol, which his father picked up and read, and which eventually led to their family joining the church.

The day was particularly enhanced with special items from a number of artists and groups from around the area. This included part of a Hope quartet group from the Swindon Portuguese church; singers such as Bianca Brown, Philippa Smith, and some talented young people from Weston-super-Mare church: Molly and Alastair, and two sisters, Vania and Johanna – along with many others.

In an interview with Pastor Morris on the Friday evening, he commented on the challenges facing our truly global church, with varying views on a number of topics; but also on the way the demographics and

growth of the church have changed. From once having the majority of its membership in the United States and Europe, it has experienced massive growth in other areas of the globe. He gave an example from the country of Zambia, which now has more members than the whole of North America.

Speaking on the issue of how to reach people with the gospel in a post-Christian society, Pastor Morris highlighted the importance of meeting people's needs. No matter how secular they may be, people always have problems and needs – whether that be for better health, or advice and support on relationships, depression, marriage, and so on. Whatever people's needs are, we should meet people where they are, find out what they need, and offer them support, guidance and ultimately, hope in Jesus Christ.

IAN SABADIN, BRISTOL CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

International content from the Hope Channel, including Hope Sabbath School broadcasts, can be found at hopetv.org, and UK programming at hopetv.org.uk, or via the Hope Channel app.



What does family mean to God?

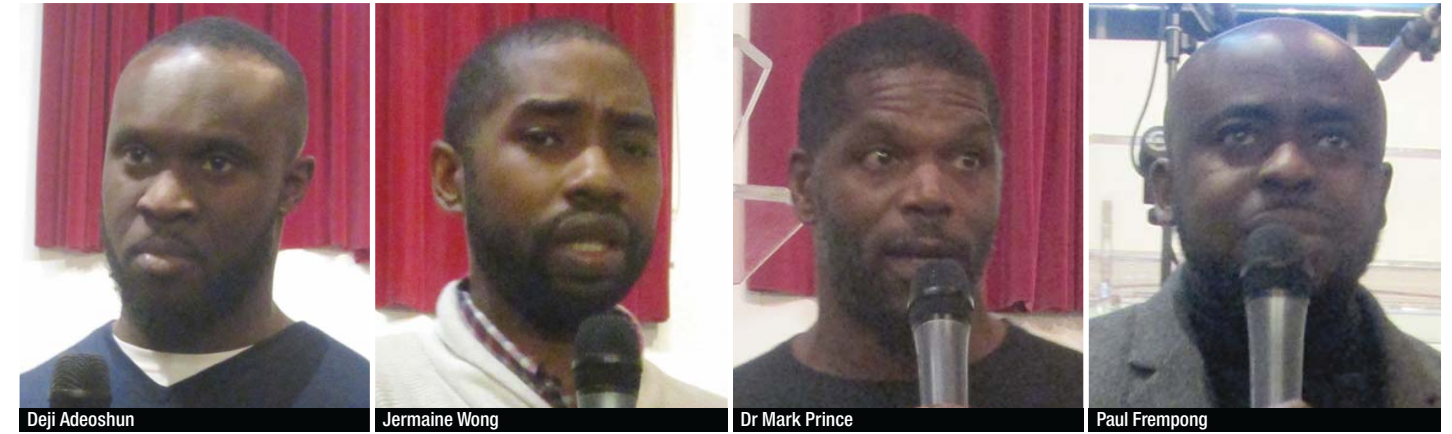
As I listened to Pastor Jon Gendle's response to this rhetorical question, this thought struck me: 'God's wisdom comes to us in the form of families.'

His Word – packed with knowledge, guidance, instruction, songs of praise and prophecy is laid out for us through the lives of various families.

The first family, though created in utter perfection, fell short, yet were still cared for by their Creator. Another, the Most High saved from the great flood.

It is through these families, one after another, that we learn of the Father's grace and His abounding love, and it is through our own families that we experience the presence of God's love.

Baby Nathan, the child of Anna and Prosper Mafu, lay peacefully cradled in his mother's arms. Many of their relatives had come to celebrate this wonderful occasion, bringing both their smiles and their delicious traditional Zimbabwean dishes. The Church, Enfield, was packed with Nathan's immediate family, his extended family and his church family. Three variations of family, yet all the same eager to officially welcome him into the family of God.



