

MESSENGER

CHURCH PAPER FOR SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS IN THE BRITISH ISLES
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ROUND-BRITAIN RUN ENDS AT ADVENTIST HEALTH STAND . . .

The Round-Britain Fun Run, lasting for four weeks, reached Portsmouth on 18 June and, for three days ending on 20 June, a Health Fair was held on the sea-front at Southsea to

coincide with this event. As a direct consequence of close contacts established with the Hampshire Health Education Department by Pastor Sven Ohman through a series of

Some of the team members displaying their T-shirts. Left to right: Ann Edwards, Gerard Fordham, Joan Christianson, Mel Trevena, Jerome Bongers, Ruth Ohman, Vicky Hartley, Roy Hartley (in wheel chair), Pastor Sven Ohman (back right). Bottom: Roy Hartley handing out free literature and enrolling people for the 5-Day Plan.



Joan Christianson checking blood pressures.

by ROY HARTLEY

5-Day Plans to Stop Smoking, the Portsmouth church was invited to take an active part in the Fair. The extent of the Health Education Department's kindness towards our Church can be seen in that we were offered the largest display area (40ft by 10ft) in a prime position in the main marquee, absolutely free of charge.

Our displays and activities involved a wide span of important health issues. Each day a series of fitness tests, designed to show the individual's rate of recovery from physical exertion, were held in the open-air arena. Bread-making demonstrations were given and samples offered to the public.

Throughout each day a number of audio-visual displays on diet and health were running continuously. Daphne and John Godfrey, from Granose Foods, offered free samples of soya-based products and natural fruit bars, which were enormously popular and many people were introduced to the vegetarian alternative in this way. Smokers were given the opportunity of registering for another 5-Day Plan conducted by Pastor Ohman during the week following the Health Fair.

Perhaps the most popular part of our stall was that run by Joanne Christiansen and Dr. John Gobble, who took in the region of 1,000 blood-pressure readings and gave advice and leaflets on how to control blood pressure through diet.

No doubt its popularity was fired by television coverage given to our stand on TVS News on the first evening of the Fair – the SDA stand was the only one shown on television, the coverage being very positive and favourable.

The organizers of the Fair, which was attended by some 10,000 people, congratulated us on presenting the best display and there was a great deal of informal testimony to the planning, overall success and popularity of our exhibition, both from the public and from those manning other stands. The chief organizer commented, 'Your stand has so impressed me that I almost feel that I want to change my religion.'

At any given time during the show there were more people at our stand than anywhere else at the show. We gave away, in addition, 380 FOCUS, 200 FAMILY LIFE, 2,000 vegetarian recipes, 1,000 VOP cards, and hundreds of leaflets on various aspects of healthy living. Many people asked about the beliefs of our Church and its interest in health principles and thus there were many opportunities to discuss spiritual questions.

The members of the Portsmouth church would like to thank for their wonderful efforts, not only those mentioned above, but all who took part in this truly amazing team effort, including some members from the Southampton church.

HEAVEN AT 2.30am

by PASTOR PAUL CLEE
NBC COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

What is your idea of heaven? A lovely place with nothing to do but eat lots of good fruits? Let me describe somewhere else. Come with me to a large white tent. It is 2.30 in the morning. Inside are three people asleep. Besides the howling wind and rain-squalls, all is peaceful. Then suddenly a scream rends the air. From one of the sleeping bags pops a bleary-eyed counsellor who staggers over to another recumbent person, unzips the soggy sleeping bag, and with a sigh takes the occupant to the toilet block where he or she is washed, dressed in clean clothes, and zipped into another sleeping bag. Is that your idea of heaven? I doubt it. But that is just one of the unexpected, but not unusual moments from the camp for the handicapped.

Where does heaven come in? One counsellor wrote to me after last year's camp asking to come again this year. The letter suggested that this camp was a little part of heaven here on earth despite the soiled sleeping bags, the rain, the activities forced to be held indoors, and all. I believe that person is not far from the truth. If you have ever been to other camps at the beautiful site at Aberdaron, you will know how inspiring it is. However, the spirit of those

other camps is not to be compared with that of Handicapped Camp. Take sports day for instance. This year we were forced by inclement weather to hold it indoors. All the staff entered into the spirit of the event wholeheartedly. Enthusiasm bubbled over as team captains entered the arena dressed in their team colours. I think most of the staff ended the day with hoarse voices.

Some staff stayed up late the night before the concert, others worked through the day to perfect costumes and items, with the emphasis on very visual comedy, so well appreciated by our mentally disabled campers. Clowns, musicians, and singers took to the stage. A banquet fit for a king was supplied by the kitchen staff, complete with ice cream during the interval.

Another highlight to our heavenly camp was the day trip to a country park with a large industrial museum, lake railway, and many walks. The attitude of the public here was tremendous. When the first group paid to go through the 'living' museum, the staff on duty realized the nature of our group and all other campers were admitted free of charge. Those who showed us around were most helpful and patient.

It was a good day.

Camp is not camp without a bonfire, and ours was no exception. Thanks to the maintenance men, we had a huge blaze. The singing and dancing around the fire added to making us warm.

No sooner had it begun than it was over. The coach arrived ready to take everyone away. I climbed on to the coach to say my farewells to the campers. One particular camper (runny nosed as usual) gave me a smacking kiss and said, 'I love you, Paul.' 'I love you too', I replied, then, 'See you next year.' He held on to my hand, looked me in the eyes and said, 'Yes, if I'm well enough.' I left the coach with a tear in my eye.

What a tremendous time we had, thanks to the dedicated staff. What a part of heaven on earth; but O Lord, come quickly and take us all to that place where there will be no illness anymore. Take us to that other heaven - and soon.

The Northampton SDA Church Proudly Presents
at the Spinney Hill Hall (Northampton) on
5 October at 7 pm

THE GOSPEL CONCERT

FEATURING:

New Hope (Wolverhampton), The Golden Chords (London), Praise (London), The Tuckley Twins (Northampton), Brother Gary (MCGC), and many more!

