



13 July 2017

To: All SEC Pastors and Directors

Dear Elder,

Office of the President

25 St John's Road
Watford WD17 1PZ

Tel: (01923) 232728

Fax: (01923) 250582

Web: sec.adventist.org.uk

Two significant events happened in London this week. Today 12 July 2017, the reading of the repeal bill in the House of Commons, one of the largest legislative projects ever undertaken in the UK with "major swathes of the statute book" needing to be examined to see how they will work after Brexit, and also the arranged Vigil at Grenfell Tower, 4 weeks after the disaster. In relation to the Bill, working out which bits of UK law came from the EU is not as simple as it may sound. It is reported that it presents a "unique challenge", a House of Lords committee warned recently, because "the body of EU law is found in a number of different places, and in a number of different forms". Simply transposing all EU law into UK legislation will not be enough. Once a bill has completed all the parliamentary stages in both Houses, it is ready to receive royal assent. This is when the Queen formally agrees to make the bill into an Act of Parliament (law). There is no set time period between the conclusion of consideration of amendments/ping pong and royal assent. We are encouraged to pray for our leaders as they press forward with Brexit plans and with the UK leaving Europe and the upheaval that it will cause.

Four weeks on from the fire that ripped through [Grenfell Tower](#) a vigil gathered to remember the dead and demand justice. Last night approximately 400 people assembled in the shadow of the burned-out tower. There are still a great number of hurting people and we understand that some people are still homeless. I am thankful to our Community Services Director Malika Bediako and Thembie Mapingere our Counselling Coordinator who have kept us updated on the support to the victims of the Grenfell Towers fire. Last weekend Pastor Paul King Brown organised a concert at London live both on the Sabbath and Sunday evenings. This week, in partnership with the Tabernacle Christian Centre, the £13,487 that has been donated will be used to purchase household goods and urgent items for the survivors of the fire, as they settle in their new homes. Once again, we thank you for your generosity.

Over 250 sign up for #thinkaboutit disability ministry awareness free online training course. Sophia Nicholls, SEC Disability and Diversity Director, expressed how encouraged she was to see the number of members signed up to the online course. She also expressed the need for the course to be made available online to enable as many members as possible to be able to access the information. The training was developed to provide opportunities for members to take the time for self reflection towards attitudinal and behavioural change enhancing the accessible gospel for all. The course was launched during the National Disability Awareness week 19-25 June 2017. Church members and the local community can sign up for the course on www.asna.info/think. The #thinkaboutit course can also be made available by sending an email to info@asna.info or lbuzac@secadventist.org.uk at the SEC. Future #thinkaboutit courses include Deaf awareness, Autism awareness and Understanding Carers.

Please note that the Prayer Symposium scheduled for the 23rd of July has been postponed. The Prayer Retreat for 2017 themed 'He Restores my Soul' will be on the weekend of 4th-6th August 2018 at Wyboston Lakes, Great North Road, Wyboston, MK44 3AL. The prices for accommodation for twin/double occupancy is £135.00 and for single occupancy is £165.00. For further information contact Veronica Williams (07960 935747) or Valerie Austin (01923232728).

We are pleased to share with you that the Aoleans of Oakwood University have been crowned Champions of the World at the World Choir Games in Eisteddford, Wales, with the conductor Jason Max Ferdinand also winning the prestigious title of Conductor of the Competition. Having completed a number of performances - South and North arranged by SEC Music Director Mike Johnson prior to the competition, the Aoleans went on to win in the Youth Category which catapulted them into the wider competition for each Category winner. They then went on to win the overall competition. We are very blessed to have such distinguished musicians in the Seventh day Adventist Church and we wish the Aoleans blessings as they bless audiences as they go.

Have you completed the Camp Meeting survey form as yet? We look forward to hearing from you. The Camp Meeting survey can be found at;

Main Camp Meeting Survey: - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RSWC2JC>

Camp Meeting Survey (Youth): - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CampMeeting2017>

Please take the time to share the survey to your members. We look forward to their thoughts.

If you have significant stories for next week's edition to share with the constituency please send them to News@secadventist.org.uk

Let us continue to pray for the work of the church, remembering Pastors, spouses and workers who need our prayers in your corporate and personal devotionals.

Warmest regards



Dr Emmanuel Osei
President
SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE