

2019 ADRA APPEAL 30th March - 14th April (21st April in London)



CHANGE LIVES

Because of your support, in 2018, ADRA made a positive change to the lives of over 1.3 million women, men and children in need in the UK and abroad.



IT'S OUR ADRA



REGISTERED CHARITY 1074937 (SCOTLAND SC037726 - IOM1101)

Enhancing health

Sleep and wellbeing – Part 1

Overview

This is the first in a new series analysing the health impact of sleep. Did you know that your sleep pattern affects the way you think, your immune system, your general health trajectory and even your longevity? We will provide evidence-based research for these claims in this series.

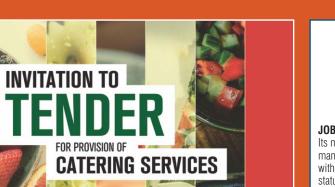
A BBC health news article published on 28 February 2019 carried the headline: 'Weekend lie-ins' "do not make up for sleep deprivation" ' In it, Alex Therrien, health reporter for BBC News, highlighted recent research on sleep-deprived individuals.

The research, published in the journal *Current Biology*, ascertained what happens when individuals regularly alternate between a sleepdeprived working week and a two-day sleep 'catch up' at weekends. Their food intake and light exposure were also monitored.

Christopher Depner (et al) divided the study participants into three

- 1. The sleep-restricted group were allowed only five hours' sleep per night for the duration of the study over nine nights.
- **2.** The weekend recovery group were allowed five hours' sleep for five days, followed by a weekend when they could sleep as much as they liked, before returning to two days of restricted sleep.
- 3. The control group were allowed nine hours' sleep each night for nine days.

The research outcomes demonstrated that both the sleep-restricted and the weekend recovery groups snacked more at night, gained weight, and showed signs of deteriorating metabolic health, compared to their readings at the commencement of the study.





CLOSING DATE FOR TENDERS | 01 MAY 2019

Lead research author Christopher Depner, the Assistant Research Professor of Integrative

Physiology at the University of Colorado Boulder, concluded that, 'in the end, we didn't see any benefit in any metabolic outcome in the people who got to sleep in on the weekend. Study details revealed:

- The weekend recovery group had worse outcomes on some health measures.
- The recovery group saw mild improvements at the weekend (including reduced night-time snacking); however, those benefits went away when the sleep-restricted work week resumed.
- Insulin sensitivity declined by 13% in the sleep-restricted group, while in the weekend recovery group it worsened by between 9% and 27%.
- Individuals who were given the opportunity to catch up on sleep struggled to do so.
- The recovery group achieved only 66 minutes' more sleep on average at the weekend.

In a poll of 2,000 adults, researchers found UK residents sleeping on average 6.8 hours, rather than the optimum 7.7 hours they stated they needed.2

Subsequent issues will examine sleep challenges and solutions.

Good health!

¹https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-47400879 ²https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/health-news/adults-uk-under-sleeping-health-sleep-fatigue-a6963631.html

North England Conference Vacancy **Internal Financial Controls Officer**

Closing date - 12 noon, Thursday 25 April 2019.

JOB PROFILE This is a new role which reports to the NEC Treasurer. Its main focus is to strengthen the existing governance of financial management and to review the day-to-day internal financial controls, with a view to making recommendations in line with best practice and statutory requirements. Key competencies include delivering improvements, providing relevant guidance to the NEC officers, directors and employees, and leading by example.

PERSON SPECIFICATION The officer will be a baptised member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, with a good understanding of its organisational culture and structure. He/she must be educated to degree level in accounting, finance or business, or hold a related professional qualification, and have experience of working in a corporate environment. Up-to-date practical working knowledge in the areas of expertise as outlined above is key. He/she will have sound numeracy and communication skills, as well as being proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel. The successful candidate will have line management experience and leadership qualities to delegate for the Treasurer as required.

APPLICATIONS

For full details of the position and to submit your curriculum vitae, please email: recruitment@necadventist.org.uk.

> Please note: the interview process will be a three-stage process.



🎽 My 'swansong'

It was early afternoon on Sunday 29 June 2008 ... and we were lost. Where? Deep in the bush of south-western Mozambique. Why? For the simple reason that a good idea had gone wrong.

The backstory ...

I was supervising a group of enthusiastic volunteers assigned to build a church at *Chinhacanine*, a sprawling 'village' that overlooks the Limpopo River, some distance north-west of *Chokwe*.

We had the right vehicles for the rough terrain and a few trailers full of camping kit, food and extra fuel. Our uneventful journey had started in Pretoria, South Africa, 500 kilometres earlier, and we had crossed the border at Ressano Garcia without incident. We then turned off the main road to avoid the congested route through Mozambique's capital, Maputo, and the local police's annoying habit of soliciting bribes from foreigners. One of our team knew of a more direct and less travelled route that would save us both time and 'money', and we gladly took it.

When in the bush ...

The 'bush' is a good African term for a wild and unpredictable environment where you can expect anything to happen, and it usually does! The first sign of this is when the road narrows or becomes excessively rocky, muddy, sandy, potholed or overgrown. The second indicator is the total loss of mobile phone reception. Then, more ominously, there is the behaviour of your satnay. Suddenly - at least it sounds that way - the device's voice acquires a testy tone and says, 'Recalculating, recalculating', followed by an ominous silence, then a final 'Recalculating'. And, if that is not enough to get your attention, you find yourself staring at a blue vehicle symbol edging aimlessly across a beige screen - confirmation that you are most probably lost!

Now we were supposed to be heading for a site that we had camped at before, but reached via the longer route through the capital. On that road the turnoff to the camp was clearly signposted, but we were approaching from an entirely different direction this time. And, worst of all, by early afternoon that Sunday, when we reached the last huddle of huts in the middle of nowhere - where nobody spoke English and none of us could speak Shangaan - the person who had assured us that he 'knew of a route' confessed that he was not actually following co-ordinates or even a map. He was being guided by someone else's scribbled directions. Now only God knew where we really were!

