

## Newbold Awards Ceremony 2019

by Richard Daly

Newbold College of Higher Education had their annual awards ceremony on Sunday 14 July. In the packed auditorium in Salisbury Hall, the scene was set for the recognition of up to 45 graduates who had successfully completed the requirements for their area of matriculation.

Principal Dr John Baildam in his welcome and opening remarks commented on the report of the external examiners. From one of the external examiners was a glowing report in which the adjudicator thanked the commitment and quality of Newbold's high standard of teaching and the Bachelor's and Master's dissertations: 'I have absolutely no doubt that Newbold continues to maintain a gold standard for teaching Biblical Studies in this country,' he said.

Guests in attendance included the Deputy Mayor of Bracknell Forest, Councillor Ash Merry, who gave greetings; and Dr Daniel Duda, Director of Education, Trans-European Division, who gave the charge to the graduating students and the prayer of dedication.

The guest speaker was Mrs Judy Clements, OBE (governor of the college), who spoke on the topic, 'Facing the Future Without Fear'. Quoting from the late Sir Winston Churchill in one of his

*Continued on p. 4*

Front row, left to right: Dr Daniel Duda (TED Education Director), Councillor Ash Merry (Deputy Mayor of Bracknell Forest), Judy Clements (Newbold Chair of Governors), Dr John Baildam (Newbold Principal), Pastor Marcel Ghioalda (Newbold College Church)





## Chronobiology and human life – Part 7

### Mental wellbeing impact

Research in the area of chronobiology has highlighted the impact of our circadian rhythm (our 24-hour body clock) and its response to internal and external stimuli.

One UK study, published in *The Lancet Psychiatry*, examined the impact of disruptions to our circadian rhythm (relating to sleep-wake cycles) on our mental health.<sup>1</sup> This was a cross-sectional study of 91,105 participants aged 37-73. They were asked to wear a device called an accelerometer, worn on the wrist to measure daily activity levels, which recorded disruptions in their circadian rhythm. The disruptions were defined as increased activity at night, decreased activity during the day or both of these.

The researchers found that individuals with more circadian rhythm disruptions were significantly more likely to experience the following:

- Symptoms consistent with major depression or bipolar disorder and increased risk of actually developing these disorders
- Mood instability
- Higher neuroticism scores
- Increased feelings of loneliness
- Decreased happiness
- Reduced cognitive functioning
- Slowed reaction times (an indirect indicator of cognitive function)
- Decreased feelings of wellbeing
- Lowered health satisfaction

Reporting on the study in 2018, CNN health reporter Mark Leiber interviewed study author Dr Smith, who stated:

'By 2030, two-thirds of the world's population will be living in cities,

and we know that living in an urban environment can be pretty toxic to your circadian system because of all the artificial light that you're exposed to.' He concludes: 'So we need to think about ways to help people tune in to their natural rhythms of activity and sleep more effectively. Hopefully, that will protect a lot of people from mood disorders.'<sup>2</sup>

A comprehensive report on Dr Smith's UK study by Chronobiology: Timing Is Everything carried the headline: 'Strong Link Recovered Between Body Clock and Mental Health.'<sup>3</sup> Affirming the study outcomes, the report states:

'This newest study adds to growing evidence that irregular sleep-wake patterns share close ties with mental health issues such as depression, anxiety and general feelings of malaise.'

An earlier study by Jones et al. (2015) highlighted similar concerns: 'Human beings and other organisms are affected by changes in the amount of light in their lives to the extent that they may have trouble sleeping and suffer significant emotional and physical disruption. Depressive states are exacerbated by the reduction or total lack of a light source.'<sup>4</sup>

The next issue brings the concluding thoughts to this chronobiology series.

### Good health!

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpsy/article/PIIS2215-0366\(18\)30139-1/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpsy/article/PIIS2215-0366(18)30139-1/fulltext)  
<sup>2</sup> <https://edition.cnn.com/2018/05/15/health/circadian-rhythm-mood-disorder-study/index.html>  
<sup>3</sup> <https://www.chronobiology.com/strong-link-uncovered-between-body-clock-and-mental-health/>  
<sup>4</sup> <http://www.contemporarypsychotherapy.org/volume-8-no-1-summer-2016/circadian-rhythms-and-their-relevance-to-mental-wellbeing/>



## Our church – permission to dream

### Introduction

With this editorial I'd like to invite us to begin a conversation about the church – our church. Perhaps it can be described as a spiritual journey to discover who we are and what matters to us? Let me give you some background as to why I think this is so important.

I don't know if this is your experience, but have a chat with a fellow member about the church and it won't be long before the conversation turns to problems and challenges. Sometimes we do not like what we see, and we get concerned. It's not difficult to work out the reason why – because it means so much to us. When we talk about matters of faith, of Christ and His church, these are matters at the core of our soul. When all is in order with the church, we feel a great sense of joy, security and purpose. But when things are not as they should be, we are bound to be distressed – hurt, even.

When so much in society changes, disappoints, fails and riles us, the last safe place of refuge is 'the church'. If there is one place that promises to rise above the level of mediocrity – it is 'the church'. This is no ordinary institution. This is not the government, the health service, the police, the banks or Network Rail. This is 'the church' – under divine appointment from God! When it fails us locally, nationally or globally the personal pain is deep: and, for some right now, that's a real experience.

A long time ago, right in the heart of London, the British pastor, evangelist and theologian John Stott invited his congregation to have a conversation about how the church should be. In fact, Stott invited his members to dream, to become the church Christ wanted them to be. For him it was a matter of life or death. Either the members he served belonged to a church that was dead, or one that was alive. Sobering! Is there any more appropriate conversation for a pastor to have with his congregation? Could it be time for us to have that conversation?

Stott was never a Seventh-day Adventist, but as we will see he was an adventist in the wider sense of the word. For this reason, I'm using the conclusion (the appeal) he gave in the autumn of 1975 as the framework for our conversation. His wish was for his church to have the following characteristics, in its DNA make-up if you like. As we will discover, they are values we wholeheartedly share:

- I have a dream of a church which is a biblical church.
- I have a dream of a church which is a worshipping church.
- I have a dream of a church which is a caring church.
- I have a dream of a church which is a serving church.
- I have a dream of a church which is an expectant church.

What does it mean to be a biblical church? What is true worship? Of course we are a caring church – are we? How can we best serve as the salt of the earth and light of the world? What does it mean for a church to be 'expectant'? For each editorial over the next five editions, I plan to unpack the text of his sermon conclusion. Taking one value at a time, I want to explore not just who we are, but how the Lord wants us to be.

The apostle John's message to the Laodicean church is one our community of faith takes

particular notice of (Revelation 3). It is a message about failure on the part of God's people. There is no commendation, but there is an invitation (vss. 18, 22, ESV-UK):

*'I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see. . . . He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'*

I hope you will join me as we have this conversation together. I'm very much aware that to have a conversation involves listening to each other – really listening to each other. It is a skill that even at my life stage I am still trying to learn.

From this edition of *MESSENGER*, we are planning to take a small and perhaps timid step into the digital/multimedia world. I have the privilege of working with Pastor Richard Daly, Communication Director for the British Union Conference. Synching with this edition of *MESSENGER* is a mini episode of *In Conversation* between Richard and myself sharing some further thoughts about who we are as a church and why it matters. Look out for how to access that video in *BUC News*. In addition we are opening up a new Facebook page called *Messenger Extra* where you will from time to time find articles and features expanding on what can be found in the print edition. It's also a place where I hope we can talk – and, yes, listen – to each other with the aim of growing together.