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

Adults £2, Under 14s £1.50

For tickets or further information please phone: Mr. M. Fuller, (0604) 413047, Mrs. A. Campbell, (0604) 404829, Miss A. Tuckley (0604) 56509, or pay at the door.

WEST MIDLANDS YOUTH WEEKEND. Friday evening teach-ins at Handsworth, Camp Hill, and Oxford Street. 7.30 pm. Sabbath services at Darlington Street Methodist Church, Wolverhampton. 10-1, 3-5. Theme: Evangelism.

SECOND-HAND set of the *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary* required for Newbold student. If you can help please telephone Pastor W. C. S. Raitt on (0536) 517111, and he will make you an offer.

A **17-YEAR-OLD** Adventist boy from Trinidad will be studying at the Royal College of Music, Kensington, from the end of September and would like to live in with an Adventist family. If you can help please contact Miss Drummond on (01) 600 9000. Ext. 2755 (office hours) or (01) 684 0967.

NURSE offers a private room with friendly atmosphere, comfortable lounge and good food to an elderly person. Harrow church is nearby. Phone: Mrs. Jones on (01) 863 4178.

WANTED: Second-hand set of the *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*. Please phone I. M. Edwards on (01) 801 5595, after 6 pm. Price negotiable.

WANTED. Two copies of *The Seer of Patmos* by Stephen Haskell. Please write to: Miss A. S. Ahwan, BUC Offices, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts., WD2 6JP. I am willing to pay for these together with postage, etc.

WANTED. Set of the *SDA Bible Commentary* in reasonable condition. Please state price. Contact: Mrs. D. Davis, 82 Myton Drive, Solihull Lodge, Shirley, Solihull, West Midlands, B90 1HP.

ENTON MEDICAL CENTRE, Enton, Nr. Godalming, Surrey, GU8 5AL, require the following staff to help us to continue the Lord's work: Chambermaid, Waiter/Waitress, Masseuse, Assistant Vegetarian Cook, Physiotherapist. All positions are live in or out and cover a 5-day week on a 7-day departmental rota basis. Please apply with full particulars to Dr. Russell Standish.

DEVOTIONAL

RIGHTEOUSNESS EQUALS JESUS

by Morris Venden

One of the major breakthroughs that come in the theme of salvation by faith is that you don't get righteousness by seeking righteousness. Righteousness comes by seeking Jesus. It is a trap of the devil for us to seek righteousness instead of seeking for Jesus. Righteousness is deeper than external actions.

The equation for righteousness is $R = J$, Righteousness = Jesus. If we're going to transfer it to our lives, it works like this: $Mankind + Jesus = Righteousness$. That's the equation for righteousness as far as we're concerned.

One day we were talking about this in class, and a maths specialist on the back row with his pocket calculator got this terrible look on his face and said, 'Wait just a minute. We just came to the conclusion that Righteousness = Jesus. Now you say $Mankind + Jesus = Righteousness$. But if $Jesus = Righteousness$, then $Mankind = Nothing$!' 'There is none righteous, no, not one.' Rom. 3:10.

I was conducting a Week of Prayer at a Christian medical school. That's a terrible experience. The medical students have brains bulging out of the side of their heads. And you're supposed to try to say something! Part of the way through the week we got a reaction from some because we had talked about the fact that without Jesus we can do nothing. Some had acquired the impression that we were talking about being worthless. You don't tell people who have worked that hard towards their profession that they are

worthless without getting some kind of reaction. There are people in the world who can do great things without God as long as God keeps their hearts beating in their chests. But God makes the hearts beat in the chests of those who curse Him.

Even though we are still helpless to produce righteousness, because righteousness is found only in Jesus, Jesus on the cross proved that every human being is *worth* the entire universe. We need to recognize that there's a big difference between being helpless and being worthless. When we accept the premise that we are nothing, we mean what Jesus said in John 15:5, 'Without me ye can do nothing', in producing the fruits of righteousness. But without Him we are worth something; that's why He came - to show us that in Him all things are possible, and to prove the worth of a human soul.

EDITORIAL

HERESY!

A few issues ago John Williams wrote from Newport asking why he had had to learn from the BBC – and not MESSENGER – that two ministers had left the work, and would it not have been possible to have discussed in these pages the areas in which they found themselves at variance with the accepted denominational stance. In the four column centimetres left me at the bottom of the page I explained that the final events had been rapid ones so that an announcement would have been difficult, that the BBC was guilty of over-simplification, and invited our readers to pray for the pastors and their families as they live through difficult days.

However, the whole problem has caused me to do some very serious thinking on the wider question of what, to avoid the emotive word 'heresy', I shall call 'heterodoxy' within the Church. My thoughts presented here have no bearing on our two friends, nor on the question of the extent to which administration should tolerate divergent opinions among the ranks of the ministry. What I am doing is taking a look at how 'heterodoxy' arises.

From apostolic times two extremes of opinion have existed within the Church. Paul wrote Corinthians to counter one – the *antinomians* – and Galatians to counter the other – the *legalists*.

Both *antinomianism* and *legalism* represent attempts to shape doctrine to suit ourselves.

Antinomianism springs from the belief that the Law has been abolished, and that grace abounds. Like most heresy it is a combination of truth and error. Paul found believers in Corinth who were prepared to argue that we should sin to our heart's content because the more we sin the more God may exercise His grace to forgive us. Paul's answer: God forbid! The Law, he said, is as changeless as the character of God of which it is an expression. God's amazing grace is the most wonderful thing in the world. Obedience to Law is a love-response to Calvary's grace. But this obedience will not save us; we are saved by the righteous life of Christ who died in our place.

Those among us who stress Justification without a mention of the new life to be lived through the power of the Spirit (Sanctification) are placing themselves on the edge of the same quicksands which draw the antinomians down.