We were in trouble

We were lost! I had already begun to suspect that, because I was carefully tracking our movement on my satnay, and for some time the only item on display had been that little blue vehicle symbol twisting across an otherwise empty screen. We were in trouble, and to help you understand the extent of it you need to bear the following in mind. We were travelling through a part of Mozambique where game moves freely, especially lion and elephant. It is an environment where you have to choose your campsites carefully. We had chosen a good site, with an abundant supply of clean water, safe ablution facilities and an ample supply of firewood. Unfortunately, because of the 'route'



2 Messenger 06-2019

Editorial

we had used to approach it, we were now in a no-man's land of African bush, 30 to 40 kilometres from our destination. The terrain was largely flat and its vegetation featureless meaning that without the camp's coordinates or being on the right track we were likely to spend the night cramped in our vehicles!

A fork in the road ...

When we stopped at that last cluster of huts I knew we needed a new approach to our problem. Besides our prayers, we needed to accept two realities and set course accordingly. Firstly, we had to choose one of the tracks that led on into the bush – but which one? The smooth, sandy one to the west - a continuation of the one we had driven in on – or the one to the north, which veered off among the trees? The second one was not a path of least resistance - it had been purposely negotiated around every natural obstacle it encountered. Those who cut this track were conservationists - people who respected the bush and wanted to preserve its unique beauty. To my thinking that afternoon, if any track was going to lead us to our bush camp it would be this one.

Secondly, to find our campsite we needed to move relentlessly in the right direction. To establish that. I had shrunk my satnay's display in search for any clues that could confirm the direction we should follow. And there it was: traversing the top of its screen was a purple line running from east to west, the very road we had used on our previous trip. It was the road from which we had turned off to the bush camp, and to intersect with it we needed to head due north.

We made our choice ...

We made our choice, engaged four-wheel drive, and moved off northwards. It was slow going. We stayed out of each other's dust to improve visibility. One hour, two . . . shadows were lengthening. Fortunately, despite its twists and turns, the track held its northerly course. The purple line was much, much closer now.

Suddenly, through the trees to the left, I spotted a familiar man-made structure. It was the camp! Our prayers had been answered. God had inspired our choice of track, and delivered us to our destination with pinpoint accuracy! Our first camp 'chore' was to thank Him for it.

For me, this experience is a lasting personal reminder of these inspired thoughts from Psalm 37:5 (TPT):

'Give God the right to direct your life, and as you trust him along the way you'll find he pulled it off perfectly!'

I hope you will let Him guide your life too!

Here are more ideas . . .

Take another glimpse at what our movers, shakers and innovators are doing

The 'One Vision' initiative

S tanborough Park Church has recently Dextended its outreach even further into the Watford community by linking up with the local 'Food For All' café in collaboration with the Health Department of the British Union Conference, which will run health workshops there in the near future.

This initiative has been the brainchild of Enoch Kanagaraj, an employee of The Co-operative Food Stores, who, along with fellow church member

Richard Poulton, established the Community Chaplaincy Service a few years ago at the church with the aim of meeting the needs of its local community.

Last summer Enoch's store became part of the Co-op's Food Share Scheme whereby goodquality food which cannot be sold at the end of each day is donated to local groups which can put it to good use feeding people in the local community on a not-for-profit basis.

One of the organisations which collected food from his store was Gokula, a vegetarian café in Watford's town centre. The café is the local arm of the 'Food For All' programme which was established in 1988 and operates mainly in the London area.

At the Watford café Annette Kelly and her volunteers were operating on a 'pay as much as you can' basis. About a year ago she started the 'free food Mondays' and reports that the numbers taking up the offer slowly increased from 5 to 80; the most they had was 130 – a venture she finds 'exciting and exhilarating'. The café has proved to be popular with Watford's homeless, and has given Enoch an insight into the problems they face.

During 2018 Enoch introduced 'community days' at the Stanborough Park church, providing local groups with the opportunity to tell members of their work and seek their support in various ways. Realising that if these groups had contact with each other they would be able



to work together and target their ideas, aims and resources more effectively, he invited them to meet at the Stanborough Centre.

The response was good, with many local charities attending the meetings, including the mayor and representatives from the council and Watford Football Club's premiership team. The group decided to adopt the name 'One Vision', with the aim that all could work together to help the community and make Watford a better place. Already, training in food hygiene has been conducted at the church for those volunteers helping at the café, in addition to child protection training.

Peter 'Para' O'Grady, a Hare Krishna devotee, the owner of the Gokula café and a director of 'Food For All', decided to join 'One Vision' as he saw it as a way of developing the café to meet the needs of the community. His aim is to run clubs and workshops there to develop healthy living concepts, while simultaneously supporting the homeless and those in need. As a result of joining the group he had the café redeveloped as a community café and renamed it 'One Vision'. It will continue to be operated on a 'pay as much as you can afford' basis, with free food on Mondays and offering vegan food two days a week.

On Monday 25 February, at the official opening ceremony, 'One Vision Café' was rebranded as a community café. In keeping with the group's aims it was attended by people



from all faiths, including Christians, Sikhs, Moslems and those of no faith at all. Speakers

included the Chairman of Watford Borough Council, Councillor Rabi Martins; 'Para'; Enoch Kanagaraj; Sharon Platt-McDonald; and the Park's pastor, Geert Tapp, who reminded his listeners of the story of Jesus feeding the five thousand.

Adventist influence in the venture has been very proactive according to Sharon Platt-McDonald, the Director of the British Union Conference (BUC) Health Ministries and Adventist Community Services Departments. These departments have committed their support to the project by donating funds to the One Vision Café, and a supply of health-related literature for use by its patrons.

Sharon also plans to offer Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training to 'One Vision Café's' staff and volunteers, which will assist in their better understanding the complexities some café users encounter, in particular those experiencing emotional and mental health challenges.

Councillor Martins mentioned in his speech that anybody can have 100 ideas, but it takes a person of passion to take them forwards and succeed. Starting something is easy; sustaining it will be the real challenge, he said

Let us pray that this challenge will be met, and that the church will indeed be able to make a substantial contribution to helping to improve the lives of the less fortunate members of the community of Watford. JUNE COOMBS



'Christian sociability' at its best

t The Mission, Leamington Spa, we have taken to heart these words of Ellen White: Christian sociability is altogether too little cultivated by God's people.... Especially should

those who have tasted the love of Christ develop their social powers, for in this way they may win souls to the Saviour...' Testimonies for the Church, vol. 6, p. 172.