The full excerpt of John Stott's sermon conclusion can be found in *The Living Church* by John Stott. © 2007 John R. W. Stott. Publisher: InterVarsity Press, Norton Street, Nottingham NG7 3HR. It may also be found as an online video presentation: <https://ted.adventist.org/news/1375-permission-to-dream>.



### Irish Mission Triennial Session

Notice is hereby given that a regular session of the Irish Mission will be held at Belfast Seventh-day Adventist Church, Lisburn Road, Belfast, on Sunday 6 October 2019.

Registration of delegates will commence at 8.30am on Sunday, with the opening of the Session scheduled for 9.15am.

Delegates are required to have registered and be seated to facilitate the commencement of the opening business session.

D. Serb, President  
 J. Venter, Executive Secretary

Irish Mission



### South England Conference Quadrennial Session

Notice is hereby given that a regular session of the South England Conference will be held at Portsmouth Guildhall and University from Thursday, 5 September until Sunday, 8 September 2019. Registration of delegates will take place from 11am on Thursday and the business sessions are due to commence at 2pm.

Notice is given that proposed changes to the South England Conference constitution will be considered and that these will be circulated to the delegates along with all necessary packs in due course.

All enquiries should be made to the SEC Secretariat.

### South England Conference



### Open Day transport

Coach transport available to Stanborough Press Open Day in Grantham from the following locations:

**From London:** Croydon, Brixton, Battersea and Fulham.  
**From the Midlands:** Wolverhampton, West Bromwich, Handsworth, Camp Hill.

Please contact Brother Smiley on 01384213803/07868288310/07380436567 or at [hubert.smiley18@gmail.com](mailto:hubert.smiley18@gmail.com).



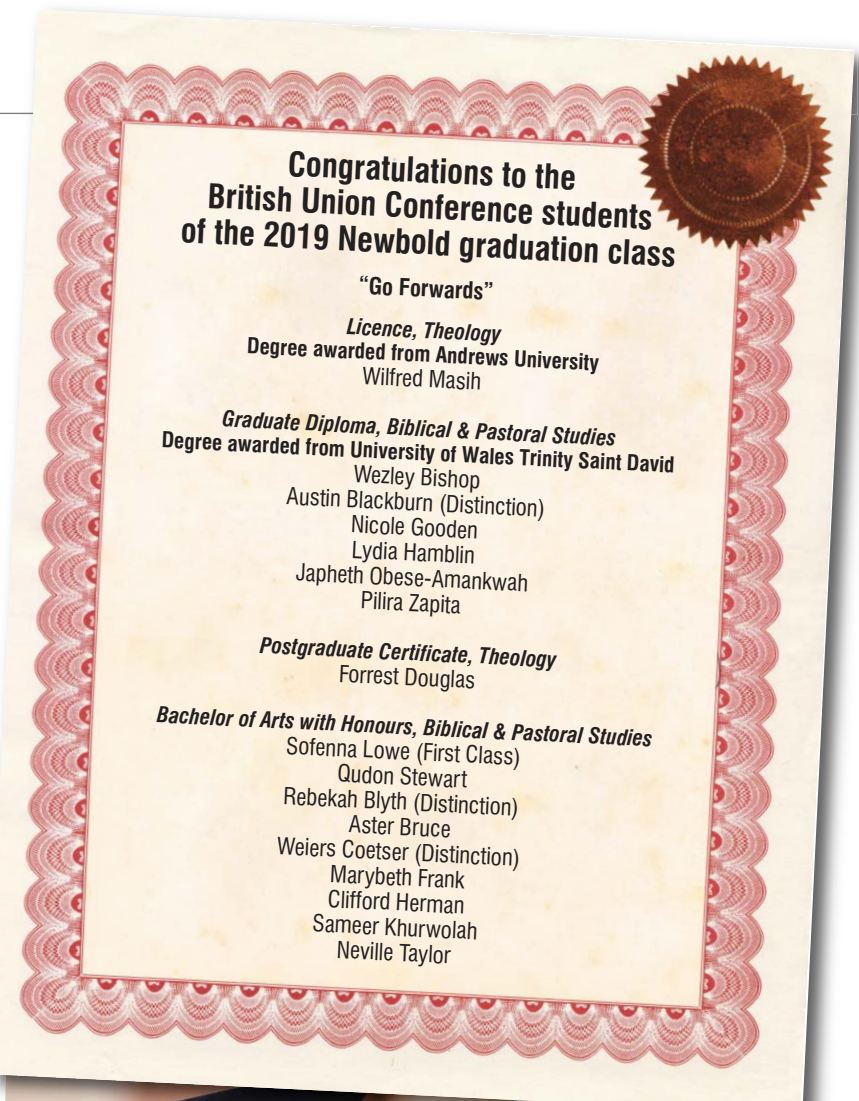
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speeches, Judy re-emphasised the important asset of perseverance: 'Never give in, never, never, never – in nothing, great or small . . . except to convictions of honour and good sense.' She urged candidates not just to never give in, but, as they move on to the next realm of academic and personal development, considering the political and digital age in which we live, to 'go forwards' and face with confidence the issues that confront and affect our very existence.

With up to 45 graduates successfully completing their studies, including the BSc in Science and Business, the BA in Biblical and Pastoral Studies and the MA in Leadership and Theology, the day reflected an atmosphere of jubilation. With graduands representing up to 20 different countries, the diverse display reflected the cultural diversity that Newbold College of Higher Education provides that caters for social and spiritual integration.

Of the many graduates, just under half represented students from within the British Union Conference, including Rebekah Blyth and Weiers Coetser, who both completed the MA in Theology with distinction. The first ex-Muslim to graduate from Newbold with an MA was Sameer Khurwolah. Also of note was Sofena Lowe, who received her BA in Biblical and Pastoral Studies with first-class honours.

The full graduation service can be seen at the following address: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yfZeK6En8SQ&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR1Jb-U1iWh1gCxmbbAguEcjXYEOp5h6GGZepZBWV\\_EnPYMPRuRhKm\\_OY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yfZeK6En8SQ&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR1Jb-U1iWh1gCxmbbAguEcjXYEOp5h6GGZepZBWV_EnPYMPRuRhKm_OY)



Dr John Baildam



Judy Clemonds



BUC graduates

## Queen's representatives visit Stanborough Park

On Sabbath 20 July, Stanborough Park Church welcomed Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire, Robert Voss, CBE, and the High Sheriff of Hertfordshire, Sarah Beazely, as guests of honour for the church's One Vision Community Day, organised by Enoch Kanagaraj.

Lord lieutenants were first appointed by Henry VIII in the sixteenth century, and today they are appointed by the Queen as her personal representatives and the main link between the Monarch and her people in the county. One way that the lord lieutenant serves the community is by promoting and encouraging voluntary and charitable organisations. Robert Voss, CBE said, 'The thing I am most proud of in this county is the fantastic charity work that goes on. Hertfordshire has over 4,000 charities, and over 14% of the population volunteer. The national average is about 8%, so we punch way above our weight. It is my honour and privilege to meet so many people doing so many wonderful things and report that back to the Queen.'

The High Sheriff is another role with a long history – there have been high sheriffs for over a thousand years. They are appointed by the Queen to represent her in matters relating to law and order. As Sarah Beazely shared with the congregation, this also involves supporting community services. 'I so admire what you all do here,' she said. 'We care for each other and support each other better if we all work together.'

The Community Day also highlighted the work of many local charities and volunteer groups. In the morning service, volunteer Liz Burns spoke about some of her work with the local Veterans Support Group, and Pastor Llew Edwards gave a special prayer of blessing for the volunteers who were attending. During the afternoon networking event, representatives from 14 organisations, from both the Adventist Church and the local community, shared about their projects and encouraged the



members to get involved. The Mayor of Watford, Peter Taylor, and council chairman Asif Khan thanked Stanborough Park Church and One Vision for their work in the community. 'You are a blessing to our town with everything you do to support us,' said the mayor.