United against knife crime

Knife crime and youth violence are alarmingly serious issues throughout the UK. According to research conducted by *The Guardian* newspaper's award-winning *Beyond the Blade* investigation into these issues, 39 children and teenagers were killed in incidents of knife crime in 2017. A year later this has surged to approximately 120 victims, with a large majority of those being young people.

Following on from a march around Hackney along with representatives from the council and all faith groups, the Hackney church held an open forum on 8 December last year, which addressed the issue of knife crime and youth violence in Hackney. The guest speakers were all known to have worked in the community with young people and their families in challenging the issue in a productive and positive way.

The forum began with a video screening of *The Father*, written and produced by Gary Younge (*The Guardian's* editor-at-large and senior reporter on their award-winning *Beyond the Blade* series on knife crime). The four-minute clip depicts a father speaking on the loss of his son through knife crime. In the final scene, the father (performed by Gbolahan Obisean) reflects on the death of his son like this: 'I just think, why him? He never did anything. Wrong place, wrong time. That's it. But when the wrong place is between school and his mum's house and the time is 4pm, you're thinking: when is the right time, where is the right place?'

This touching video was followed by a moving testimony from Dr Mark Prince, who founded *The Kiyon Prince Foundation* in memory of his son, whom he lost to knife crime in 2006. An author and former boxing champion, Mark Prince candidly recounted the emotions he felt upon realising he was losing his son. 'I never dreamt that I would have to watch

As his parents vowed to dedicate him to the Lord by acknowledging their full dependence on Him and the wider church hurried to express their support, the room was filled with unity. Pastor Michael Toy joined Pastor Jon Gendle at the front of the church for a beautiful closing prayer, and, as they stood with the Mafus, a wonderful picture of family was displayed.

'It takes a village to raise a child . . .', an old African proverb declares. Indeed, it takes community, and as baby Nathan grows to be all that God has called him to be, we pray for continued support, guidance, protection and an abundance of love to surround him.

KRYSTAL SIMPSON



my first son die in the hospital after being stabbed in the heart. It's something you never think will happen to you, and there's not a day that goes by that I can ever forget him.' Mark Prince said he was only able to get through this most painful experience through surrendering to God. 'I didn't believe I could ever get through this, but God had my back. He gave me peace and taught me how to forgive and to share my story with others; to let them know that they are kings and queens, able to achieve anything, and that their lives are of worth and value in the sight of God.'

Youth mentor, Courtney Brown, spoke of his work with young people in Hackney schools, where he comes across many who are just crying out to be listened to and valued. Founder of *Father2Father* (an organisation that provides support, training and development to fathers, men and adolescent boys) Courtney shared what drives him to do the work that he does in the community: 'After giving my life to Christ four years ago, I realised that I could not just sit in the pews and not offer a helping hand to those suffering in my community.'

Inspirational performer and playwright, Jermaine Wong, had the attention of the young people in the audience during his poetic performance, which called them to rise up, know who they are and to follow in the legacy left by those who have gone before. Founder of *Final Call Productions* (a Christian theatre company that seeks to inspire, engage, encourage and inform its audiences through drama, theatre, film and poetry), Jermaine spoke of the need to affirm our young people, and that the power of life and death is in the tongue. He said: 'We must tell our young people that they can be doctors, lawyers, business owners and that their lives are of worth and value to God and the community to which they belong.'

Deji Adeosun, youth leadership programme manager at Hackney Council Voluntary Service, shared some harrowing statistics regarding violence and knife crime in the borough. He said: 'We have lost nine individuals in Hackney through acts of violence, including knife crime. Other statistics highlight that 70% of young black men have been excluded from school, while 50% are unemployed.' Deji, who is responsible for projects such as *Moving on Up*, which works with young men to help them gain employment and re-engagement in education, believes the Church has a role to play in bringing hope to those in the community feeling hopeless. 'It's time for the Church to come out of their comfort zones and reach out to those who need a word of cheer and hope, as well as practical help which the Church can offer.'

Boys2Men Ministries founder, Paul Frempong, highlighted that Seventh-day Adventists were not immune to the issue, having lost three of our members to acts of violence, including knife crime. He called the Church to be missionaries for Christ. 'The Church is called to be salt of the earth and a light to those in darkness – this can only happen when the Church steps out into the community, as Jesus did, thereby making a difference in society.' Paul then added: 'We must affirm our young people and, from an early age, remind them of their greatness in God.'

The speakers then took part in a Q&A session with the audience, which concluded a highly informative and inspirational forum, offering hope to those personally affected by these issues.

DARELL J. PHILIP (PR AND COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT)

Oxford baptises eight

On 3 November last year the Oxford church rejoiced when seven of its young people and one local resident were baptised. The baptisms were the culmination of an evangelistic series conducted by our new pastor, Robert Osei-Bonsu, with some of the candidates having faithfully attended his evening meetings, entitled 'Greatest Questions of our Times'.

As part of the service each candidate took to the pulpit to declare their reasons for choosing Christ. Jakim Stedford (13) spoke of recognising the way the world is going and how he 'wanted to be included in God's Kingdom along with this family'. His sister, J-Hannah Stedford (10) – who had started life in difficult circumstances as she was born very premature – expressed her desire to be a servant of God, as God had served her well, and how she trusted God's plans above those of men.

Shaun Kaylana (18) had been very keen for a long time to take this stand for Christ. Around his birthday each year Shaun would ask his parents: 'Could I get baptised now?' They wanted to ensure he fully understood his commitment, so requested he wait until his eighteenth birthday and, sure enough, three months after his birthday, he and his brother, Luke (16) were both baptised. They had received regular Bible studies from a church elder – at which their parents were so impressed that they wanted to pay the elder for his service. We praise God for their parents' choices.

Nathan Streete (15), the son of Oxford's first elder, knew the direction his life should take from early on. He shared his desire to be included in God's kingdom and his understanding of the value of God's leading and working in his life.



Francis Eleseo Tustian, also known as Frankie, is a member of the Oxford Filipino group (OXFIL) and was a miracle child from birth. He was born premature at 24 weeks and weighed just two pounds, and the church prayed earnestly for his survival. Thanks to God Frankie is now a very lively 12-year-old. He wanted to show his appreciation of God's blessings on his young life by taking this stand for Christ.

The last of our seven young people was 14-year-old Kziah Foster, a girl who has been sharing her singing talent in church for the past few years. She wanted to show the world her love for her church and her Jesus.

The final candidate was Stephen Woodward, who had recently felt a strong compulsion to commit his life to Christ. After making contact with an elder at OXFIL, he was soon taking regular Bible studies and has publicly demonstrated his commitment through baptism. The service was conducted by Pastor Robert Osei-Bonsu.

ALAN HUDSON



Left to right: Errol Westcarr (elder); Julian Cranfield (elder); Kiril Dimitrova; Ewa Fontoura; Pastor Tremon Jackson (assistant pastor) and Pastor Namuchana.

Baptisms in Gloucester

On Sabbath afternoon, 10 November, the Gloucester church was filled with friends and supporters of Ewa Fontoura and Kiril Dimitrova as they gave their lives to Christ through baptism. Ewa, from Poland originally, and Kiril, from Bulgaria, each have an inspiring story of their spiritual journey.

Kiril's daughter, Tanya, told the congregation of the family's struggle in Bulgaria, but despite all the difficulties, the family could look back and see

welcomed into the fellowship of the Gloucester church after baptism, and Kiril was welcomed by the Stroud church (a sister church of Gloucester) into their fellowship.

Pastor Namuchana baptised the candidates after encouraging them to keep their eyes on Jesus, and take courage from the way God had already led them.

ROBERT HIND

how God had been leading in their lives. On coming to this country, they still faced many challenges, but God was guiding them all the time. Initially attending a Sunday church, Tanya and her mother started Bible studies first and were baptised into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. All this time the Lord was knocking at the door of Kiril's heart, and as he started Bible studies he too became convinced of the truths that were opening up to him.