Great Yarmouth's outreach

I ission outreach in Great Yarmouth is conducted through several channels. **V** One of those is *The Link*, a newspaper that we distribute monthly to the community around our church. We started in 2012 and have published 68 issues so far. The articles not only cover newsworthy items in our local church and district, but also showcase the Seventh-day Adventist Church worldwide. For example: last year we completed a series of monthly Bible study outlines on 'What Seventh-day Adventists believe and why'. Our readers have been exposed to the work of ADRA, the London Adventist Chorale and the Croydon Gospel Choir. Several interesting stories of sacrificial service, outstanding achievements by individual Adventists, our Pathfinder programme and the contributions of Adventist youth, and accounts of God's intervention in people's lives are just some of the stories we have published. The Link is also an advertising medium for our church events. Several people in the community have commented on how they look forward to receiving The Link, and some even pass it on to others when they have read it.

Another channel of mission outreach is our bi-monthly series of vegetarian cooking demonstrations. These have also been running since the autumn of 2012. Although the attendance varies somewhat, we have several regulars with as many as 28 visitors to the sessions. At each event we demonstrate four recipes, and among the demonstrators there are a few non-members who also contribute. When the food is ready, everyone sits down to a delicious meal. The cooking demos are advertised in The Link and our public health



... and innovators



cafés (see Messenger, 14 December 2018, page 9) we have made many new friends with families in our community, with all ages joining in, from children to grandparents. God has blessed this arm of outreach, but at The Mission we keep looking for new and innovative ways in which we can connect with and serve our community.

So it isn't surprising that with our strong musical talent and abilities, having a resident band and choir, our latest initiative is a ukulele band! Of course, this being The Mission at Learnington Spa, what else would you expect!

A free crash course has been offered to both church and community members alike. The uptake has been so successful that we had to have two classes for the 18 people from ages 8 to 73 that signed up. We've only had two lessons so far, and already we have a waiting list for another class starting at the end of April.

Our teachers are Christian Boxer and his 12-year-old son, Ollie. Christian is a theology student and teaches ukulele, guitar, bass, and so on, to supplement his family's income while he is studving.

On behalf of all church members at Leamington Spa SDA Mission, we would like to thank Carolyn Schulz for initiating this new ministry and Dwight Elliott for his commitment and support. HAZEL LAYLAND

screening events in the Market Gates Shopping Mall, which we conduct twice a year. Since we commenced this line of ministry, the management of the centre have given us free, prime space in which to undertake this service to the community. They also granted us permission to offer any of our church's literature, so a table is set aside, and frequently people browse and take booklets and magazines of their choice. While the majority is health-related literature, we do carefully choose certain books with a religious content, such as Steps to Christ - a number of these and others have been taken every time. We only have a small membership

Continued on p. 6

Movers, shakers . . .

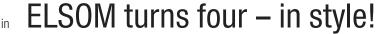
Continued from p. 5

compared to the larger churches in the British Union, but we seek to make an impressive impact in our seaside town. No one around our local church can say they have never heard of Seventh-day Adventists. In fact, we occasionally get a good mention in the local press! Our pastor, Mark Borrett, has done a tremendous job aided by Justin Overton, who is a regular attender at our church - in establishing our own website, with hyperlinks to the BUC website and Network Yarmouth (a local ecumenical website of Christians Together). Sabbath sermons, issues of The Link, and other interesting and helpful items of information are published regularly on the site. You may visit our website at https://greatyarmouth. adventistchurch.org.uk.

Each Christmas season we also invite friends of the church to join us at a restaurant for a special meal. For the last two years, we have feasted at the Cliff Hotel overlooking the sea. This gives us the opportunity to bond more closely with them, some of whom now regularly attend our weekly prayer meeting.

On Saturday evening, 22 December 2018, we held our annual Carol and Candlelight Service and took a collection for the East Coast Hospice that we have supported now for several years. Each year there are members of the public who attend this event, and in December there were at least 19 present. Some came by personal invitation, but others from the advertising. Pastor Borrett gave a heart-warming sermonette about what Christmas is all about. During the carol service our children took part in a nativity play written by Eunice Sampson, a member of our Lowestoft church; and the choreography was undertaken by Norma Borrett. It was performed in both churches over the two weekends leading up to Christmas. After the service, everyone was invited to our 'upper room' where we shared a tasty repast of warm mince pies and mulled berry punch, giving us the opportunity to mingle with and get to know our visiting friends much better.

PASTOR MICHAEL WALKER





On Sunday 10 February the East London School of Music (ELSOM) held a special fourthanniversary classical concert and celebratory event. ELSOM is housed in Clapton Seventh-day Adventist Community Church under the auspices of Area 6c, and is a centre of influence in this part of east London, attracting both Adventist and non-Adventist students from the local area and beyond. Pastor Nerine Barrett, Clapton's pastor, is ELSOM's chairperson.

The school's growth and success since its inception in April 2015 have been remarkable (see the *Messenger* of 9 June 2017, page 8).

The event on Sunday 10 February was another landmark in ELSOM's journey, as this date was its inaugural concert whereby the second and larger segment in the programme was presented by its students, who were able to showcase their musical talents and skills that had been perfected at the school.

The Deputy Speaker of Hackney Council, Councillor Kam Adams, was the special guest of honour for this community event. In his address to an exceptionally large audience, he applauded the establishment of ELSOM as an asset in the borough for the musical development of young talents.

Councillor Adams commended the vision which ELSOM's positive and creative influence is having on

the youth and adults who enter its walls.

Following the councillor's address, opening renditions from the renowned Hampstead Adventist Choral Society Strings and Woodwind Ensemble were played. Dressed in formal concert attire, the students confidently performed pieces from the last three centuries of classical music. The atmosphere was electrifying as budding pianists, violinists, flautists, saxophonists and pipe organists delivered polished renditions.