The One Vision Project is the brainchild of community chaplain, Enoch Kanagaraj, who wanted to bring charitable organisations together and connect them with the church as well. Stanborough's Community Day was also supported by ADRA and the Community and Personal Ministries Departments of the British Union Conference, as Sharon Platt-McDonald and Kerrine Guthrie have both joined One Vision to support its efforts. Reflecting on the event, Enoch said, 'I'm delighted to see this project grow and strengthen to help the needs in the community. From the Community Day, it is very clear that we all stand together to make a better Watford.'

LYNETTE ALLCOCK

**SEP OPEN DAY 2019**  
Sunday 1 September • 8am-4pm

**Speaker**

**Ranko Stefanovic**

- Remember the Sabbath School lessons on Revelation in the first quarter of 2019?
- Is it possible that on occasion they produced more heat than light?
- Ranko Stefanovic, author for the first quarter 2019 adult Bible study guide, will be at Open Day to help answer some of those more challenging questions about Revelation.
- During the day we'll be hosting a live, pre-submitted Q & A session with Dr Stefanovic. If you have a question about the book of Revelation that continues to perplex the mind, please submit it to David Neal: [editor@stanboroughpress.org.uk](mailto:editor@stanboroughpress.org.uk).

**The person who submits the most interesting and thoughtful question, and who will be present at Open Day, will receive a free copy of his commentary, *Revelation of Jesus Christ*, worth £29.95.**

Closing date for submitting questions: **Wednesday 28 August.**

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As supplied, errors and omissions excepted

# The importance of learning the Bible

by O'Neal Copeland

The calling of a Christian is to be a disciple of Christ – to witness, to share the good news and our personal testimonies with others. Strangely, this is something that I started to hear more about after I got baptised. I recently started to re-evaluate my spiritual life after leaving the Adventist Church in my teenage years. During my time away I was continually invited to various church campaigns and youth days, including Christmas and Easter services. Everyone told me that I had to start coming back to church. When I eventually did return (last year) I felt there was a strong requirement from the church for me to be baptised (which of course is no bad thing, and personally I had made that decision in my mind).

The real problem started after I was baptised. All of a sudden as a new disciple of Christ I felt that my church family desired me to go and share the Word and serve in the church. However, this approach seemed rushed and convoluted to me, as it appeared to be a way of keeping my interest in the church. It seemed that they thought that if I took a church role, I'd be less likely to leave. Although I agree that there's a time to do God's work within the church, I personally do not feel comfortable with serving in such a way more or less straight after baptism. What I really wanted to do was to help re-establish my unity with God, to understand God's Word (the Bible), and to take time to understand how my God-given talents could be used effectively in everyday evangelism.

Although my teenage years are far behind me, I still consider myself a spiritual child and I need an avenue for increased spiritual growth. I believe each individual needs to spend time daily to learn of and listen to the Word: but there are times when you need some texts/chapters explaining. Personally, I think it would be great if the church put more emphasis on learning rather than just baptising. It almost seemed to me that baptism was the holy grail. However, I've realised that this is just the start of one's spiritual journey with God. It's the point where you have accepted the truth and realise you need Christ to be at your side to help you through the joys, traumas and daily challenges.

I've found that so many people feel more isolated after baptism than prior to the event, because the emphasis is to 'win souls for Christ', but ultimately in a number of cases it leads to people getting baptised and leaving the church within a year. *The greatest*

*investment we can make in our churches today is in teaching and mentoring, and the question should not be what it costs, but what it saves.*

People with the desire to learn will benefit from having Bible studies and courses on how to evangelise naturally and effectively.

My wife came up with the idea of starting a Bible book club at Croydon Church. We have been supported by pastors and elders, and the group runs twice a month, when we read and discuss a specific book of the Bible. I have found the book club extremely helpful in gaining a greater understanding of God's Word and discussing and sharing points of view from like-minded people. My spiritual knowledge has grown exponentially (in just over a year, coupled with the Sabbath school classes). If you would like to learn more about our Bible book club

and how you could join, visit: [www.croydonadventist.org/event/bible-book-club/](http://www.croydonadventist.org/event/bible-book-club/).

Croydon Church has also run the 'Becoming a Contagious Christian' workshop, which helps members understand their God-given ability to evangelise in a way most suited to their own personality. Again, this has been an unusual insight into understanding how as disciples we can evangelise in a genuine manner in our everyday lives, in any given situation.



As obvious as it sounds, the only way we can become effective disciples is if we have a) the personal desire, and b) the right training and guidance. I'm yet to see the pilot who can fly a plane without any lessons.

If we really want to do God's work then we need to be given the right tools to equip ourselves. Hopefully, spiritual training in all churches will be seen not just as a way to win souls, but also as a means to develop passionate and knowledgeable Christians who have the confidence to effectively disseminate God's wonderful message of salvation.

## Celebrating servants

Ten deacons and deaconesses were awarded on Sabbath 6 July at Brixton Church for their dedication and years of service to the church and the community. These members served for between 18 and 38 years – more than 200 years combined!

Sister Osbourne, who had given over 22 years of service, on receiving her award said, 'In search for God's leadership in my life, I wanted just to be involved in the church I love and be led in a life of service for the Master.'

Each member was presented with their gift by Elder D. H. Clarke and Pastor Keith Boldeau. During his sermon, entitled 'Raising the Bar', the pastor charged the deacons and deaconesses, who ably led out in the divine service, and the church at large to be committed and to be the best learners, workers or servants for God. He encouraged them to work wherever they are called to work and to be the best that they can be.

As part of their dedication in serving, head deacon Delroy Campbell presented the Pathfinder leader with a cheque for £2,000 in support of their trip to Oshkosh Camporee in the USA.

CRAIGE YOUNG, COMMUNICATIONS LEADER, BRIXTON



## New missionary couple for Welsh Mission

An overwhelming fact from the history of the British Union Conference is that almost from its beginnings many missionaries were sent around the world to serve and help build the faith and develop the church in areas like Africa, Australia and the Far East. However, the tide has now turned, and we now welcome missionaries who have a passion to help with the work we are doing – seeking and serving to make God known.

On Sabbath 6 July, the Welsh Mission welcomed a new missionary family, now located in the north of Wales, specifically the Rhyl district. Originally from Brazil, Pastor Robson Gondim and his wife are an experienced missionary couple who have served around the world, and for the past 20 years in Africa, North and South America.

Pastor Gondim is an accomplished singer; however, the success of his ministry is based on friendship evangelism and a compassionate attitude. Sharing how he feels about his new role, he said, 'I recognise that the work here is difficult, but people are people and they need a Saviour. We will do our best to serve everyone and pray that God will open doors.'

Members of both the Rhyl and Llandudno Junction churches also gathered together to thank Pastor Malcolm Turner and his wife Geraldine for their commitment and leadership over the last six years. The flowers and cards expressed the affection and gratitude they all have for their service.

In his presentation, Pastor Emanuel Bran thanked both families for their faithfulness and commitment to the Welsh Mission, underlining their qualities, but above all their sacrificial spirit.

For many years great effort was made in the north of Wales to reach



people with the Advent message. We still have a long way to go. Nevertheless, we are encouraged by what God has been able to do already, and we are overwhelmed by the sacrifice many have made in service and financial donations to the Welsh Mission. Please continue to pray for the work across this Mission and support us in any way possible.