On the other extreme *legalism* is the most natural religion for the human psyche. There is something inbuilt in all of us that rebels against the truth that the forgiveness of salvation is a free gift grasped by the empty hand of faith. We want to *earn* what we cannot earn, *deserve* by our works what is beyond our capacity to deserve. 'By the deeds of the law', says Paul, 'there shall no flesh be justified in his sight.' Romans 3:20. Those among us who stress that we can attain perfection of character in an absolute sense through the process of Sanctification are placing themselves on the edge of the same quicksands as the legalists. There is only one kind of righteousness: the

righteousness of Christ – first imputed to us, at last imparted to us.

Antinomianism and legalism are but two types of heterodox view, both perversions of the doctrine of salvation. *Some heterodox factions arise from overstressing one part of the truth.* It is possible, for example, to become so absorbed by some complex apocalyptic schema that we totally neglect the Gospel of salvation.

One force threatening to produce heterodoxy among present-day Adventists is the pressure of a mass-culture which leads us to desire for our Church the best possible public image. If we go to the nth degree to produce a theology which is popular and attractive then truth will be watered down and moral demands ignored.

Many of our members are isolated, and many of our ministers *feel* isolated from contact with fellow clergy. Over the years this situation has led men to race off after all manner of false scents. When a man thinks alone he runs a grave danger of thinking astray. This is in no way to detract from the Reformation doctrine of the priesthood of all believers: it is merely an observed fact.

The last heterodoxy-producing tendency I shall mention is our desire to cram the infinite into finite containers. We should not expect that, with our fragment of knowledge, we can organize the wisdom of God into frameworks which fit man's wisdom perfectly adequately. We like neatly stated propositions and the proven, logical steps of an argument. 'Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.' 1 Corinthians 1:20, 21, NIV. G. K. Chesterton said: 'It is only the fool who tries to get the heavens inside his head, and not unnaturally his head bursts. The wise man is content to get his head inside the heavens.'

There are, of course, other dangers not touched upon, like the danger of assuming that all supernatural manifestations are, of necessity, of God regardless of the warnings of Scripture. (For example Isaiah 8:20.) However, the most humbling fact for those who would pervert the Gospel or make of it a complex web made of millions of hairs, each of which can be split many times, is that the massed millions of earth have yet to be confronted with the person of Jesus Christ and that the very words being used by the theorizers – heterodox and orthodox alike – are totally unintelligible to them. There may be questions that will remain unanswered until we address them to the Lord of Glory Himself in His Kingdom.

'I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought.' 1 Corinthians 1:10, NIV.

D. N. MARSHALL

NEWS DIGEST

FOCUS CAMPAIGN IN GLOUCESTER

The place was the Wheatstone Hall, part of the City Museum and Art Gallery complex right in Gloucester city centre and but a stone's throw from the beautiful Gloucester church. The 6 pm session was filled to capacity for the programme 'The Holy Land', led by SEC evangelist Pastor Derek Marley, using a giant screen and a three-projector system. The overflow session at 7.45 was also full, and as programme followed programme three nights a week, the number attending remained high as Pastor Marley led the audience through Bible prophecy as an evidence of the accuracy of the Scriptures, to come face to face with the Man in the Book, Jesus Christ, as His special message for today.

Members brought friends, and worked on the staff as receptionists, projectionists, ushers, usherettes, and on the maintenance team. The spirit was great, and everyone worked hard and loyally, knowing that they were serving not man, but God.

Then came the first Sabbath seminar. In came the visitors, along with the members, and really enjoyed the mixture which Adventists know as Sabbath school and Divine service, presented in a slightly different way. The next Sabbath, just as many were present again, until after three weeks the Sabbath programme was transferred to the church – a church of which we can be justly proud. (The evening meetings were still at

the Wheatstone Hall.) The non-members flocked to the church, which was full to overflowing for the first baptism. The following Sabbath, the group 'Praise', from London, sang in the morning baptismal service, the second baptism of the series.

Shortly after, the evening meetings were transferred from the hall to the church, and many of the non-members made the switch too. A third baptism was held, and on 17 August the fourth. After forty-six meetings, the FOCUS programme ended on Sunday 18 August, and now the local pastors, Ron Davey and Ron Stewart, who had taken part in and totally supported the programmes from the start (Pastor Stewart had done a wonderful job of organizing the church before the campaign began as Pastor Davey was 'in transit' from Cornwall), will continue with special meetings on Sunday and Tuesday evenings, as well as on Sabbath. A brief follow-up programme is planned for the autumn, and further baptismal dates have been set for the many still attending but not yet baptized.

Evangelism does so much for the church. It gives leaders and members a new outlook on life in general and the church in particular; it thrills our hearts as we hear again the grand old message – old yet ever new – and helps us not to get mired in 'the higher theology'; it wins new members, sows many seeds and wins many friends.

Recently baptized members with Pastors D. M. Marley, left, Ron Stewart, second right, Ron Davey, right.



Have a campaign in YOUR church and in YOUR area. There are ALWAYS good results – and that's a promise from God.

If you need help in planning, or if you would like a major programme to be held in your area, write to the president, or Pastor Marley, or Pastor Preston at the SEC office, or your own Conference or Mission president.

DEREK M. MARLEY, SEC Evangelist (Provinces)

SWIMMING SUCCESS

Charlotte Barker is a junior in the Bradford Sabbath school, and is 9 years old. Twelve months ago Charlotte could not swim a stroke. Along with other then aspiring Master Guides, Charlotte floundered about in the children's area of the swimming baths. Like almost all other children, Charlotte started swimming with the use of armbands, and was delighted when she swam her first two strokes. Since those first strokes, Charlotte has won no fewer than eight badges for swimming between twenty-five metres, and her latest achievement, the 1,500 metres, which is sixty-four lengths, non-stop. For this latest event, she had to be at the swimming baths at 8.30 am on Wednesday 14 August, and it took just under one hour for her to swim the sixty-four lengths, that is less than one minute per length.

Charlotte's instructor now wants her to go in for the next badge, which is the bronze personal survival.