The segment in the programme for 'Special Performances' featured a violin rendition by Gabriella Pedditzi of the Violin Sonata in D Minor, 'La Folia', Op. 5, No. 12, by A. Corelli.

At the end of the rendition it was announced that Ms Pedditzi would shortly be performing at the Purcell Room at London's famous South Bank Concert Centre on Sunday 17 March.

The Master of Ceremonies, Paul Lee, ably and admirably steered the concert through its five sections – 'Opening Performances', 'Students' Performances', 'Organ Selections', 'Special Performances' and 'Performances by ELSOM Teachers' – before the 'Presentation of Certificates Ceremony'.

Under the dedicated guidance of Fiona D. Pacquette, who serves as the ELSOM manager, and a pool of dedicated and professional music teachers,



the student population has grown from ten at its genesis in 2015 to more than seventy who are currently enrolled on its register.

The 2018 graded examination successes in the Trinity Guildhall Music College have further added to the school's prestige.

Students choose a main instrument and then a second or third instrument from a range of piano, violin, flute, classical guitar, saxophone, and the latest instrument now being offered – the pipe organ.

Voice and singing lessons are also part of the curriculum and this is an equally popular subject, under the tutelage of the renowned bass-baritone, Chikezie Chike-Michael.

Music theory is a compulsory component in the curriculum at ELSOM. In December 2017, when the Catchgate Methodist church in County Durham was closed, the opportunity arose to continue the Nelson pipe organ's long history in the setting of ELSOM. Under the care of Martin Renshaw, in May 2018 the organ was dismantled and transported to its new home, where it was painstakingly restored and rebuilt. This classical concert was an inaugural performance event for the Nelson pipe organ in its new home.

The concert ended with a 'Presentation Ceremony of Certificates' to the 2018 cohort of students by Pastor Mfakazi, co-ordinator for Area 6c; Fiona D. Pacquette; and Paul Lee.

Find out more at *www.elsomonline.org.uk*, including how you can assist in ELSOM's programme.

The following is a summary of feedback on the fourth-anniversary celebratory event from students, parents, well-wishers and others:

A father of three sons (aged 11, 9 and 5) who are learning the piano, violin and pipe organ said: '*ELSOM is the best thing for us as a family*.'

Another parent said, '*The teachers have much patience and faith and highly recommended ELSOM.*'

A violin student commented: '*My teacher has good technical skills and is passionate about her instrument, which gives me a good foundation.*'

A mother, following her first encounter with ELSOM, would like to enrol her three children into this music school as a place to continue their musical education in the piano, violin, saxophone and flute.

An invited guest commented, '*The performance today was of a good* standard and I am not disappointed with being at the event.'

Finally, this is what Paul said after the event: *'I was pleasantly* surprised by the standard of musicianship displayed by the ELSOM students. Today's classical concert was a showcase of excellence by all the students. The future is bright and positive for ELSOM.' DOREEN I. FRAY (SECRETARY TO ELSOM)

... and innovators



'More in Common' award

On Thursday 8 November last year, Huddersfield Church Community Services received a certificate from the Jo Cox Foundation at the inaugural awards held at Batley Town Hall, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, Nominated by our local council area coordinator, the team were recognised for making a difference and bringing communities together. Huddersfield Cross Kitchen provides free meals for people in the community on a Wednesday from 12pm to 2pm. It is very popular.

The Jo Cox Foundation was set up in 2016 to identify,

acknowledge and celebrate all groups and organisations who forge meaningful partnerships and make a tangible difference in their communities. Our church has also been raising funds to support the Forget-me-not Children's Hospice over the past five years, a charity dedicated to supporting children with lifeshortening conditions, along with their families.

Most recently our Community Services Department presented a cheque for £1,100 to the Forgetme-not Children's Hospice on the afternoon of Saturday 26 January. HUDDERSFIELD COMMUNITY SERVICES



Foundation Governors Appointment

Harper Bell Seventh-day Adventist Primary School is a school of immense faith, underpinned by the core values of love, learning and laughter. We are committed to educating our children to the highest standard in developing their mental, spiritual and physical capabilities so they make a positive contribution to their communities.

The North England Conference is seeking to appoint Foundation Governors to the board of Harper Bell Seventh-day Adventist School in Birmingham.

Foundation Governors have a special role and responsibility for ensuring that the Christian character of the school is secured, preserved and developed. Their leadership and oversight will also enable the school to run in accordance with a defined trust deed. The school would benefit from individuals who have educational, business or public sector experience to sit on the school's newly formed governing board.

Foundation Governors will also play a strategic role:

- · Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding the executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation

This is a significant opportunity to support and develop Harper Bell Seventh-day Adventist School as it enters a new period in its unique history.

Interested individuals need to apply with a covering letter and CV marked for the attention of Yvonne Chambers, North England Conference, 22 Zulla Road, Nottingham, NG3 5DB; or email *admin@necadventist.org.uk*.

All applications must be received by Friday, 3 May 2019.

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As supplied, errors and omissions excepte



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Diabetes Reversal

Topics include:

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Pastor Ian Sweeney BUC President

Blessings from Madra bones

A call to Spirit-filled action

ach time I read the Bible, I find so much that provides me with spiritual insight. I am also amazed that there are so many stories that we so often gloss over in a casual reading but taking time to read the Holy Scriptures and study some of these stories can bring enormous blessings to us. One such unusual story is the one found in 2 Kings 13:20, 21.

'Then Elisha died and they buried him.

'Some time later, raiding bands of Moabites, as they often did, invaded the country. One day, some men were burying a man and spotted the raiders. They threw the man into Elisha's tomb and got away. When the body touched Elisha's bones, the man came alive, stood up, and walked out on his own two feet.' (The Message.)

What a story! A dead man coming to life after his body touches another dead man's bones. That's no small miracle. But it's a story that is often overlooked because it's in the middle of a narrative about war, backsliding kings and nations steeped in spiritual apathy.

And yet, in the middle of all the turmoil and drama, God demonstrates that there are always those whom He has imbued with His Spirit so that miracles happen. In 2 Kings 2:9, 10, we learn of the commitment of Elisha to the work that he was called to do. Elijah was going away and Elisha was tasked with following in his footsteps. He knew that, if he was to be effective in his work for God, he needed the Spirit of God to be with him.