EMANUEL BRAN



## Dundee Church celebrates

When you are married to one person, you cannot be married to another. If you ever thought of being married to another, this could only happen if the first had died. Strange message to convey, you would think, but that was the apt illustration that Pastor Neale Schofield used to explain that when we decide to follow Jesus we have to lay down the old self. We have to die to the old life before we can be born into the new life in Christ. We cannot be married to both lives. Dundee was full on 20 April 2019 as family and friends waited for the seven to make their way into the water.

One by one they were called into the pool. Pastors Marcel Ghioalda and Jimmy Botha took turns baptising the seven: Joyce Aori, Jemimah Addai-Peprah, Joshlyn Addai-Peprah, Jeremy Addai-Peprah, Norbert Boros, Lorraine Lumsden, and Evelyn Mattaka. What an addition to the church in Dundee! Absent on the day was Thandie Bhebhe, who was baptised the previous year when she was visiting family in Zimbabwe, and was also voted into the membership of the church.

'I was incredibly nervous beforehand,' said Jeremy Addai-Peprah, 'but now I know I made the best decision.' Dundee is blessed to have a handful of students every year, and 2019 is a good year for the church and its young people.

A mention needs to be made of someone special. Geoffrey Aori has played an important part in the preparation of the seven for baptism. Although others have also taught the class, Geoffrey organised the teachers and always made sure that the students were up to date with their work. Geoffrey was a good communicator, and will be involved with the next round of baptisms the church is planning.

Members are active, meeting twice a week for prayer meetings and Bible study, and the baptism was, in part, a result of that commitment. It is clear that the church in Dundee is a vibrant, outward-looking church.

JIMMY BOTHA

PHOTO BY CINTY SABO



## Torquay – a welcoming family

June 1 was a very special day for the Torquay church as family, friends and members came to celebrate the baptism of Adam Pajmel, Jules Davies, and Zak Davies by Pastor Ian Lorek.

Adam told of how his life had changed dramatically since accepting Jesus as his Saviour. He was the youngest of three children to professional parents, his father being a lawyer. However, he became a huge disappointment and embarrassment to them as he got into drugs, was expelled from school, and became a gang member, which led him into a life of crime. Trying to improve his life by going to night school, he managed to pass his A levels, but was still mixing with his old friends and taking drugs. It was after moving to London from Poland that Adam felt there should be more to life – something was missing. Being interested in conspiracies and aliens, he began to search the web, but eventually found Jesus. More studies and investigations led him to our church, where he found a welcoming family. His life has changed, and he married Connie, his partner of 10 years, on 4 April, followed by a church blessing and exchange of vows.

Jules was a ballet dancer until injury forced him to quit. He also was searching the internet, and eventually asked where he could find a church teaching Bible truth.

Zak was a lodger with Jules' family, and became interested with all Jules was sharing with him. When convinced of the Sabbath, he requested to have the time off from work, but was refused, and felt he had no option but to resign. We pray that God will reward him for his faithfulness.

Jeremiah 29:13 (NKJV) says, 'You will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.' The internet has enabled these three young men to do just that.

We pray that they will continue to grow stronger in faith as they walk in Jesus' footsteps.

R. MORRIS, COMMUNICATION



# OPEN DAY 2019

Sunday 1 September • 8am-4pm

## Speaker



**Ranko Stefanovic**

Ranko Stefanovic is Professor of New Testament at Andrews University. He earned a doctorate from Andrews University in 1995 in the area of the New Testament with an emphasis on the book of Revelation. Prior to joining the faculty at Andrews University, he served for eighteen years as an ordained SDA minister. He taught and chaired the Department of Religious Studies, Canadian University College, from 1996 to 1999, as well as the Department of Religion, Andrews University, from 1999 to 2009, when he moved to the SDA Theological Seminary. He is a recipient of several awards for excellence in teaching; in 2013 he was awarded the J. N. Andrews Medallion by Andrews University for his contribution to the church in the area of scholarship and service to the church. Stefanovic is an author of numerous scholarly articles. He specialises in the book of Revelation; he has authored *Revelation of Jesus Christ*, a very popular 670-page commentary on Revelation, which is the standard textbook in many Adventist colleges and universities. His most recent book is *Plain Revelation: A Reader's Introduction to the Apocalypse*. His lectures on Revelation are featured in a long-running series on the 3ABN television network. He is a sought-after speaker and lecturer at symposiums, seminars, workers' meetings, camp meetings, and various gatherings across the globe. He and his wife Estera have two grown children.

## Special music

The Golden Chords and Christine Burt Trio

## Food specials

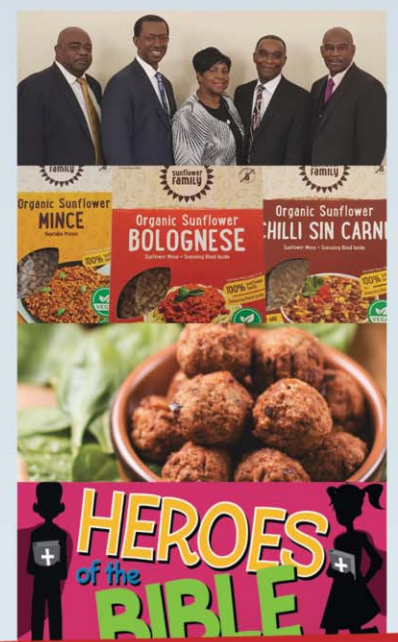
We are happy to extend the offer from Camp Meeting on the Cedar Lake lines: buy one case, get the second half-price. We have a new line of non-soya mince: sunflower-based organic mince, which was introduced at both camp meetings this year. The introductory price will be kept for Open Day only.

## Food demonstration

An experienced dietician and chef will demonstrate some menus you can prepare using a range of the products we provide. You can try before you buy!

## Books & resources

There are host of new titles, Bibles and resources that you can take home with you.



**Entertainment available for the whole family – bouncy castles, food and good music – so make this date one not to miss and join us for the day!**

For any further information contact us on 01476 591700 or [eparkinson@stanboroughpress.org.uk](mailto:eparkinson@stanboroughpress.org.uk)  
The Stanborough Press Ltd, Londonthorpe Road, Grantham, Lincs. NG31 9SL

## Exhibition marquee

There will be space in an exhibition/vendors' marquee for those who respond early and meet our terms and conditions. Official permits may be obtained by **no later than 29 August**, at a cost of £35 from Elizabeth Parkinson (01476 591700 or [eparkinson@stanboroughpress.org.uk](mailto:eparkinson@stanboroughpress.org.uk)), and are subject to availability. *No displays or vending will be permitted on The Stanborough Press property without an official permit obtained in the above manner.*

## Catering

Provision has been made for an authorised caterer to supply a variety of tasty meal options at reasonable prices. No other food or refreshment vending will be permitted.



# OPEN DAY 2019

Sunday 1 September • 8am-4pm

## Special Open Day offers

- Leading Like Jesus** (Philip Ripstone) - NEW £2.50
- Colouring book: Women in the Bible ...and Me 2** - NEW £3.95
- Discipleship Handbook** (A Resource for Seventh-day Adventist Church Members) - NEW £8.50
- Colours of Inspiration** (with thought gems by Ellen G. White) - £3.05 / £3
- PLAIN REVELATION** (Ranko Stefanovic) - A Reader's Introduction to the Apocalypse - £11.05 / £10.50
- THE BOOK OF REVELATION** (Ranko Stefanovic) - £3.75 / £2.50
- APOCALYPSE!** (David Marshall) - £3.05 / £2.50
- the Bible story** (Arthur's Maxwell) - £120 / £65
- Colouring books for kids** (Jesus and His followers) - £1.05 / £1.50 each
- Colouring books for kids** (Parables and sayings of Jesus)
- Colouring books for kids** (The story of Jesus)
- Colouring books for kids** (Old Testament stories)
- A TREASURY OF MIRACLES FOR FRIENDS** (Karen Kingsbury) - £8.00 / £5
- from MOTHER to DAUGHTER** (Mary Appel) - Advice and Lessons for a Good Life - £5.00 / £3.50
- from FATHER to SON** (Allen Appel) - Wisdom for the Next Generation - £5.00 / £3.50
- Here I Come, READY OR NOT** (Morris L. Venden) - £6.45 / £5

## 'I chose my Lord'

The Sabbath afternoon of 22 June 2019 was a joyful occasion at the Great Brickkiln church in Wolverhampton because Sue-Ann was baptised. The event was witnessed by relatives, friends and church family. The resident minister, Pastor Patrick Herbert, delivered a message entitled, 'Nameless, but known', based on Judges 13:2-23: the story of Manoah's wife, mother to Samson. The main point of the pastor's sermonette was that, although she may be nameless to some people, Sue-Ann has the assurance of being known by God. In line with that thought, Ann-Marie Herbert sang, 'You know my name', Sue-Ann's favourite gospel song.