MARY D. BROOK, church clerk

PAIN RELIEF IN GALWAY

'Whether in foreign missions or in the home field, all missionaries, both men and women, will gain much more ready access to the people, and will find their usefulness greatly increased, if they are able to minister to the sick. . . . All gospel workers should know how to give the simple treatments that do so much to relieve pain and remove disease.' *Counsels on Health*, page 389. That's wonderful counsel for those who lived in Ellen White's day. But today, considering the world's elaborate and advanced medical systems, there's little value in knowing the simple treatments.

Unfortunately, that is the

thinking of many today. However, experience has taught me otherwise. Let me explain. On 16 July I went to Pat and Mary's home for a scheduled Bible study. At the conclusion of the study Pat stated that frankly they had no intention of making any changes whatever. They were entirely satisfied with what they knew. The next week I took a medical history on both Pat and Mary. I found out that Mary was taking medication for constipation and Pat was on powerful pain medication. Pat has had a disabling pain in the abdomen for the past eleven years. He's been to a multitude of specialists and has undergone every conceivable diagnostic procedure. They have not been able to discover a cause for his ailment; therefore they haven't a remedy to offer.

Today, four weeks later, Mary's ailment has been eliminated and Pat is now engaging in physical activities that before had been impossible. Our Tuesday afternoon Bible study has become their weekly highlight.

What made the difference? The knowledge of simple treatments and the laws of health. Pat is currently receiving hydrotherapy (full fomentations with alternating hot and cold) every other day. Also, charcoal poultices are being applied to the abdomen.

JOHN WHITCOMBE

DR. HERTOGS ON LOCAL RADIO

'I am very happy', said the ex-smoker. 'I can hardly believe I've done it. It's like a miracle to me.' Such was the testimony, on the radio, of one of the successful participants in the recent 5-Day Plan to Stop Smoking, held at the Better Living Centre of the St. Albans church. Reference to the course in a local newspaper, came to the notice of the presenter of 'The Melting Pot' – the Sunday morning religious programme of the newly-opened BBC Radio Bedfordshire. Dr. Drusilla Hertogs, who had conducted the course, was, together with the candidate, invited to an interview in which she spoke of the origin and aims of the Plan, and the methods used to prevent a return to smoking.

C. M. HUBERT COWEN, Communication secretary

HOSPITAL CONSULTANT HELPS WITH 5-DAY PLAN

Ward sisters and nurses became 'patients' at a specially-arranged 5-Day Clinic at the Stonehouse Hospital in Lanarkshire, Scotland, recently. The course was conducted by Dr. Martin Clee who is Consultant in Thoracic Medicine at the hospital, and Pastor Denys Baidam of the Glasgow district of churches. There was an 85 per cent success rate and at the subsequent reunion it was decided to hold a further course for others who are keen to give up smoking.

C. D. BAILDAM

GLASGOW 2000

The Greater Glasgow Health Board in association with the 'Glasgow 2000' Project committee, continue to show interest in the Adventist principles regarding the Stop Smoking Campaign. 'Glasgow 2000' was inaugurated some two years ago in an endeavour to have Glasgow a 'No-smoking' city by the year 2000. About half a million pounds is being put into the campaign and in spite of much expected opposition from the local tobacco manufacturers, advertising and other publicity is widespread, bringing a great deal of interest from the public.

At a recent Seminar held in the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow, Dr. Martin Clee from Hairmyers and Stonehouse Hospitals, Pastor Martin Bell, administrator from 'Roundelwood' in Crieff, and Pastor Denys Baidam, a member of the Glasgow Project Council, were invited to attend. Dr. Clee and Pastor Bell presented short lectures on the subject of smoking and health, and the benefits derived from the Adventist philosophy incorporated in the 5-Day Plan. This study day was organized for the benefit of multi-disciplinary health promoters from statutory and voluntary organizations. Staff from various fields of medicine were present. Adventists are regarded as having expertise in the area of stop smoking and are being called upon to advise and also to operate further functions.

C. D. BAILDAM

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS. The treasurer of the British Union Conference acknowledges with thanks the receipt of £20 tithe, £25 tithe from 'Most Grateful'. M. B. Musgrave.

HOLY LAND CAMPAIGN IN YARMOUTH

Yarmouth's spring evangelistic campaign got off to a modest start at the Lecture Hall off the Gorleston Public Library. With seventy people in attendance, Robert Surridge, the local minister, gave a much-appreciated slide lecture on the Holy Land, where he had lived for some time.

This was followed by subsequent lectures over the next few weeks on the Dead Sea Scrolls, Egypt, Biblical Prophecy and the Flood. However, despite the modest beginning, interest in the lectures held up remarkably well and towards the end of May we were able to transfer our meeting to our church in Gorleston (a suburb of Great Yarmouth), with thirty people still attending and more than half of those non-members.

Week by week the lectures have continued to attract a consistent number of people and have introduced to them the essentials of the Advent message. What is more, the evangelist is now visiting the people in their homes and starting to study the Scriptures more closely with them.

DAWN SURRIDGE

100 - AND JUST LOOK AT HER!

At 6.20 am on 21 July 1885 Edith Jane Conybear was born in the coastguard's house at Lamblash on the Isle of Arran.

At 11 am on 20 July 1985 Sister Edith Crocker, her family, her friends and all the members of Stanborough Park church celebrated her 100th birthday.

As her granddaughter Greta Anscombe of Leeds said: 'To condense 100 years into a few minutes is a difficult task . . .'

Edith's father was a naval man. She left Scotland and lived in Ireland, then Cornwall, and finally reached Plymouth.

At 16 she became a pupil teacher, and in 1906 married Herbert Henry Crocker. In 1907 her daughter Audrey was born, and in later years two sons - Herbert and Harold.

Circumstances dictated that the young family should live next to mother-in-law. 'Gran Crocker' was bringing up eleven children on her own, and . . . was an Adventist.