'When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I

do for you before I am taken from you?"

' "Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit," Elisha replied.

"You have asked a difficult thing," Elijah said, "yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours...." ' (NIV.)

Elisha stayed the course and had the privilege of doing an even greater work than his mentor, Elijah. His commitment to God was not only felt in his lifetime, but, with the raising of this unnamed man to life, we see that his legacy lasted long after his breath left his body. This is what passion and commitment do: they allow us to make a lasting difference in the lives of others.

During the 2019 ADRA Appeal, from 30 March to 14 April (21 April in Greater London), we have the opportunity to 'raise the dead to life' in several ways. We are blessed to be one of a small number of charities that can go from door to door collecting funds for the Adventist **Development and Relief Agency**. Not everyone feels comfortable about this part of the ADRA Appeal, which many still call 'ingathering'. And, to be honest with you, collecting from strangers on their doorstep isn't easy. To some, just like many who opposed the initiation of 'harvest ingathering' when it was first introduced by Jasper Wayne in 1903, 'It was a poor policy to beg money from the Gentiles.' But it is also a wonderful opportunity to meet people 'where they are' and to encourage them to give muchneeded funds to those who are in need, both here and abroad. We need to 'raise to life' their sense of compassion.

ADRA Appeal

more abundant life. You may wish to do this through other fundraising initiatives. This year, I am joining Pastor Andrew Rashford-Hewitt and his team on their annual coast-to-coast bicvcle

But there may be some of you who may not be able to participate in a fund-raising activity either – but we can all give personally. Sometimes we need to 'raise to life' the dead bones of our greed, cynicism and apathy by digging into our own pockets.

I pray that the Father will inspire us all to have the true spirit of Elisha, not only during the 2019 ADRA Appeal, but for the rest of our lives, so that even our 'bones' may bring the love and care and compassion of Jesus Christ to others so that they may experience His ultimate grace and favour.

We also can 'raise to life' our own sense of Christian responsibility for those who are suffering. We can listen to sermons and study the Sabbath School lesson about compassion but there's no greater blessings than helping others to have a

2019 ADRA-UK's 20th anniversary as an official UK charity



Comings and goings . . .

The new *Messenger* team

In our previous issue we introduced your new editor, Pastor David Neal, by way of an interview. In the coming months you will get to know him a lot better through his editorials and articles, his emphasis and innovation. Magazines, however, are always the result of teamwork – of the pooling of skills – so that 'together, everyone achieves more'. Here is something about David's team ... in their own words.



Printer's ink is in my DNA ... my greatgreat-great-grandfather was a printer and compositor, my greatgreat-grandfather was

a printer and compositor, and my own father was also a compositor.

David

Bell ...

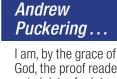
Having left school at 16, I joined the Stanborough Press and took up a position as a printer's apprentice. Dennis Archer was the manager at that time, and I learnt the print trade from such names as Barry Mallinson, Graham Cox and Ian Thompson.

After a number of years I was offered the chance to move into the Composing Department, where I learnt the art of pasteup and four-colour film planning under the guidance of John Sutton and the late Glynn Meredith.

In about 1998, the Stanborough Press moved over to Desktop Publishing on Macs. This was a huge and expensive leap forward for us, and from then on I have been in the Pre-press Department, working consistently on the Messenger. Focus and God's Wonderful World devotional, as well as various books and other miscellaneous projects.

I have been with the Stanborough Press now for about 38 years, and in that time I have gone through two editors, and I'm about to start working with my third. witnessed first-hand the demise of printing here at the Press, and the move to sending our products to outside printers.





God, the proof reader. or 'minister for jots and tittles', at the Stanborough Press Ltd. I feel called to this

job, because after graduating I prayed that the Lord might give me a job whereby I could serve Him – and then He not only did precisely that, but also caused it to be work I really enjoy. Just imagine being paid to read all day . . . !

Nevertheless, God keeps me humble there's no room for pride. As the Bible says, 'be sure your sins will find you out' especially if you're a proof reader, because ours get published for all to read!

I count it all joy, though, because, when I was young, my mummy prayed to have Uncle Arthur's ten-volume Bible Story set for me and my sister, which she couldn't afford. Immediately after, she miraculously found a massively discounted set in a secular second-hand bookshop, and we grew up with those stories. Years later, working at the Press, I was unloading hundreds of heavy boxes from a lorry, and suddenly realised that they were full of those *Bible Story* books. Tears came to my eyes as l asked, *How many more families will* experience their own miracles because of this work? Truly, God has blessed us. Pray that we serve Him well.

JUI IAN AND FI IZF



In my early career, I had always thought it would be a great privilege to work for the church but had no idea in what capacity

this aspiration could ever be realised.

Sometimes we have to wait for dreams to come true, and I began my working life as a teacher of speech and drama, following that path for over twenty years.

Approaching a mid-life crisis, I fancied a change and was given employment with granoVita UK, where I spent around five happy years working in the busy marketing department.

Then, back in the noughties, the opportunity came to work for Stanborough Press, and I enjoyed a wonderful three and a half years working as proof reader under a former editor, Dr David Marshall. Travelling became an issue (I lived over an hour away), so I returned to working nearer home, but couldn't stay away for long. After a short break I came back and now, after a sevenyear stint in the exports department under another wonderful manager, Steve Holden, who is sadly retiring, I'm happy to be joining the editorial team once more.

While the above would indicate an innate restlessness, my peregrinations in the working world are over and I intend to stay (God willing) until it's time to retire.



pastor, Dr Jude Jeanville, noticed Pastor Nugent in the congregation and asked his colleague to minister to the waiting congregation.

Fortunately Pastor Nugent was ready with a sermon entitled. 'There is No Other Name for Grace but Amazing!' – during which he emphasised that God's grace can seem unfair and unjust because a criminal can seek forgiveness while the victim is left with feelings of trauma and anger. This could eventually result in the criminal entering heaven while the victim misses out. Christians must therefore cultivate an attitude of forgiveness, said the preacher.