The catalyst that propelled Sue-Ann to seek after God was the passing of her nan in 2017. Her journey of spiritual renewal started then. Regularly attending church with her mother, Sue-Ann pursued the Lord to fill the void and pain she was experiencing. Her young sons, Akeim and Dyshawn, prayed for her daily. Deeply impressed, Sue-Ann started having Bible studies and studied the Sabbath school lesson daily with her sons. All this helped her to fall more and more in love with Jesus.

In Sue-Ann's own words, 'The Lord said I should come as I am and He would do the rest. My nan's passing was painful, but it drew me back to the Lord. He gave me sweet peace, just at the right time. My heart is overflowing with joy to know that, despite my past, He was waiting with open arms for me to rest. Glory be to God; He rescued me. The Lord gave me a choice to serve Him or the devil, and - hallelujah - I chose my Lord, the Author and Finisher of my faith.'

We rejoice with Sue-Ann in her newfound faith and pray for her as she continues on this Christian journey.

ANNETTE JOHNSON



## From 'momentary troubles' to Christ follower

Sabbath 20 July was a day of joy and celebration as Eric Edwin cemented his commitment to follow Jesus through baptism at the Huddersfield church. Having had a milestone birthday the previous week, Eric decided that this was the right time to make a public declaration of his love for Jesus before family, friends and church members. He responded with a strong voice to the vows read by Elder Edwin Baker and meditated on the powerful rendition of 'Pass Me Not, O Gentle Saviour', also by Elder Baker.

A rousing sermon by the NEC Personal Ministries Director, Pastor Michael Simpson, reminded us of the importance of not being conformed to the pattern of this world, allowing society to mould us, but rather of being transformed as we allow God to renew our minds.

Family sentiments shared by Eric's sister, Cheryl, revealed how our miracle-working God had spared Eric's life from 'momentary troubles', planting the seeds of truth in his heart as he witnessed the baptism of his parents at the same church almost three decades before being their carer and listening to their daily dose of 3ABN and Hope Channel on television. We give God thanks to those who helped to make the day a memorable one and who will continue to support Eric as he embraces this Christian journey to eternity.

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT



## Serenity baptism

The Serenity church plant (Waltham Abbey) held its second baptism on Sabbath 20 July at the Ilford Central church. Amoya Mullings and Euphemia Senar were baptised by our pastor, Harrison Mburani.

Amoya was one of the only two children (both six-year-olds in 2011) that started out with us on our journey as a church plant. She started Bible study some time ago and made a request for baptism. It was wonderful to see Amoya taking her stand for the Lord, plus watching her father as an elder leading Amoya to the pool and her mother receiving her from it.

Euphemia's mother, Curnel Rogers, started coming to our prayer meetings in 2018 and asked us to pray for her to accept Jesus into her life, as the signs of this happening were already evident. After a short while, Euphemia started attending the Serenity church plant with her mother. Not only did she attend, but she also brought her daughters and a friend along. It was a beautiful sight watching Euphemia's two daughters taking her to the pool while her mother received her.

Both Amoya and Euphemia accepted the Lord through Bible study and personal searching.

EARL NORMAN, COMMUNICATIONS



## Tottenham: under construction, but still on Christ's mission

Borrowing a phrase from the psalmist David, 'If it had not been the LORD who was on our side ...' (Psalm 124:1, 2, KJV), where would Tottenham Church be? Since March 2018 the Tottenham Church building has been under construction, with worship services on Sabbaths and Wednesday evenings held at West Green Road Baptist Church.

Hopes of an early return to Tottenham Church were dashed when a large body of water, thought to be a river, was discovered underneath the church building. It was only revealed after works on the church had started, requiring an additional plan to be submitted to the council for the planned basement room. The presence of the water enlightened us to the cause of the dampness that had plagued the church for over 30 years. Plans were made to drain away as much of the water as possible and to put structures in place to contain it. This additional work was not budgeted for, so an increase in the building costs was expected.

Members resigned themselves to having to find the extra funds to cover the new costs and to staying longer than they had anticipated at West Green Road Baptist Church. However, God, whose eyes go to and fro on the earth, revealed to our pastor, Dr Jude Jeanville, on one of his visits to the church building site, a small, dripping pipe hidden under a mound of earth. Since then, the flow of water has been stemmed and building work is progressing steadily. Can you imagine the damage that would have been done to the new church building if the water and its source had not been discovered? 'If it had not been the LORD who was on our side,' where would Tottenham Church be?

Despite the constraint placed on Tottenham Church members due to the lack of their own space, the mission of the church continues with commitment and fervour. In December 2018 there was rejoicing in heaven as thirteen precious souls from Tottenham Church and one from Edmonton Central Church were baptised. There was another high day on Sabbath 1 June 2019 as Cleo Crombie, Eugene Lewis and Kaycee Onyemenem surrendered their lives to Jesus Christ.

Sitting in the congregation during the baptismal service on Sabbath 1 June were Pastor Stephen Agilinko, the West Green Road Baptist Church minister, and members of his congregation. This was not an unusual occurrence. A close relationship has developed between Tottenham Church and the Baptist Church members. On many Sabbaths there are members of the Baptist church worshipping with us, collecting and reading our literature and sharing our fellowship lunch. When Pastor Agilinko had to go on sabbatical for a few months, it was Pastor Jude Jeanville that he asked to preach on Sundays at West Green Road Baptist Church until he returned.

I am convinced that the plan to return to our church building by early 2019 was delayed by the Lord so that we could further cement the relationship we have developed with the members of the Baptist church and be a witness for Him. To still be worshipping at West Green Road Baptist Church was not part of our plans, for who likes to pay rent when you have your own building? But God's plans are always better than ours; His plans are perfect. 'For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD' (Isaiah 55:8, KJV).

Tottenham Church may be under construction, but the members are still on a mission for the Lord Jesus Christ.

MAXINE DONOVAN

## Tatenda

Tatenda is a young boy who lives in Zimbabwe. He went to sleep on Friday 15 March in his own home and was woken in the early hours of Saturday morning to the sound of houses collapsing due to the mudslides, wind and heavy rainfall from Cyclone Idai that affected Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi. There was only one place to run to, as all but one house in the village had disappeared.

'This was only the beginning of a rough night. The house we had taken shelter in also began to fall, and we held hands together as we pushed our way to the nearest church. We stayed there three days beside dead bodies, sick people and injured people, and all I wanted to do was help, but I did not know how.'

Tatenda and his mother were moved to a school and they now live in a camp with many other people who suffered during not only Idai, but also Kenneth, the cyclone which followed a few weeks later. Cyclone Idai was possibly the **worst weather-related disaster ever to hit the southern hemisphere**, killing over 1,200 people and affecting 3 million people across the region. Then in **April 2019** the same area was hit again by **Cyclone Kenneth**. The **ADRA emergency response network** was able to immediately provide **food, shelter** and access to **basic healthcare**.

However, even a few months after the cyclones have hit, many of the areas are still **just recovering**. There are still **unmet needs** for many of the people facing the aftermath of these incredibly powerful storms. Homes and schools were **destroyed**; communities were ripped apart. Teaching materials were lost, and children have lost access to education. **Children lost their toys and clothes**.

ADRA-UK's 2019 Virtual Gift Box Appeal will focus on **Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi**.

We want to invite you to bring a smile to the faces of children affected by the cyclones. You can decide **which country** you want to pack a virtual box for, but **why not give one to all three?** Bringing a smile to a child's face means **everything** to us here at ADRA.

In spite of all the trauma that Tatenda has experienced, he still holds onto his dream of becoming a doctor in the future. Please help us to help children like Tatenda.

Our 2019 Virtual Gift Box Appeal starts on Sunday 1 September and will continue until Thursday 31 October. To fill a gift box, please go to [www.adragiftbox.org.uk](http://www.adragiftbox.org.uk) and help us to improve the future for children in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi.

Thank you!

CATHERINE ANTHONY BOLDEAU

## ADRA-UK launches its 2019 Virtual Gift Box Appeal



## A special investiture ceremony in Dundee

On 29 June, Dundee Church celebrated a Pathfinder investiture in style. While this was not the first investiture in Dundee, it was the first to be officiated by our trio: our pastor, Jimmy Botha; Master Guide and leader, Aunty Rhoda Fleming; and one of our Scottish Mission sponsors, Pastor Njabulo Ndlovu's wife, Mthoko Ndlovu. Three Adventurers and eleven Pathfinders participated in the ceremony. Three of our Adventurers moved from Busy Bee to Sunbeam; five started the Friend achievement class. Three Pathfinders completed the Explorer achievement class, and two Pathfinders successfully completed the Voyager achievement class. This investiture was also special because Naomi Manenji, one of our Pathfinders, made friends with her classmate and neighbour, Ropafadzo Katso, who now attends our regular Pathfinder meetings.

As part of the ceremony the children recited their aim, motto and pledge, and gave explanation of their meanings. There were also knot-tying demonstrations by three of the Pathfinders. Mthoko emphasised the



significance of the Pathfinder pledge and challenged all the children to live according to their pledge at all times, wherever they find themselves.

B. DAVIES-BROWNE (DUNDEE CHURCH, SCOTLAND)

## Leytonstone Pathfinders – ‘against all odds’

On 16 December 2016 the Leytonstone Pathfinder club started under the leadership of Director Icyline Morris-Marsh with the induction of eighteen persons under the theme, 'Evangelism, Everyone, Everywhere'. After a challenging two years we held our first investiture service and induction of Adventurers on 20 April 2019. Two Pathfinders were invested: Eion Roberts as a Companion, and Jhennell Hinds as a Guide. Ruth Miller-Hardy and Jhennell Hinds were both invested as Master Guides in Training (MITs). The inductees for the Adventurers were Rachel Winter as a Builder, and Renae Winter and Adio Johnson as Busy Bees. The theme for the day was 'Against All Odds'. Elder Fitzroy Morris charged the group with standing up and persevering, despite the odds, as our victory is assured in Jesus Christ. During the director's report, she highlighted our achievements and encouraged the Pathfinders that there is no failing when you serve a God of possibilities.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT



## The fruit of the Spirit at New Life

The children's theme at New Life for 2019 is 'The Fruit of the Spirit'. As we look at society and the media we see so many examples of a world that is at odds with God's original plan. We see a lack in the basic qualities that will help young people to live happy lives. In response, our theme for the year at New Life was set. Scripture tells us in Galatians 5:22, 23 (NIV): 'But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.' The children started the year by making a new children's story video, and the children's story focuses on a different fruit each month.

Our children's day this year on 25 May was an opportunity to explore our theme, 'The Fruit of the Spirit'. The Children's Ministries team decorated the church with balloons and posters to create a beautiful setting. The children, aged 0-10 years, dressed up in fruit costumes for the day, bringing excitement and fun.

Divine Service started with an invocation, and Rayjuan Featherstone invited God's presence among us. Anissa Smith welcomed everyone in typical New Life fashion. Our praise team led us in our theme song, 'The Love of Jesus Is So Wonderful'. We were reminded of Jesus' qualities as 6-year-old Roseanna Mohan recited our Scripture reading, Galatians 5:22, 23. This was followed by two presentations by Real Time Faith on self-control and Kindergarten/Beginners on joy.

Worship was led by our junior praise team and accompanied by musicians Benaya Julius (piano), Lydia Lavaud, Ketisha Lee-Ryan (guitar) and Larissa Dang from our community guitar group, as well as Rafael Merawi (drums). The band was supported by senior musician Benoit Lavaud.

Two preachers shared the sermon. Our first speaker, 7-year-old Jaedan Aberdeen, presented a sermonette (wonderfully illustrated with



Junior praise team



Youth band

PowerPoint) about the fruit of the Spirit. Stefano Thompson (14) delivered the second sermonette on the fruit of the Spirit, again fabulously illustrated with PowerPoint. The morning service ended with our theme song: 'The Love of Jesus Is So Wonderful'.

NORMA JULIUS, CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES LEADER



## 'Shipwrecked' Vacation Bible School

By the grace of God Northolt Church surmounted the challenges of the lack of their own building and a small congregation by stepping out in faith and holding a Vacation Bible School this year for the children. Using the 'Shipwrecked' theme for the week, songs, games and activities taught various Bible principles to help children incorporate God into their daily lives. The week was supported by members of the community who sent their children to attend. Healthy snacks enabled the teaching of healthy eating principles and practices. The week culminated in a graduation service that included presentations by the children about the things that they'd learnt. The week demonstrated the magnitude of what God can do with limited resources and willing members.

JENNIFER PHILLIPS



## Stoke-on-Trent District Investiture Day

On 22 June, the Stoke-on-Trent District Pathfinder and Adventurer club celebrated the achievements of their young people on Investiture Sabbath. Children were invested in classes ranging from Eager Beavers to Rangers, having earned a variety of honours including aeroplane modelling, travel and cooking. During the afternoon service the young people shared with the church what they had learnt during the year. The counsellors and parents supported the young people, and as a result we had a wonderful day of worship, where we witnessed our children in uniform actively involved in the services.

Our district pastor, Ian Philpott, invited Pastor Mwasumbi, the Pathfinder Director of the North England Conference, to be the speaker for the day. He preached a powerful sermon titled 'About My Father's

Business'. In the afternoon Pastor Mwasumbi shared with the church about the Pathfinder Bible Experience and the newly introduced Adventurer Bible Experience. The Stoke-on-Trent District Pathfinders are under the leadership of Elizabeth Benton, supported by Shirley Parnell, our area coordinator. Stoke-on-Trent churches are committed to develop, support and empower our children to become future leaders in the ministry.

HASTINGS KANDAYA (ELDER, STOKE-ON-TRENT CHURCH)



## No one ever too old to join Pathfinders

If at first you don't succeed, try, try and try again.

Pathfinder clubs in Area 1 have been scarce over the past 20 years or so, but now Exeter and Plymouth have budding clubs, with Pathfinders in St Austell soon to kick off. In recent years Plymouth's Pathfinder club has struggled to blossom, but this time was different.