As in the story of Ruth and Naomi, Edith accepted her mother-in-law's religion and was baptized by Pastor David Morrison in 1917.

There followed a lifetime of



Mrs. Crocker.

Photo Frank Blewitt

loyalty to her faith, and service to her Church and the young people. She became Young People's leader and Sabbath school teacher in Plymouth; and later Sunday school teacher at Stanborough Park for twenty-six years. Later she took on the jobs of Stanborough church caretaker for ten years, and VOP caretaker for three years, retiring as a young 86-year-old.

The family grew and today there are six grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.

BRONWEN ATKINSON

CARING AND SHARING

A happy group of Grantham children around their centre-piece, Rosie the Elephant, who attended a Holiday Bible School in the last week of August. It was held in the Dudley House (Adventist) School hall, and run by Gudrun James and her helpers.



YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT!

The Lower Willingdon Women's Institute group met on the afternoon of 15 July to witness a vegetarian cooking demonstration. Their chairperson introduced Pastor Richard Willis, Eastbourne pastor and Adventist health educator, to the thirty-two ladies present. Pastor Willis brought home to the group the importance of healthful living and emphasized the inter-relationship between what we eat and drink, and our physical and spiritual well-being.

The climax of the afternoon was, of course, 'tasting time'. All were invited to sample the vegetarian dishes ably and professionally prepared and demonstrated by the pastor's wife and Sister M. Murray.

COMMUNICATION
DEPARTMENT

BANA FELLOWSHIP

The BANA members at Nottingham have the reputation of always being up to something behind the scenes. We were inquisitive to find out the exact nature of their activities. In order to set our minds at ease the BANA team organized a special day of fellowship. They were joined by BANA members from right across the Midlands, including Francis Robertson, the BANA president, and his family from Reading.

It was instructive to learn how the BANA ladies share their faith with others. In addition we learned that they are building up a fund to assist those planning to attend Newbold College, and are sending packs of FAMILY LIFE magazines to the inmates of local prisons on a regular basis. BANA adviser, Pastor Lionel Acton-Hubbard, delivered the divine service message. Brother Robertson explained that the BANA organization exists to encourage those in the medical field to associate together, professionally and socially, with a view to strengthening friendships and faith.

P. MITCHELL

LADIES' DAY

Sabbath 20 July was a little different at Ipswich church. Our menfolk had the day off. The ladies took over all their Sabbath duties. Deaconesses greeted members and visitors at the doors, and all the items in

Sabbath school were presented by the ladies. The large open Sabbath school class was conducted by Dr. Susan Moser, with the assistance of Sisters J. Palmer and M. Uff.

A group of lady singers opened divine service with an introit. Guest speaker was Miss Audrey Boyle. Her theme was praise. She directed our thoughts to living a life of praise – praising God for the good and not-so-good things that come our way.

A pot luck lunch was followed by a Sabbath school workshop in which Miss Boyle exercised our minds on the art of teaching Sabbath school, particularly with regard to teaching the children.

Ladies' Day was organized by Sabbath school superintendent, Sister Jean Gittens. A number of visitors came to share our special Sabbath with us, including folk from London, Chelmsford and Colchester.

B. DUKE

D-DAY VETERAN RETURNS

'Has anyone a thought for the week, a special experience perhaps, to share with us?' asked Sabbath school secretary Win Bradbury on 3 August at the Exeter church.

A quick response came from an unfamiliar voice with an American accent. It was Dr. Nelson Grosboll, a visitor from Colorado. The last time he had been in Exeter had been during the war. As a young medical officer with the US First Army Corps stationed in Exeter from November 1943 to the allied invasion of France on D-Day in 1944, he had endeared himself to the Exeter members of those days. With prompting some of our older members remembered the cheery young American soldiers who worshipped with them for those few, brief months.

Dr. Grosboll recalled his convoy's departure from Portsmouth. The ship ahead was blown up but he remembers claiming the promise from Isaiah 43:2: 'When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee . . .'. In the many dangers that lay ahead he was constantly reminded of the promises of Psalm 91. Hence it was with a grateful heart that he could stand up in Exeter Sabbath school forty-one years later, with his wife beside him, thanking God for His love and

protection. We were glad he shared his experience with us.

Appropriately, our visiting speaker for the day was Pastor Patrick Boyle, SEC Sabbath school director. He emphasized the importance of Sabbath school and the study of God's Word, broadening our vision and encouraging a lifetime's involvement in this university of God's Church.

IRENE STOCKLEY

NORTHAMPTON BAPTISMS

Merna Codner has been attending the Northampton church for quite some time and has earned the respect of the members. Our joy and happiness was unbounded, as was that of her family and friends, when on 4 May she decided to become a full member of the church by being baptized.

Just as joyful and happy were the friends and relatives of Miss Theresa Rose and Miss Angela McKenzie when these two young people decided to forsake the world and follow their Saviour by being baptized on 13 July. Both services were conducted by local pastor, Michael Taylor, who had given Bible studies to the candidates.

A. J. FULLER

PLAISTOW – OFFICIAL ORGANIZATION

On 4 May 1985 the Plaistow company were officially organized into a church. Pastor Ellis Guthrie was privileged to welcome the then SEC president, Dr. Silburn Reid – recently appointed Union president in the West Indies – who officiated in the organization service and at the ordination of the church elders, A. Jones, M. Mullings and deacon M. Mongena.

Roy Sulcarloo gave a short history of the Plaistow company, a daughter of the Walthamstow church. Cottage meetings were held as far back as 1967 in Eastham by Sister Smith, a stalwart church worker in the area of personal ministry. Sister Lindow, Brother Jones and Brother Sulcarloo also participated in spreading the Word of God. This aroused interest, and morning services commenced in 1978. Originally there were only six members. As the months passed the group grew and a larger hall was needed to

accommodate the extra members. In 1980 a campaign was conducted by Pastor Paul Smith and Dr. Leonard White. A steady growth continued until 24 January 1981 when Plaistow became a company.