After the thought-provoking sermon, the baptism of 14 candidates followed, and each had a scripture of encouragement to help them on their new path.

J. MORRIS (COMMUNICATIONS)

'Restart a Heart' in Erdington

Without CPR the chances of surviving cardiac arrest are zero. Across the UK, there are over 30,000 cardiac arrests outside of hospital every year, but the survival rate is less than 1 in 10. Do you know what to do when you see someone having a cardiac arrest? Well, the members and visitors who attended the Erdington first aid course on Sunday 21 October last year, which was organised by St John Ambulance member Trevor Davis, know what to do. Trevor Davis, a member at Erdington Church, ran the training session covering a variety of areas such as: 'What to do when someone is having a heart attack'; 'How to perform CPR on both adults and children'; and 'How to use a public access defibrillator (PAD)'.

At the end of the session those who attended felt confident in using a PAD or carrying out CPR if a situation called for it. At the end of the session Trevor Davis stressed the importance of installing a PAD near Erdington Church so that others in the local community could gain access to it. As Erdington members look at using their newly learnt skills to save people who need medical attention, what are you and your church doing in your local community to 'Restart a Heart'? REBEKAH ECCLES

certainly in the earth made new!

God be with you till we meet again ... 'totsiens!'

South Africans have a special way of saying farewell that you may find difficult

to get your tongue around. It is the word 'totsiens', and this is how it appears in

the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA): /totsi:ns/. Never mind that, though;

just remember its meaning: **'until we meet again'**. It suggests that we have

enioved our stav with you in the British Union Conference, and that we look

forward to seeing you again; if not in this 'green and pleasant land', then



Farewell ...

News

Tottenham's baptismal candidates, left to right:

Front row

- 1. Chyna-Rose Perkins
- 2. Jaidon Knight
- 3. Rahiem Whitehorne
- 4. Sereva Gordon
- 5. Lepius Jarrett

Second row

- 6. Shurla Booth
- 7. Vickeira Wright
- 8. Yeron Roro
- 9. Corri-Anne Gordon

Third row

- 10. Christine Hutchinson
- 11. Kehinde Immanuel Boluwatife
- 12. Keeti Tolera
- 13. David Pollock
- 14. Joseph Baxter
- 15. Dr Jude Jeanville 16. Pastor Junerov Nugent





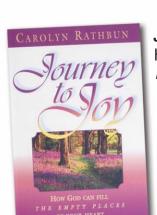




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News



Stoke Newington welcomes new members

Stoke Newington welcomed two new members, Dawn Jones and Isolyn Henry, into fellowship on Sabbath afternoon, 1 December last year, following their baptism by Jerry Vincent, the resident pastor.

Pastor Vincent took great pleasure in conducting this baptism, his first since taking over as pastor last October, and our first for 2018.

The candidates undertook a series of Bible studies given by our Bible worker, Hazel Willis, prior to baptism.

They had their favourite Bible texts read and hymns sung before entering the pool, and were presented with gifts afterwards. FLO SUTHERLAND (COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT)



Tamworth's special programme

On Sabbath 22 December the Tamworth church's members, along with visitors from the community, family and friends, gathered to see a special Christmas play presented by the church's children. It was entitled 'A Miracle in Town'

It portrayed the birth of Jesus through readings, songs and audience participation. The oldest child in the play was 12, and it was a delight to see the result of all the hard work they had put in during the previous weeks.

Heather McIntvre (elder) summed up the importance of the Christmas story while focusing on five points.

- 1. The Christmas story will last for the rest of time.
- 2. It's a story of hope and survival.
- 3. It's a story of peace and goodwill.
- 4. It's a story about family.
- 5. It's a story about humility.

What a blessing it was to see Tamworth children reminding everyone of the real reason for the Christmas season! PAULINE NEWTON (COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT)



eft to right: Pastor Curtis Murphy, Melissa Lostman, Asante Wilson, Jayden and Joshua urner and Brother Forrester (elder)

Another baptism at Nottingham

On 2 March there was another baptism at Nottingham Central Church. The first candidate was Asante Wilson, who was accepted on profession of faith due to medical reasons. She was followed by three other candidates who were baptised: Melissa Lostman and the Turner twins, Javden and Joshua (10).

There was much rejoicing over the brave decisions of these wonderful young people.

DENNIS TAYLOR (STEWARDSHIP LEADER)



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The induction service was held on a sunny Sunday, 16 January, and, although the day was tranguil, the atmosphere at LGC was filled with 'pomp and pageantry' as the sounds of the Pathfinders' drums ushered the inductees into the main auditorium of the church. All told, there were about seventy young Pathfinders and others in attendance.

A cordial welcome was then given by Assistant Director Bismarck Amoah after prayers and the PF pledge. This was followed by some recitations on various topics such as prayer, kindness and love. An assistant director of the club, Bernice Asamoah, then directed a

Investiture at Ipswich

On Sabbath 26 January Ipswich Adventurers and Pathfinders were joined by Pathfinders from their sister church in Colchester.

This was all part of the Area 8 awards that were earned by their Pathfinders and Adventurers who had worked so hard during the past year. The Area 8 coordinator, Vernon Noel, was the speaker for the day, and he was supported by Kim Roberts-Waldron, who is also from the area Pathfinder leadership team.

Bruce John and Bheki Sibanda, the Ipswich Pathfinder leaders, are encouraged by the growth of the club they started in 2015 with just three Pathfinders. Now they have six Pathfinders and six Adventurers in their care.

The theme of the day was 'Growing in Wisdom and Stature', and the entire church was inspired to make a difference in this way, especially the young children.

For the first time three Ipswich and four Colchester Pathfinders have qualified for the SEC 'PBE' (Pathfinder Bible Experience) to be held at Newbold College later this year. Linga, Noxi and Nyasha, and Jeanette, Deron, Daniel and Julius, will represent their respective clubs in the



14 | Messenger 06-2019

News

candle-lighting ceremony starting from the older club members to the new ones. The Adventurers were then inducted with salutations and the issue of their scarves – making it a cheerfully spiritual occasion! The event finally ended with prayer, a group photograph, and these words ringing in their ears: 'Lighting the candles today means you should

always stick to the light while shunning the devil and keeping out of trouble.'