Ewa has also been on a journey. A busy wife and mother, her husband was an Adventist, but Ewa was from another denomination, and initially, in studying the Bible, she says, her determination was to prove her husband's beliefs wrong. However, as the truths were opened up to her, a transformation began in her life; she became more and more convinced of the message she was studying; and this eventually led to her decision. Ewa was

Newmarket-on-Fergus baptism

A secondary school student and a young mum were baptised into the Newmarket-on-Fergus congregation on 24 November last year. It was a joyful ceremony held in a newly-constructed baptismal pool on the church property. Extra chairs had to be brought into the church for the large number of visitors who came to witness the event.

The majority of the visitors were secondary school students from the nearby town of Ennis – classmates of Axelle Hakizimana, who invited them to share the event with her.

These students had never before visited a Seventh-day Adventist church, and were curious about the beliefs of the members. Axelle attends church faithfully and is also a talented musician and singer.

It was a dull and misty autumn day in the west of Ireland, but just as Axelle stepped into the baptismal pool the sun burst through the clouds, as if to highlight the beautiful ceremony. She was embraced by her mum, sisters and friends as she left the pool.

Diolet Chikawiya, a young mother, was surrounded by friends and family and supported by the whole congregation of onlookers as she stepped into the pool to give public testimony to her decision to follow Jesus.

Both candidates were baptised by Pastor Tony O'Rourke and, following his appeal, another young mum came forward requesting Bible studies and baptism.

At the close of the ceremony the candidates were presented with gifts on behalf of the church members, and a very special lunch was served for all who attended.

ELIZABETH O'ROURKE



FIC's Pathfinder harvest

During the Filipino International Church Pathfinder day on 13 October last year, five Pathfinders were baptised by Pastor Kevin Johns, South England Conference Pathfinder Director, who was the guest speaker for the event. Kari Elyse Layson, Kaela Shayne Cinense, Kail Denzel Cinense, Amalie Joelle Maghopoy and Ianne Micah Afable were those baptised. Five more Pathfinders (who were baptised during August) were accepted into the church fellowship as well: Jimmy Parinas Jr, Dave Jilyson Parinas, Mark Jimson Parinas, Tiffany Grace Parinas and Dianna Rose Parinas.

Pathfinders is definitely working at FIC ... praise God!

ROLAND BERNADOS



Left to right, back row: Mark Addo (elder); Pastor Rainford McIntosh; Pastor Samuel Appiah; Isaac Kodom (head elder) and wife, Georgina; Paul Arthur (elder); Nana Eshun (deacon); Seth Anarfi (elder); Kofi Antwi (head deacon); Konamah and Samuel Tabiri (elder). Front row: Diane McIntosh (wife of church pastor); newly-baptised members: Isaac and Catherine Achampong (married couple); Hagan Kwadwo; Stephen Asante; Janet Oppong; Clady's Yamdago; Israel Marfo; Winifred Appiah (wife of visiting preacher); and Miriam Anarfi (wife of elder).

Birmingham Bearwood baptisms

Sabbath, 1 December last year was an extra-special day for the members of the Bearwood church in the city of Birmingham as seven precious gems for God's kingdom were baptised and added to the church membership.

The baptismal service was held at Yardley Church by kind courtesy of Pastor Steve Palmer and his church board. The preacher for the occasion was Pastor Samuel Appiah of the Wolverhampton Central district of churches, who gave a stirring message and made an altar call near the end of the service. The baptism was conducted by Pastor Rainford McIntosh.

BEARWOOD COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

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GO Scotland 2018

The GO Scotland training weekend followed hard on the heels of last year's Scottish Mission session, and embraced the theme: 'It's time to be devoted, daring and decisive, working together to make Him known in Scotland'. The group that attended was intergenerational and united in the desire to help the church move forward in mission and witness.