Among the exhortations on the day of church organization was one from Dr. Reid which we will long remember. He encouraged us to greater prayerfulness and constancy of purpose, stressing that advancement in life should never be at the expense of the cause of God.

M. HUSBANDS

THE UNFORTUNATE CHAIR

Since 12 May, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday evenings have been special for the Edmonton church. On each of those evenings the brethren of the church led out in a Spirit-inspired evangelistic campaign. Our preachers included Pastor Horace Taffe, local pastor, our church elders, Brethren S. Smale and C. Ruddick and Brother G. Simon of Harlow. In addition our young but talented AYS leader, Brother L. Johnson, also preached the message and touched the hearts of the younger listeners. The campaign has now ended. We have had a beautiful baptismal service. Three souls were immersed: Timothy Ugbomah, Josephine Wright and Bridgette Brann.

Each night of the campaign beautiful items were rendered by the talented sons and daughters of the church – and gifts were given out to those sitting in the 'unfortunate chair'!

P. NAGAN

NEWCASTLE'S LOSS

Newcastle church was sad to see the departure of Ken and Esme Hammond. Ken has been marketing chief for Proctor and Gamble at Newcastle. Now he has retired and he and Esme have moved to warmer climes at Lyndhurst in Hampshire. Ken has been our church elder and we shall miss, among other things, his enlightened sermons. Esme has been a busy church clerk and deaconess, caring for our church members. The Newcastle church would like to take this opportunity to thank Ken and Esme for their service to the church and to offer them our best wishes for the future.

ROBERT DIXON

OBITUARIES

URIEL LUTHER PORTER



Uriel Porter was born in Jamaica in 1906 where his father helped to build one of Kingston's first Adventist churches. He travelled to England in 1937. With a rich bass

voice, Uriel looked for a singing career, but found door after door closed against him. When he was down to his last £2 of the £100 he had brought with him, he was offered a job in the theatre at the princely sum of £14 a week.

From then on he never looked back, featuring in radio and television programmes, and appearing on the stage and in films. The high point of his career was when he appeared with Vera Lynn to give the British soldiers a send off before 'D-Day', singing the Lord's Prayer.

He was a member of the New Gallery and, subsequently, Hampstead church. He sang many times for church functions, including evangelistic campaigns. The writer felt it a privilege to be asked to conduct Uriel's funeral at the Swindon church on 20 June. Uriel had been staying with his son Ricky, in Swindon, when he died after a long and painful struggle with cancer. He was singing to the end, and though in pain he never flinched.

He was cremated at Kingsdown Crematorium in Swindon, and in the services the writer was assisted by Paul Tompkins, the former pastor of Swindon company, Herman Lunan, former elder of Hampstead church, and Colin Taylor, leader of Swindon company.

We will meet him again in the morning when we are sure he will be swelling the bass section of the heavenly choir.

PASTOR DEREK M. MARLEY

TRACE, ERNEST J. Early on Sunday morning, 7 July, exactly six months after his wife Emily died, Ernest Trace, aged 77, suffered a fatal heart attack after a brief hospitalization. On Tuesday, 9 July, his ashes were laid beside those of the partner with whom he had enjoyed fifty-four years of happy marriage. The memorial service, held in the Fletcher church, North Carolina, was conducted by Pastors Paul E. Anderson and Bernard E. Seton.

Ernest was born into an Adventist family in the outskirts of London on 16 December 1907. After two years in Stanborough College he entered the world of print, serving in The Stanborough Press from 1924-49, apart from distinguished service in London's Civil Defence Corps and St. John Ambulance Brigade during World War II. In May 1949 he accepted a call to the Africa Herald Publishing House in Kenya, and subsequently served in the Maracle Press, Canada, and the college presses of the Atlantic and Columbia Unions in the USA. Upon retirement in 1970 he and his wife moved to Fletcher, North Carolina, where he gave unstinted service as a deacon and director of volunteer services in the Fletcher Hospital until the time of his death.

Ernest and Emily leave three sons, with their wives and eight grandchildren: Ronald, in business in Nashville, Tennessee; Dr. Ian who is chief radiologist at Park View (Fletcher) Hospital, and Alvin who is managing a tape-ministry based in the Asheville, North Carolina area. To those bereaved families, and to his brother Reginald in

England, the prayerful sympathies of a wide circle of Christian friends are extended. With them, we shall miss Ernie's ever-cheerful, untiring helpfulness.

BERNARD E. SETON

HUDSON, Dorothy - d. 14 May. Dorothy's was the first death of a Plaistow church member. She was laid to rest at the City of London Cemetery following a funeral at the Stratford church conducted by Pastors E. Guthrie and M. L. Anthony. Dorothy migrated from Jamaica in 1961 and soon qualified as a nurse. She was baptized by Pastor Ted Butters in 1964. A stalwart worker for God she held a number of church offices including Sabbath school superintendent, Personal Ministries director, treasurer and head deaconess. She is survived by her husband and children, Susan, Christine, Anthea and Wayne, as well as many brothers and sisters. To all of these we, her friends, wish to convey our heartfelt condolences.

M. HUSBANDS

CARTER, Agnes Freeman - d. 14 June, aged 95 years. Born in Cardiff, Sister Carter attended a tent meeting conducted by the late Pastor Dorland in Barry, and was baptized in 1925. For almost thirty years she attended Barry church, holding many offices and showing much interest in the youth. Many Newbold students will remember her motherly care while summer canvassing. Sister Carter moved to Watford, and became deeply involved in the Welfare work of Stanborough Park church. She spent some years in Redruth before coming to live with her daughter (Mrs. Peggy Smith) in Feltham, where she worshipped at the Richmond church. Her last two years were spent in a home, where she witnessed to all of her love for Jesus and the hope of His return. The funeral service was conducted by Pastors J. M. Cuthell

and H. Williams, in Sister Smith's garden. She was laid to rest in the local cemetery. Mrs. Carter is mourned by her children Stuart, Barry, Bert, Bernice and Peggy, and also by her grandchildren, great grandchildren, neighbours and friends. May the day soon come when she hears the trumpet sound and sees the face of the Saviour whom she loved so dearly.