RICHARD ANTWI (ELDER)

competition, which will enable them to compete against other clubs from around the SEC. Ipswich and Colchester are praying and encouraging their future champions. VERONICA AKROFI (CHURCH CLERK)

Newcastle teams triumph at Area PBE test

On 12 January all roads led to Preston for the Area Pathfinder Bible Experience test for which teams from different areas of the Conference had been preparing for months. The moment of truth had now come.

Two Newcastle teams, CIA (Christians In Action) and ARMY (Anointed Reigning Mighty Youth), were among the twentyone teams that congregated at the Preston Seventh-day Adventist church from 3pm.

Before the testing could begin, each team had to be registered, after which there was a uniform inspection to make sure that the participants were in full uniform. From then on, each team sat together in their designated areas.

Two choruses were sung before Pastor Alan Hush, the North England Conference Executive Secretary, who was also the speaker of the day, prayed for the contestants. Then Pastor Ikwisa Mwasumbi, the NEC Pathfinder Director, gave the Pathfinders their instructions on the test.

After the first forty-five questions it was time for a twenty-minute refreshment break. Then the testing recommenced for the Pathfinders, who faced another set of forty-five questions.

After more than an hour's anxious wait, the CIA and ARMY teams of Newcastle-upon-Tyne both were announced as having tied for first place.

There were twenty-five teams from Areas 1-3 that registered, but four did not attend. Of those that took part, seventeen went through and four did not qualify for the NEC testing on 9 February.

There were shouts of jubilation and hugging all round as teams were awarded their well-earned certificates.

Tanya Wood – Carer of the Year 2018

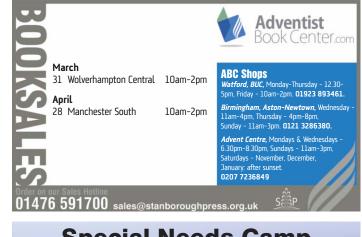
Caring for elderly or disabled people in their own homes is an important aspect of UK life. Tanya Courtney from Newport in South Wales is enthusiastic about her caring role. Employed by Bluebird Care Agency, it is her role to travel to the homes of people around the town to attend to their needs.

Tanya was surprised and delighted to be named Carer of the Year 2018 at the close of the year. Tanya is the sort of person who, whenever faced with challenges in her personal life, nevertheless perseveres with her work.

'I enjoy being positive and making a difference to the people I visit,' Tanya says. 'I am so happy for the support of the carers in our team, and I couldn't do without their encouragement!'

Tanya, who has two adult children (Lauren, 23, and Gareth, 20), attends the Newport church and is involved in the Children's Department.





Special Needs Camp

Can you join us for our new dates, 14-21 July 2019?

If you can spend time with us at our next camp, please go to *www.specialneedscamp.co.uk* to get more information and staff application forms. Campers are already booking places, but if you know of others who would like to join us, follow the directions for camper forms on the website.

Thank you, and we look forward to sharing our mission with you.





Fartown's health initiatives

During the latter months of 2018, Fartown Church embarked on a series of health initiatives to a) improve the lives of our members, and b) reach out to the community with the health message.

In September, members were invited to participate in door-to-door work in the vicinity of the church and beyond. This involved making friends with the community, conducting health surveys and distributing advertising for the series.

The first event was a health expo held on Sunday, 7 October at Northfield Hall Community Centre, where the church currently meets. Our faith was initially tested as we waited anxiously for community members to arrive, but as the afternoon proceeded more and more people came through the doors, with queues at times for the stations. We thank God for the success of this event and for the doctors who helped, some from other towns and cities, as well as the local support from members of both the Huddersfield and Fartown churches.

The health expo was the catalyst for the Eight Weeks to Wellness (8WW) series and the plant-based cooking classes that followed from mid-October to mid-December 2018. We were indeed blessed to see a number of people from 8WW attend the cooking classes, as well as some newcomers. 8WW was held over eight Fridays from 19 October, and was very competently presented by Dr Judith Antwi and based on the NEWSTART principles, including exercise, choosing healthy fats and carbohydrates, weight management, how to handle stress, the mind-body connection and sleep.

As an added incentive to attend the sessions and to make lifestyle changes, there was a prize draw each week where two attendees won some generous gifts to aid with their journey to better health and wellbeing.

The cooking classes were delivered by Dr Antwi and other volunteers over four Sundays from 4 to 25 November 2018. The meals were enjoyed by the community and church members who attended, as they sat and ate together at each session. Further support on healthy living was given to one community member in his home because of his specific needs.

The initiative culminated on Sabbath 15 December with a Health Emphasis Day which included a graduation and recognition service for those who had attended the 8WW sessions and cooking classes.

One of the highlights of the day was listening to the testimonies from our members of the community who attended the health programmes. Emma, one of the community members who attended the health expo, 8WW and some cooking classes, gave a testimonial which was read by Dr Antwi. Emma said, on receiving the leaflet for the health expo, it got her interest straight away. She expressed, 'What a good thing to do in the community, and just what I needed,' especially as she had just had a new baby. Emma went on to say that she found the set-up of the health expo very professional, with lots of advice provided on health; and, in particular, she enjoyed the chair massage. She had also benefited from attending 8WW and concluded that she will continue to adjust her lifestyle with the things that she has learned, for a healthier future.

Robert, another member of the community who had attended all three events, gave his testimonial in person at the front of the church and



News

spoke about how attending 8WW had changed his life. He said that he had been warned by his doctor and diabetes nurse that his diabetes was getting worse and they were considering putting him on insulin. However, since attending 8WW, he had been going on regular walks and introducing healthier food options in his diet and had lost 4-5 kg. He had also been learning how to manage the stress in his life, and his sleep was improving. With joy he told us that that, when the diabetes nurse contacted him later on, she told him that he no longer needed to go on insulin imminently and she advised him to continue with what he was doing.

Along with Dr Antwi, the health team and volunteers, our thanks and praise go to God, who has changed lives and allowed us these opportunities to help the community. We ask for your prayers as we continue to reach our community in 2019.