Dr Kirk Thomas, Evangelism and Church Growth Director of the British Union Conference, was the main speaker, assisted by Pastors Rory and Ivana Mendez from the Scottish Mission. Pastor Rory was leading out as the newly elected Personal Ministries sponsor and together he and Dr Thomas shared resources and ideas relating to church growth and mission. Dr Paul Tompkins led the group in an examination of nurture and retention, which is a key priority of the world-wide Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The attendees included a group of ten students who met with Pastor Gabriel Perea, the new Scottish Mission student ministries sponsor, to look at ways of beginning student groups on campuses within Scotland. This will be actively followed up in 2019 as one of the key focus areas within the Scottish Mission as we continue to support our students in both retaining and sharing their faith.

The weekend was characterised by prayer, fellowship and worship – to the extent that one of the staff of the Scripture Union centre at Lendrick Muir commented that she loved listening to the singing each day. This was led by musicians from the Scottish Mission and enhanced by the group

Testify from Edinburgh, who came and shared their musical talents throughout the Sabbath, which was very much appreciated by all. This was the second



annual GO Scotland training weekend, and plans are already in hand for a further programme next year. At that time reports will also be heard from this year's group, who went away with ideas for projects to be carried out in their local church districts. We look forward to hearing about these and other plans to share the everlasting gospel and the three angels' messages throughout Scotland.

PASTOR PAUL TOMPKINS (SCOTTISH MISSION PRESIDENT)

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Sydney Dust (1931-2018) d. 4 October.



Sydney Dust passed away peacefully on 4 October 2018, aged 87, at Barnet General Hospital after a three-year battle with cancer.

Syd, as he was known to his friends, was born on 27 August 1931 in Enfield, North London. He was one of eight children: six boys and two girls. He was the fifth son of Stanley and Ruth Dust, and lived and worked in the North London area his whole life. He attended Alma Road School as a child and then apprenticed as a plumber, working for the local council as well as on a self-employed basis late into his seventies, as he loved his work.

Syd's father, Stanley Dust, had been looking for a truly biblical church and, after much searching, was introduced to Adventism. The family soon began attending the Edmonton

church and on 15 July 1944 Syd was baptised. In his early twenties he attended a youth congress in Paris which he wrote home about, eagerly telling his parents of his wonderful experience. Around that same time he attended meetings by Pastor George Vandeman at the New Gallery Centre in central London. Syd had a love of music and singing, and it was here that he first joined a church choir. A few years later, at the Edmonton church, he formed a quartet with his brother, Jack and sisters, Lorraine and Teresa Butcher.

Syd loved to travel and, as a younger man, enjoyed many trips to the Canary Islands. His favourite spot was Las Palmas on Gran Canaria. He also had a love of vintage cars. He owned a 1950s Riley and would regularly attend local car shows, taking his nieces and nephews with him. He had no children of his own, but he was a loving and kind uncle.

In his work for the local

council he would often come across less fortunate people, whom he would try to help. He remembered his own humble background and regularly showed generosity and kindness to others. Syd was always an active church member at the Edmonton church and later at the Waltham Abbey church. He enjoyed handing out literature and sharing his love for Jesus with others. He continued this practice even during his last few weeks in the hospital. For the last few years of his life he attended the Hemel Hempstead and Palmers Green churches, where he will be greatly missed.

Syd is preceded in death by his brothers Stan, Fred, Albert and Jack; and survived by his brother, Charles Dust of Coventry; sister, Joan Rich and her husband, John, of London; and sister, Ruth Lamey and her husband, Ernie, of Cornwall.

CHERYL MOSELEY (NIECE)

Nigel Southcott (1964-2018) d. 22 October.

Nigel was born in Chatham, Kent, the fifth child of the late Pastor Watson Southcott and his wife, Cynthia.

He was fortunate that most of his schooling was at the Stanborough Park Junior and Senior schools. After leaving school, he worked at Granose Foods in the production department for several years, before becoming a delivery driver for Ensiform Type Products, and, later, an assistant in the X-ray department of Hemel Hempstead Hospital.

In 2002 he emigrated to the United States of America, where he married Amy Murray, whom he had met via an Adventist website. They subsequently adopted a baby girl, naming her Hayley.

Nigel found employment in America as a school bus driver. Unfortunately, he suffered a heart attack on the morning of 22 October and died within minutes. His family are very thankful that this did not happen when he was driving a bus full of schoolchildren.