PASTOR J. M. CUTHELL

WEDDINGS

SOUTHCOTT-WECKER - Karen Wecker and David Southcott, who met while studying at Newbold, were married in Regina, Canada, on Sunday 14 July. Karen's father interrupted his voluntary service as a builder in Rwanda to give her away. Her sister Cindy was matron of honour. The ceremony was performed by the groom's father, Pastor W. Southcott, and the duties of best man and groomsmen were performed by David's brothers Peter and Nigel. Organ music for the service was played by the groom's sister Pauline, and Karen's brother-in-law sang as she walked into the church and also during the signing of the register. Also home from Africa was Karen's brother Barry, recently appointed as health director of the Africa-Indian Ocean Division. Wedding photographs were taken in a nearby park where a waterfall and rustic bridge provided an attractive setting on a beautifully sunny day. Nearly two hundred guests attended a reception held in the church school gymnasium, where they wished Karen and David every happiness in their new relationship.

CYNTHIA SOUTHCOTT

KUIVISTO-BALL - Tucked away in the leafy quietness of the glorious Devon countryside stands the historic little church of St. Peter, Lewtrenchard,

where in the late nineteenth century Sabine Baring-Gould, the noted hymn writer and author, took up his work as rector. Treasures from France, Belgium Switzerland and Germany embellish this ancient sanctuary, perhaps the most outstanding being the finely carved and painted rood screen. On Sunday 21 July at 12.30 pm a packed church had no eyes for these magnificent artifacts, however, as with one accord everyone turned to catch the first glimpse of the dainty little bride, Corinne Ball, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Bryan Ball of Avondale College, Australia. Corinne looked as pretty as a picture with her three charming bridesmaids, her sister Jacqui and two future sisters-in-law Liisa and Lena. The groom was Ilkka, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Veijo Kuivisto from Finland, whom she first met at Newbold College. Ilkka was assisted by his brother Markku. Martin Ball and Colin Harrison were ushers. The marriage ceremony was conducted by the incumbent the Revd. Peter Robinson. After they had been pronounced man and wife, Ilkka and Corinne were seated to listen to some splendid advice from Dr. Ball. Thank you, Ilkka and Corinne, for letting us share your happiness on your very special day, and may God watch over you both and lead you to that 'haven beyond the stars and sun'.

VERA PORTER

JACK-SUTHERLAND - The marriage of Cameron Jack and Ann Marie Sutherland took place on Sunday 28 July in front of family and friends at the Holloway church. Six bridesmaids, two flower girls, a cushion girl and a cushion boy preceded the bride who looked radiant as she walked down the aisle on the arm of her father. The service was conducted by Pastor Audley Charles and Pastor F. McPherson. We wish the happy young couple God's richest blessing and every happiness as they step out in life together.

S. CUMMINGS

A VITAL QUESTION...

God has lovingly provided you with possessions in life -

WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM THESE WHEN YOU FALL ASLEEP?

There are two ways to dispose of your belongings when you die.

EITHER you can leave them to be shared out as the law provides, OR you can have a will legally prepared according to your instructions.

The first is expensive and may mean your assets benefit someone of whom you do not approve.

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I would like help in preparing (or changing) my will

Name _____

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Telephone _____

Please post to: The

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Watford, Herts., WD2 6JP.

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Sister White strongly recommends alternative two. We feel this is excellent advice.

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LETTERS

10 September 1985

Response to John Williams's letter in MESSENGER, vol. 90, 15/16.

Dear Editor,

As Communication director, etc, for the BUC, I feel I must respond to John Williams's letter regarding 'MESSENGER - censored?', which appeared in issue No. 15/16.

For many months, the officers and executive committee of the SEC, in consultation with higher organizations, wrestled with the problems pertaining to the theological positions of Pastors Malcolm Vine and Andrew Gebbie.

In Bristol an overwhelming majority of the members declared themselves in favour of the 'orthodox' teachings of the Church, an expression which was supported by the Conference executive committee. This led to lengthy negotiations with Brother Vine, and subsequently with Brother Gebbie, who stated that he had similar problems with the Church's 'official' teachings.

The issues in the main related to the identification of the Remnant Church; the 2,300 day-year prophecy; the Investigative Judgement; and the role of Ellen G. White, etc.

The honesty of both of the brethren is readily recognized; but the many hours of prayerful discussion failed to reconcile the differences of opinion.

In the final analysis, the question is Where is the line drawn between that which is acceptable as opposed to that which is unacceptable? At this point in time the Church's stance is somewhat different from that of Malcolm and Andrew - hence the painful parting of the ways.

Obviously it is expected by all connected with the Church that the orthodox doctrines be especially upheld by its salaried ministers. If it is felt that such teachings are in need of review then the recognized routes need to be followed - which can lead to new or redefined statements of belief being approved at a General Conference session.

Both SEC and the BUC have been reluctant to issue a news release which would, in any way damage the reputations of Brethren Vine and Gebbie.

The hope is that there might be a reconciliation at a later date.

Why was this statement not made in MESSENGER at an earlier date - for example prior to the BBC interview?

Extended negotiations with Pastor Gebbie over financial settlements were only finalized on the Friday prior to the broadcast on Sunday, 23 June.

The writer joins with the editor of MESSENGER in requesting prayers for the well-being of the two ministers (and their families) who are still dear to our hearts, notwithstanding a difference of theological viewpoints.

Yours sincerely,

W. J. Arthur, Vice-president and Communication director, BUC.

KILLING THE PASTOR

Dear Editor,

Re: 'Please Don't Kill Your Pastor or Let Him Kill Himself', by Pastor Martin Bell, *Messenger*, No. 14. I write in defence of the long-suffering membership of our Church. Reality and what Pastor Bell writes about, are worlds apart. I therefore submit the following points for perusal:

1. Many ministers look upon their work as secular employment, when:
 - a. they are their own bosses
 - b. they have no fear of unemployment
 - c. they all have a car and car allowance
 - d. the telephone bill is subsidized
 - e. they live in nice houses
 - f. they have holidays every year
 - g. most have a pension when they retire

Many of the members are denied these things.