Aberdaron Advent Campsite needs you!

Summer staff are required to help with our various NEC and BUC summer programmes.

Applicants should be available for training from 1 July and be able to assist till 26 August (2019).

Training this year will be extended to cover food hygiene, health and safety and on-site activity training, allowing you to assist with various recreational activities.

We aim to repeat last year's schedule of rest days, but for obvious reasons these will not be on the weekends.

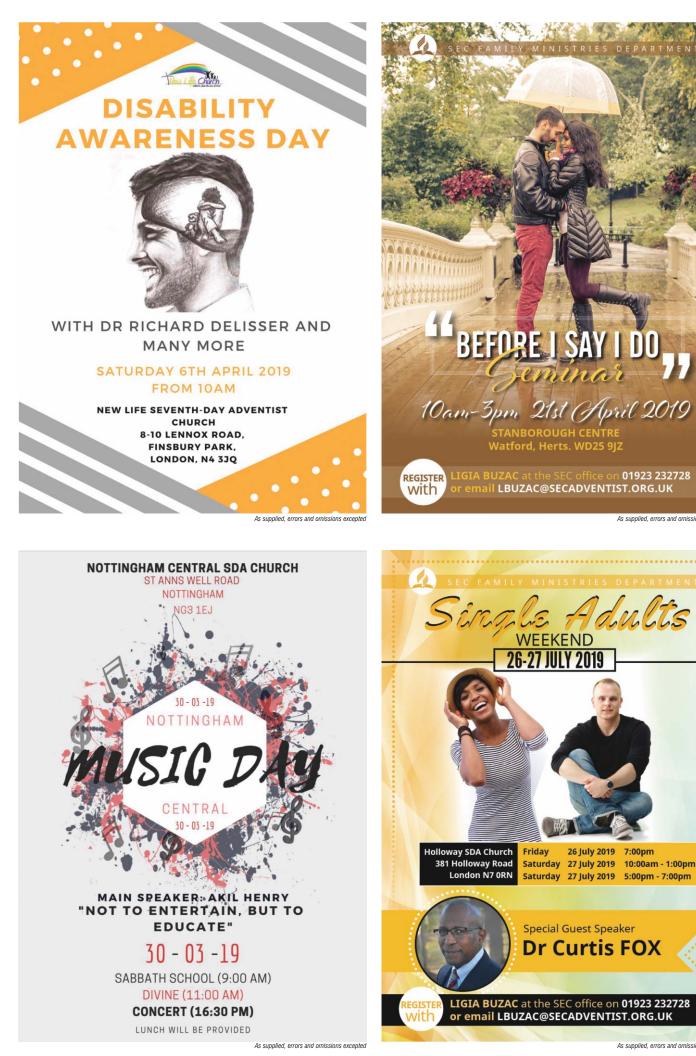
The scope of your role will be diverse, ranging from being able to fulfil a Domestic Operative's role within a commercial kitchen through to assisting in the group coordination of archery sessions, off-road karting, beach/sea recreation, etc.

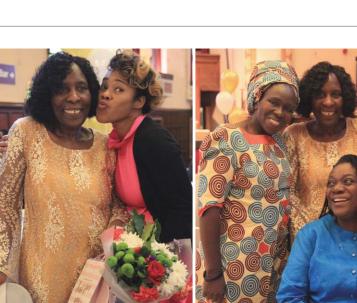
You will be tasked with keeping the days' scheduled events on time with the 'need for speed', looking after the hall, and maintaining acceptable hygiene levels in the bathrooms.

If you are up to this – we need to talk!

So forward a resume or CV to: *enquiries@aberdaroncamp.com* to receive an application form.







Grace Walsh is honoured

Grace Walsh, the North England Conference (NEC) Health and Disabilities Department Director, celebrated her seventieth birthday on Sunday 27 January this year. The event was held at the elegant Dudley Town Hall and all the preparations were beautifully done. Pastors, Bible workers, Local Government Councillor Hanif, racquetball club members, Dudley Seventh-day Adventist Church attendees and other friends and family were present.

Grace's older grandsons, Chilaka and Ikechi, led the procession into the hall with upbeat gospel music. Gifts were gratefully received and a tasty three-course meal was enjoyed by over 100 quests.

As supplied, errors and omissions except

As supplied, errors and omissions excepted

Pastor R. Mackintosh, Grace's church pastor, gave an address in which he reminded the audience that we should number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom (Psalm 90:12). But for Grace, he acknowledged, 'Age is just a number; she continues to serve God, leading others, inspiring us in a positive wav.

Orlene Dunkley, who has worked as Grace's personal assistant for many years, told the guests that her manager was sincere and lovely, and had a wonderful spirit. Pastor Patricia Douglas's tribute highlighted how uplifting her relationship with the busiest NEC director has been - Grace heads three departments in the NEC!

24 years ago she was club champion.

Musical tributes were given by teenager Nealsen Clifford (Bill Gaither's 'The longer I serve Him'); The Halesowen Advent Melodies ('Then sings my soul'); and Marie Jones ('It is no secret what God can do'). The twenty-strong racquetball club sang 'Amazing grace' with much rejoicing.

Chilaka commended his grandmother for being the pillar of the family, making the home a safe place and acting as a good role model for spiritual development, health, education and family, with her husband Patrick adding strong and positive support.

were screened to the celebrants

love and thanks to God for Grace, while Pastor procession.



Newbold College Diversity Lectures Spring Semester 2019

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

> Everyone is welcome. Refreshments will be available.

18 | Messenger 06-2019

News



Pastor J. Nicholson's address stressed that he has known Grace for a long time, and, being a racquet sport player himself, commended her athletic skill. Darren and Liz, fellow club members, recalled that

NEC President, Pastor Richard Jackson, marvelled at Grace's youthfulness, resilience and fun-loving spirit. He hoped she would be part of the leadership of a

six-week health series that is planned for 2020. Video tributes from Grace's family in her homeland, Zambia,

The whole UK-based family expressed

Obinnaya proposed a vote of thanks in honour of his mother-in-law. The event closed with prayer in a joyful JACQUIE HALLIDAY-BELL



Messenger

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