He will be greatly missed by his mother, Cynthia; his sisters and brothers: Rosemary

Lethbridge, Pauline Allcock, David Southcott, Peter Southcott and their spouses and children; his aunt and uncle, Michael and Joan Taylor; and his cousin, Adrian.

Nigel was cremated in America and his ashes returned to England, where they were interred just a few yards away from his father's grave in Ebdon Road Cemetery, Weston-super-Mare. A memorial service following the committal was held at the Weston-super-Mare church on 27 November. The committal and memorial services were conducted by Pastors Wayne Erasmus and Rio Espulgar.

The family would like to thank all who sent cards, e-mails and flowers, all of which were much appreciated. Thanks, too, to the friends who supported the family at the memorial service.

CYNTHIA SOUTHCOTT

Margaret Clothier (née Lowe) (1933-2018) d. 29 October.



Margaret Lowe was born in Derby on 31 March 1933 to Violet and George Lowe: the youngest of four children (three girls and one boy). Her father died when she was six, and the children were raised by their mother in a loving, happy Christian Adventist home. She was baptised in the Derby church at the age of 14 on 7 February 1948, with Pastors E. L. Minchin and W. T. Cannon officiating.

In 1951 Margaret went to the Paris Youth Congress, where she met Derek Charles Clothier. Over time, love blossomed, and they were married in Derby Church on 2 April 1956. Their family was made complete when in 1974 they adopted their much-loved daughter, Natalie Joy. As a ministerial family, there were many moves in Britain during Derek's 40 years of service, as well as missionary service abroad in Nigeria and Pakistan. Margaret viewed each move and challenge as a call from God. Gloucester was their last church posting and, after retirement, Derek and Margaret moved to

Weston-super-Mare, where they have lived happily for the last 20 years.

Until the arrival of Natalie, Margaret worked as a qualified nursery nurse and her love of children was evident in her expert storytelling to the children at church. Loving them herself and telling them how much Jesus loved them had a positive influence on their young lives.

As her mother's health deteriorated, Natalie came from her home in the USA to be with her mum and dad, and to help care for Margaret in her final weeks. Margaret went into Highcroft Nursing Home for respite care but, after just one week, she passed peacefully to her rest. She will be remembered by all who knew her as a friendly, loving and caring lady who always thought the best of everyone.

The service at Weston Adventist Church was conducted by local minister, Pastor Rio Espulgar, and retired pastor and long-time family friend, Islwyn Rees.

Our love and sympathy is extended to Margaret's husband, Derek; daughter, Natalie; sister, Muriel; brother, Pastor Don Lowe and his wife Kathleen; brother-in-law, Pastor Ken Clothier; and their families. Together with them, we look forward to that blessed day when there will be no more parting.

MAUREEN REES

Barbara Phyllis Leigh (1927-2018) d. 14 November.



Barbara was born in Plymouth on 24 August 1927. After completing elementary school and a course at Pitman's College, she entered a lifetime of denominational employment on 29 December 1941, aged 14.

Her first position was in the bindery of The Stanborough Press Ltd on Stanborough Park in Garston near Watford. She then moved to be a secretary at the British Union Conference (BUC) office and later at the Granose Foods Ltd factory office.

This was followed for a time as an office worker at the South England Conference (SEC).

Then in 1955 Barbara accepted an invitation to work at the West African Union office. When she returned nearly three years later, it was back to the SEC office, where she worked as a secretary and also in the Treasury Department. Barbara's last move was back to the new BUC office on Stanborough Park, where she continued to work for the next twenty years in Treasury as a cashier, until ill health led to an early retirement just after her sixtieth birthday in August 1987.

In retirement Barbara moved near to Weymouth in Dorset, and then more recently to Fowey in Cornwall. She remained involved in church and wider activities, serving as local church treasurer and also as the treasurer for the Lostwithiel Women's Institute.

Barbara fell asleep in Jesus while doctors were seeking to fit her with a pacemaker. She had been active until the end.

The funeral service, led by Pastors A. Hodges and J.