Plymouth had a previous investiture of 'honours' with Fletewood School in 2016, which inspired others to continue working on Pathfinder classes. In 2018 Friend, Ranger and Busy Bee classes were started. Finally, on 15 June 2019, Plymouth had their first ever full investiture, when thirteen Pathfinders and Adventurers were invested. Pastor Kevin Johns (SEC Pathfinder Director) came to officiate at the service. *He continued to encourage everyone and emphasised that no one is ever too old to join Pathfinders or teach a class/honour.*

Several Pathfinders persevered, successfully completing the Friend and/or Ranger classes. They enjoyed working together as a group and especially liked the practical honours included in the class, such as knot tying and hiking. The Busy Bees also graduated from their class, eager to begin the next stage of their programme.

After several years Pastor Clifford completed his Master Guide training and received his 'stripes'.

Pastor Clifford and Ophelia Herman continue to diligently lead the Pathfinder club in Plymouth with hopes that the investiture may have inspired others in the church to join in as the programme continues.

Plymouth Church has proved that if something doesn't work first time we shouldn't give up: be persistent in prayer and action, and God will do the rest.

JENNIE HALL

**'They can do no better work and do nothing more valuable, either for God, for Christendom, for all the world, for themselves, or for their children, than to bring up their children well.'**

Martin Luther

From Martin Luther's 7 'A Sermon on the Estate of Marriage' (Luther's Works [Fortress Press], 44:12)



### From Hull, Hell and Halifax, God preserve us

Between 1980 and 1985 I was moved from Stockport to Hull. Being born and raised in Halifax, West Yorkshire, my father referred to the title and said, 'Well, you are from Halifax; you are going to Hull: so we know now where you are going next!' (For those who do not know about the title, 'From Hull, Hell and Halifax, God preserve us', it comes from the days both cities had a gibbet and you would lose your head for stealing as little as an ounce of wool! Not only is there a Gibbet Street, but the gibbet is still there in Halifax.)

As pastor, part of my district included Grimsby and Ulceby, and soon after I started I received a letter from the NEC president, Pastor Ron Surridge. The letter stated that the NEC Executive had discussed the future of Ulceby Church. Given that it had not only a low membership but also (reportedly) much death watch beetle, the NEC would consider closing the church. However, before taking any action, I was to have a meeting with the local members and any interested members from the area to consider the future of the congregation. At the time the church was mainly kept alive by the efforts of the Hawken family, Sylvia and Colin and their daughters, who resided in Grantham.

The result of the meeting was a commitment to keep the church open, and, to our surprise, we found no death watch beetle. Soon after, because the 100-year lease was soon to end, with the help of the NEC, the land was purchased, ensuring the future of the Ulceby church as a place of worship and evangelism in North-East England.

It was the one place where in my ministry I could 'boast' that every house had been visited four times in a year – for Ingathering (ADRA-UK collection) and Christmas, Easter and harvest services. There were only about 600 houses, but, praise God, the efforts resulted in the baptism of Mr & Mrs Richard and Margaret Coleman,\* as well as the attendance of another couple, one of whom had a previous connection with Adventism years before.

During the time I was there, I learned that Ulceby had been the seed bed of some of the well-known Adventists who had established other churches, pioneer work in other parts of the world, and even the editor of the *MESSENGER* for many a year – David Marshall.

It was therefore a great surprise to learn accidentally, in October 2015, that the NEC Executive had taken an action to close the Ulceby church. Today, the building stands, empty and *unused* for these past four years.

I am grateful for the article by Pastor R. Daley in the *MESSENGER*, which has spurred me to write further via the *MESSENGER* to ask the Conferences (NEC, SEC and BUC) how we can allow an important part of our BUC Adventist heritage and history just to vanish? Remember, the church is *the* first Adventist church building in our country, and still looks largely as it did when constructed in 1888, the date of its opening.

If evangelistic work in the area fails to produce results that keep the church alive, then why not sell the land on which it stands, and use the funds to move the building where a congregation presently has no building, thus providing two solutions to two problems? Let us prayerfully but with determination seek to do something soon. Already four years have slipped by.

PASTOR PAUL HAWORTH

\*Margaret, readers may recall, later worked until her passing from cancer as Secretary to the President at the NEC office in Nottingham. The picture above was created by Adrian Cowen during the time I served in the area.

**Ron Valens (1928-2019) d. 12 April.** We are sorry to report the death of Ron Valens. Ron was a member of several churches, including Croydon and Canterbury Church for over twenty-five years. He was born in Burma but had to flee the country after it was invaded by Japan. After a stay in India he eventually settled in Great Britain. He found work with the Government and served in various capacities, including work in Germany. It was in Germany that he met his wife, Heidi. In their later years they retired to Margate, where they enjoyed many happy years together.



Ron was very fond of Croydon Church, and several members, including the pastor of the church, attended the funeral service at Canterbury Church.

When Pastor Boyle was his minister, Ron charged him with the responsibility of leading his funeral service. For over thirty years Ron reminded Pastor Boyle of his responsibility with the Christmas card he sent each year.

During the past few years Ron did not enjoy the best of health but was ever cheerful.

Having reached the age of ninety years, he fell asleep with a strong faith in his Saviour. His dear friend of many years, Ralph Lombart, organised the funeral service.

After the funeral the committal took place at Margate Cemetery, where his wife Heidi is buried.

The service was conducted by the writer and assisted by Pastors Andrew Cudjoe and Israel Williams. PASTOR PATRICK BOYLE

**Allan Edward Lanham (1944-2019) d. 7 May.** Allan was born on 26 June 1944 and lived for most of his life in Stratford-upon-Avon.



Through his love of astronomy Allan was introduced to the Adventist faith by neighbours, John and

Violet Cole, members of the Stratford-upon-Avon church. Through the church he met Patricia Scott from Camp Hill, whom he married in 1970. They were blessed with two children, Steven and Ruth. They attended the Stratford church, moving to Coventry Church in 1983 when the Stratford church closed. While at Coventry, Uncle Allan supported Aunty Pat for many years in their joint role as youth leaders. He was later one of the founding members of Leamington Spa Mission, where he was often to be found maintaining the grounds and growing tomatoes on the church steps, supporting Aunty Pat with the toddler group, Sabbath schools and the youth group.

Following his retirement as a proof-reader, Allan and Pat moved to North Wales to be nearer to Ruth and her husband Neil. It was shortly after the move that Allan became ill, requiring constant care. He endured his illness with patience and with dignity.

Allan was a quiet person of faith who loved his family and his Lord, to whose service he was devoted. He slipped away peacefully in his sleep, surrounded by family.

The funeral service and committal were held at the Denbighshire Memorial Park Crematorium, St Asaph on Friday 17 May, conducted by Pastor Malcolm Turner, who had become a friend of the family. At Allan's request, his ashes were scattered on Analog

overlooking the Aberdaron camp site, a place to which the family continue to feel deeply connected.

Allan is lovingly remembered by his family: Patricia, Steven, Ruth, Lorraine, Neil, Harriet, Iris and Paddy. A day will come soon when all will be reunited with Allan. ROGER NEAL

**Eunice Ruth Sampson (1943-2019) d. 25 June.** 'My church has been enough for me. To serve the church in any way I can is to give God the glory.' – Eunice



Eunice Sampson (née

Pitcher) was born to Bill and Florence Pitcher in Pakefield, Lowestoft, on 24 March 1943. Both devoted Christians, the Pitchers were active members of the Lowestoft church (Bill was a lay preacher), and it was in this rich tradition that Eunice was raised, trained and nurtured for a lifetime of service to God, family and the Lowestoft community in which Eunice would spend her entire life.