2. They love to act unilaterally, bullying the church board, imposing their views and decisions.

3. Visits to members have to coincide with their personal arrangements. Meal-times are disturbed, bedtimes delayed, as lengthy, unexpected visits are made at inconvenient times. Time is often taken up with talk about their own problems.

4. The members suffer in silence, as from the pulpit lengthy, stale sermons are forced upon them. These poorly-prepared sermons are a sure indication that the morning period, set aside for study and sermon preparation, as Pastor Bell suggests, is given to other pursuits.

Can we have a little freshness injected into our wonderful doctrines, instead of repeat performances, with well-worn phrases. There are also times when the preacher talks about God, without knowing God. It shows.

5. Many of our elders and laymen put in longer hours per working week than any minister. Preparing sermons, Sabbath school lessons, visiting the sick, elderly and absent members (organized by the minister), attending various meetings, all after the working hours of a demanding full-time job.

In twenty years of Adventism, I have known nine ministers and can honestly say that apart from a small minority, I have never felt the need to sympathise with the rest for overworking. The apathy that some of our ministers reveal, stimulates the desire to 'kill them off'. We refrain for fear of more of the same being foisted upon us. Some, obviously made a wrong choice in

becoming ministers. The result is hard labour for members and ministers alike. *Name Supplied.*

Editor - You have, as they say, a bee in your bonnet - and it stings! Your present church pastor is well known to me and works at least a forty-eight-hour week. Your previous church pastor is almost as well known to me and is known as a workaholic. All of which leaves me totally bemused at the burden of your epistle. However, it appears in print in case there are any ministers - unknown to me - who need to read it. The point I concede to you is that there are many lay people who work as hard as the ministry in the service of the Church.

NO TO ORDINATION OF WOMEN

Dear Editor,

Since the creation of the world and all through the Advent history no women have been ordained to the priesthood. I have read with an awful sadness the article entitled 'Plymouth say "Yes" to Ordination of Women', in *Messenger*, vol. 90, no. 15/16. We Adventists will be repeating the history of the Israelites who asked Samuel to make them a king to judge them like all the nations. (1 Sam. 8:5-20.)

In heaven we have a Father, no mother; we have a Brother, Jesus, no sister; to uphold the plan of salvation.

Jesus had twelve apostles, all men. Why had He not chosen even one woman among them to set an example that women could be ordained priests?

Some time after Jesus appointed seventy men also and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place, whither He himself would come.

Jesus had every opportunity to be among a lot of pious women. To none of them did He ever say: 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.'

Speaking of women, the apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians chapter 11 gives a sound description of what they should be in the congregation.

As for me and my family, we say 'No' to ordination of women.

Marcel Rahiman

DR. ROY GRAHAM

Dear Editor and Friends,

I realize that a year is a long time between an act of love and the expression of gratitude and I pray that each of you will understand why I have not responded until now. I so much want you to know how much you are loved and appreciated. I will never forget the many kindnesses that came from you during the years of Roy's illness and at the time of his death. I know your thoughts and expressions of sympathy were also of great comfort to Ian and Valmae. The cards and letters continue to help me as I face the sorrow and loss that death brings. I so wanted Roy to live. He certainly wanted the same, and yet he kept reminding me that true healing was spiritual, that physical healing may or may not come while we are on this earth, but it will most surely come if the spiritual healing has taken place. My greatest joy is knowing that Roy is safe and no longer in pain.

During Roy's illness, he received great comfort from reading and underlining portions of the Good News Bible. He didn't write the following words, but I believe they come very close to expressing the reason for the comfort he received through the Scriptures. I regret that I cannot provide the name of the one who wrote the words:

'There is a very large part of the Bible which can be received by us only when we come into the places for which the words were given. There are promises for weakness which we can never get while we are strong. There are words for time of danger which we can never know while we need no protection. There are consolations for sickness whose comfort

we can never get while we are in robust health. There are promises for time of loneliness, when men walk in solitary ways, which can never come with real meaning to us while loving companions are by our side. There are words for old age which we can never appropriate for ourselves along the years of youth, when the arm is strong, the blood warm, the heart brave. God cannot show us the stars while the sun shines in the heavens.'

The paragraph is called 'Waiting for us'. I am grateful to God for what He placed in the Scriptures for each of us, and especially for those portions that were waiting for Roy. One which is very special to me is Deuteronomy 31:8, 'The Lord himself will lead you and be with you. He will not fail you or abandon you, so do not lose courage or be afraid.'

I want you all to know that even though facing the loss is still difficult for me, my courage is good. Please continue to pray. One of the portions from *Prophecy and Kings* that was 'waiting for Roy' was, 'When in faith we take hold of His strength, He will change, wonderfully change, the most hopeless, discouraging outlook.' Roy underlined the next sentence twice, 'He will do this for the glory of His name.' (page 260.) Pray for the glory of His name. I pray that in the coming months and years we each will be able to trust God completely and 'let go, and let God have His wonderful way'.

With much love,

Jean (Graham)

STOP PRESS

Meeting on Wednesday 11 September the South England Conference Executive committee elected Pastor Cecil Perry as their new Conference president. The vacancy was created by the election of Dr. Silburn Reid to the presidency of the West Indies Union.

SUNSET

Sunset times are reproduced, with permission, from data supplied by the Science Research Council.

	London	Card	Nott	Edin	Belf
Sept 27	6.48	7.00	6.51	6.59	7.10
Oct 4	6.32	6.44	6.35	6.41	6.53
11	6.16	6.28	6.18	6.23	6.35
18	6.01	6.13	6.03	6.05	6.19

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