Tremeer, took place on Thursday 29 November at the St Austell Seventh-day Adventist church. Barbara was then laid to rest in the family grave at Ford Park Cemetery, Plymouth.

Barbara will be remembered not only for her long denominational service, but also for her community witness, cooking, organisational skills and flower arranging. She will be sadly missed by her relatives, Jeralyn and Jeannie, who attended from the United States, and by her many friends – especially two close friends, June Slark and Gwen Mason.

PASTOR ALAN HODGES

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Perry Beeches baptise eight

On 13 October last year eight precious souls were baptised at Perry Beeches Church (Birmingham).

It was the first baptism in this building since the installation of the baptistry. Previously we had relied on the generosity of our sister churches in the district, and the baptistry was ready just on time. The church was packed with friends, family and members of our sister churches who came to witness this very special occasion.

The baptism was conducted by resident minister, Pastor Steve Palmer, assisted by Pastor George Kumi (Ministerial Secretary) who preached. Sean Phugeni, Myles Dhlomo, Bredon Mpofo, Emmanuel Babafemi, Shirley Anyesigi, Lileath Greenwood, Precious Gondo and Laura Nkomo were all baptised on that wonderful afternoon.

It was a special occasion to witness these young people who grew up in the same church begin a new journey in their Christian walk. The older candidates had wonderful testimonies to share about their lives and how they had come to the decision to give their lives to Christ. It was indeed a glorious day.

KERESIA NSIYALUDZU (COMMUNICATIONS)

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CALLING ALL SEC COMMUNICATION SECRETARIES
CREATE ENGAGING VIDEOS FOR YOUR LOCAL CHURCH

The SEC Communication & Media Department present a highly engaging video storytelling workshop, taught by industry leader **Rob Glass**, former BBC presenter, videographer, video storytelling expert and trainer.

SUNDAY 20 January 2019 10am to 4pm
VENUE
 The Stanborough Park, 609 St Albans Road, Garston, Watford, WD25 9JL

SUNDAY 3 February 2019 10am to 4pm
VENUE
 12 Crawfure Place, (off Edgware Road LONDON W1H 5HD

Heavily subsidised
 Fee of: **£45**
 Lunch Provided

LEARN HOW TO produce captivating video content with your iPad or iPhone at this hands-on workshop for all SEC Communication Secretaries.

CONTENT INCLUDES

- The video landscape: an overview
- Appreciating the power of stories – and how to spot one
- How to get the most out of iPad and iPhone cameras
- How to nail great shots
- How to effectively film people chatting
- Writing and recording engaging voiceover
- Weaving all the different elements together.
- How to structure a story
- Sharing your videos with the world

Register at:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/learn-video-storytelling-with-rob-glass-tickets-52873268369>

Sponsored by the SEC Communication & Media Department.

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Newbold College Diversity Lectures Spring Semester 2019

Theme: Celebrating Diversity, Building Community

Tuesday 5 February
Lecturer: Chine McDonald,
 Media Content and Public Relations lead at *Christian Aid*
Title: 'Being a black Christian woman in Brexit Britain'
Venue: Smith Centre, Salisbury Hall, Newbold College, RG42 4AN
Time: 7.30pm

Tuesday 5 March
Lecturer: Dave Bookless,
 Director of Theology for the global Christian environmental organisation, *A Rocha International*
Title: 'Environmental threats – do Christians care? Should they?'
Venue: Smith Centre, Salisbury Hall, Newbold College, RG42 4AN
Time: 7.30pm

Tuesday 2 April
Lecturer: Jo Berry (founder),
Building Bridges for Peace
Title (working): 'Forgiveness and community building'
Venue: Smith Centre, Salisbury Hall, Newbold College, RG42 4AN
Time: 7.30pm

*Everyone is welcome.
 Refreshments will be available!*

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ADRA CONNECTIONS

LET'S GO TO SRI LANKA

Do you and a group of friends fancy visiting Sri Lanka?

Get involved in a real ADRA project 10th Aug - 26th Aug 2019

volunteering@adra.org.uk
or 030 30 40 1017
 for pricing and more details

Only 15 spaces available!
 First come, first to Sri Lanka!

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