Eunice attended Alderman Woodrow School (now Eastpoint Academy), after which she worked as a filing clerk at the former Eastern Coach Works. After 10 months she took a job on the assembly line at H.D.F. Ltd., the parent company of PYE Ltd, and later moved to the office, where she caught the attention of her future husband. John was intrigued by the fun-loving girl who announced her arrival at the factory gates each morning by loudly honking her bicycle horn; and Eunice was curious about the 'old man with the funny little motorbike', referring to the police-style Velocette which John rode. They married on 30 October 1966 at the Lowestoft church, where, decades later, they renewed their vows on the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

Apart from their first eight years, spent in Kessingland, Eunice and John lived their entire married life in the same Pakefield street, a few houses from where Eunice had been born. Lowestoft was their home church, and this church had always been at the centre of Eunice's life. She was encouraged to be active and involved from childhood, often accompanying her father in the early days to his preaching assignments, and then gradually taking on many varied roles and responsibilities of her own. During her time, she served the church as organist, local treasurer, Personal Ministries secretary, Community Services leader, and Missionary Volunteers leader. Eunice was instrumental in recent times in helping the church build positive community links by welcoming

the elderly day centre that now meets in the church hall several days a week. Throughout her entire life, Eunice was at the forefront of church ministry, ever hopeful and willing to invest in the church she loved. An avid supporter of the church's programmes and outreach efforts, Eunice was often among the first to sign up, be it a work bee or a social event.

Last autumn, though feeling unwell, she determined to complete the nativity play script for the Christmas programme, experiencing the blessing of seeing the children of Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth churches perform the play together. This would be her last outreach effort. She continued to feel poorly, and her condition became terminal, although, in her usual way, she put up a brave fight.

Eunice's final wish was to spend her last days in her home, and this she was able to do, thanks to the carers from Home Support, the district nurses, and the staff at James Paget Hospital and Rosedale Surgery. For all their dedicated service and compassion John expresses his sincerest gratitude. He is also thankful for the wonderful support from his children, family, and friends.

Eunice's funeral service, for which her husband John was joined by family and friends at the Lowestoft church, was conducted on 9 July by four pastors who knew Eunice well and collectively represented the broad span of time she had spent as a member of the Lowestoft church family. Pastor Mark Borrett opened the service with a message of comfort, joined by tributes of appreciation read by Pastor Rio Espulgar. Pastor Michael Walker reiterated the blessed hope with a Scripture reading, followed by the Lord's Prayer, led by Pastor David Neal.

Fond memories from childhood were shared by Eunice's son, Tim, with gratitude expressed on behalf of his sister, Ruth, as well as on behalf of their respective families, including grandchildren and great-grandchildren. A moving tribute

was also shared by 11-year-old Rianne Espulgar, who acknowledged Eunice for inspiring her musical passion. Among Eunice's final requests was the wish that Rianne would serve as pianist for her funeral, which she did beautifully in honour of Eunice's memory.

'Whatever life threw at her, she always kept the faith. She carried on as she always had done, trusting in the Lord,' said John, as Eunice was laid to rest at Kirkley Cemetery, Lowestoft. Maranatha.

NORMA BORRETT, COMMUNICATIONS

## Messenger

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### Sunset

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	London	Card	Notf	Edin	Belf
Aug 16	8.22	8.34	8.30	8.48	8.54
23	8.07	8.20	8.15	8.31	8.38
30	7.52	8.04	7.59	8.13	8.21
Sept 6	7.37	7.49	7.43	7.55	8.04



## Local church app developed by 19-year-old

The speaker at the 2019 Newbold graduation reminded graduands of a well-known hymn, as well as challenging them, with the iconic lines, '... and the Master calls for you, let none hear you idly saying, "There is nothing I can do!" ... Answer quickly when He calleth, "Here am I, O Lord, send me."'

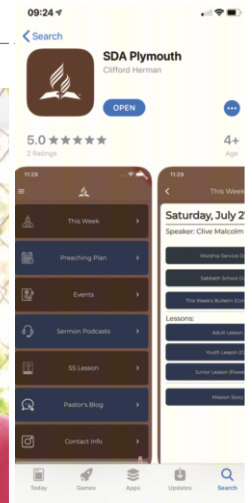
As I was sitting there, I realised that a young person in our church was already applying that challenge in his life as she spoke. Two months before his nineteenth birthday, Matthew Herman took up the challenge to do something for God and His church. Although his music talents already benefit Plymouth and Cardiff Churches, he wanted to do something more. At the time he had just completed his first year of a BSc in Computer Science at Cardiff University.

Although he had picked up some experience from his course, he took to his room for long hours during the day to research more computer coding language in order to develop an app for Plymouth Church.

The local church, as well as Area 1, supported him and by 26 July 2019, two months later, the Plymouth Church app was launched on Apple IOS and Android platforms, ready for download by the church members.

A first for Plymouth Church, and many other churches in the BUC, this app offers local sermon podcasts, the preaching plan, an events page, contact information, a weekly pastor's blog, links to Sabbath School lessons and a prayer request page.

Matthew is currently working on a health expo app that will be useful for evangelistic church health screenings. He discovered that the software used by churches in the UK is produced in



the USA, which often does not relate to UK requirements and guidelines. This app will attempt to fix that and make it user-friendly for volunteers to use when offering health screenings.

Plymouth Church uses the skills and gifts of young people regularly in the audio-visual and music departments, including leading out in quarterly youth services and annual mission

projects both locally and abroad. These and initiatives like Matthew's church app make me proud as a father and pastor, knowing that young people want to make a difference in their church and their community and desire to be used by God.

Plymouth Church App can be found on IOS and Android by searching 'SDA Plymouth'.

CLIFFORD HERMAN



## Bristol teens consider 'the what and the why'

During the 2019 Bristol Teens' Day of Fellowship, around 120 young people from Bristol and beyond were challenged to understand what they believe, and why, to enable them to be able to live purposeful lives according to God's plan. Organised by the Bristol District Advent Youth Ministry team, the day of fellowship aimed to encourage young people not to be shy about their faith, but to ask God to enable them to grow in wisdom. The SEC Teens and Chaplaincy Director, Pastor Juan Patrick, challenged young people that, in order to know what they believe and why, they need to get to know God's Word.

Programme coordinators Albert Gardiner, Amanda Watson and Tinashe Kitsawa were encouraged as young people left with the knowledge that it is their faith that will enable them to want to live wisely. One young person said: 'I want to know what God says because He is wise, and because I believe His ways are best. Through His grace I want to do what He says.'

ALBERT GARDINER



## Cheltenham's youth enjoy an awesome time

From 28 to 30 June, eighteen youth plus staff gathered for our annual camp weekend at Cranham Scout Centre. We had an awesome time!

Our theme for the weekend was 'Grace', with embarrassing truths coming out: of when we were shown grace after starting pillow fights when strictly against the rules, or breaking a friend's toy.

Since we were learning about grace over the weekend, we had to tell a story to the rest of the camp about someone showing grace in the Bible, or even showing a modern act of grace. Everyone did a great job. One group re-enacted a parable Jesus told with a comedy element. Another group composed a song about grace using a well-known tune. The youngest of the campers re-enacted a scene from 1 Samuel in which David spared Saul's life. One wrote a poem about the prodigal son, and another even re-enacted a short snippet from Nicky Cruz's *The Cross and the Switchblade*.

The highlight of the camp was the campfire, which consisted of eating more 's'mores' than we could count, burning marshmallows and singing songs late into the night. David demonstrated the idea of singing and dancing in the Bible, but I don't think the dancing part had ever caught on until we were all standing by the bonfire dancing our hearts out to 'Down in my heart', laughing when mumbling our way through the complicated lines, such as 'down in the depths of my heart'. We went to bed, the smell of smoke on our clothes and the taste of smores on our lips.

'Extremely good fun' was the consensus, as joyful and happy friends joined together to relax and detox in the countryside, thanks to the grace of God.