



BUC NEWS

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'TOGETHERNESS DAY' LAUNCHES NEW CHURCH PLANT [Colin Stewart & Communication Team]



Home to a new congregation, and venue for a special 'Togetherness Day', RAF Lakenheath base in East Anglia reverberated to the sound of Adventist singing and worship on Sabbath, 30 March.

Wing Lt Col Chaplain Snyder warmly welcomed church members from Cambridge, Haverhill, Bury and St Edmunds onto the base. They joined with the Lakenheath Adventist community to meet in a state of the art 390 seater air base Liberty Wing Chapel. This is home for all denominations on the base, including the fledgling Adventist congregation.

Chaplain Snyder called it "a fantastic event" and was impressed by the worship "and an amazing potluck dinner."

The day was for worship, praise, visioning, and planning. It was also a high day as the members celebrated the ordination of seven new leaders, three elders and four deacons. Among them was RAFL congregational leader Mrs Bonnie Steinbrunner.

Bonnie enthused, "When God opens a door He swings it wide open and over 200 people from the US, UK, South Africa, Poland, Portugal, Philippines, Zambia, Nigeria, Lesotho, Jamaica, Zimbabwe, Germany, Peru and Lithuania walked through the door." She adds that it was, "a United Nations of people all assembling at a US military base chapel...to further the work of God by both ordaining deacons and elders and using working groups to develop new ideas. The enthusiasm and smiles were contagious and the ideas flowed freely like a river of spiritual life."



Bonnie works closely with Richard Shone, head elder of Bury St Edmunds church. For a number of years they have looked for the opportunity to minister on the air base. Richard reports that it was "Not only a great spiritual day, but a wonderful witnessing opportunity. When Wing Lt Col Chaplain Snyder came forward to welcome us to the base chapel, his opening words were, Happy Sabbath. He is learning fast and we are having an impact."

United in mission and purpose, the members of the four churches along with their families and friends worshipped together throughout the day, and refocused their attention on the core purpose of the church, making disciples as part of our responsibility in the Great Commission.



Following the morning service and lunch, the members of the different churches got together in breakout groups to discuss plans and share ideas to take their Mission to the Cities, towns and villages of the area. Commitment pledges were made to continue working for God in our areas, including continued support to sister churches and plants in the district.

Cambridge, being the largest church in the district and having given birth to Haverhill Community Fellowship has its eyes set on the future establishment of another Church Plant in Newmarket as well as expanding their witness locally.

Haverhill plans to focus on community derived and based programmes, with a greater emphasis on youth and young adult projects.

Bury St Edmunds will focus on supporting the Lakenheath programme and develop plans and ideas to impact Bury St Edmunds itself. Lakenheath plan to create special programmes for youth, Healthy Living workshops, Music programmes, and Bible seminars to be given at the chapel. They are also focusing on Facebook and a website.

Pastor Colin Stewart felt empowered by just seeing the enthusiasm and commitment of the members. "Although we live at the end of time, in some ways, the work is only just beginning!" Expect to see a difference in this part of East Anglia.

EASTER WITNESS



*An outdoor fundraising witness for
Dr Colin Gordon*

East winds and low temperatures did not stop Seventh-day Adventist church members from taking to the streets to share their witness during the Easter weekend.

The **Croydon Adventist Gospel Choir** performed in Wantage Market Square, Oxfordshire, to a gathering of around 200 people. Reported in [The Oxford Times](#), the Good Friday service was organised by ten local churches in the area. Howard Hill, a member of Wantage Community church told the newspaper that "The singing was very powerful, it was wonderful." He added, "It was a big concert performed from a lorry without one side. It was cold, but there were lots of people there."

Southend church members took to the street the next day as an Easter witness on Sabbath, 30 March. Starting at 10:00 am with an open-air service in the High Street, the day included drumming by the Pathfinders, health checks, motivational talks and lively singing. A 3:00 pm highlight included Dr Colin Gordon, one of the leaders of the group, shaving a full head of hair and beard in order to raise funds for ADRA.

Witness and fundraising continued during the week as Dr Gordon then [attempted a skydive](#) in support of ADRA, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency.

At the Cross and in the Garden Good Friday and Sunday morning services have become something of a tradition at **Newbold Church Centre** in Binfield. Bible readings lead an outdoor congregation through the events of the crucifixion weekend while the participants themselves move from the cross outside the church down to Sylvia's Garden in the college grounds where they reflect on the joy of the risen Christ.

An added element this year was an appropriate mime performed by Newbold teenagers, 'Connected', who braved the cold early Sunday morning temperatures to share their own faith. This is just part of their active witness to congregations around the South East of England.

Undoubtedly witness took place in countless other locations last weekend. Praise God for the lives that have been touched.

NEWBOLD COLLEGE CHOIR INSPIRES SCOTLAND [Newbold PRO]



Newbold College Choir took an Easter break by visiting the Crieff Adventist church and a Youth Day of Fellowship at Dundee church, Scotland, the weekend of 22-24 March. The group performed at Crieff on Friday evening and attended the Scottish Mission Youth Day of Fellowship at Dundee church the following day.

Youth gathered from Edinburgh, Glasgow, Crieff and Aberdeen. Miluna Zivic from Newbold's School of English, and Liane Edlund from the Department of Theological Studies, each gave testimonies of the personal journeys that had brought them to Newbold. A number of youth from Crieff enjoyed the performance of the choir so much that they travelled to attend the programme in Dundee, despite the bad weather conditions. Nearly all the youth stayed for the evening concert following the Day of Fellowship, in spite of the cold wind and snow flurries.

"Thank you and the choir for your ministry", stated Dundee pastor, Marcel Ghioalda. "It was a great day and the concert was superb. We had so many people who commented on how blessed they were by the music and the interaction with the young people."



DIGITAL EVANGELISM WORKS! [Andrew Willis, tedNEWS / BUC News]

Web pastors from around the Trans-European Region of the Seventh-day Adventist Church met in Rogaska Slatina, Slovenia, 20-24 March. They were excited to hear of the impact that LIFEconnect and LC stream events are having on lives in Europe.

Pastor Julian Kastrati from Albania shared the experience of the first [LC Stream event in Albania](#), telling his colleagues, "Digital evangelism works!"

The LIFEconnect Web Pastors' Advisory was organized by the TED's Internet Ministries director, Miroslav Pujic, to coincide with the [LC Stream event](#) held in Rogaska Slatina. Attendees were able to experience first-hand the preparation and delivery of a live stream event alongside receiving cutting edge training in Social Media skills and sharing reports from their countries.

The LIFEconnect concept is one of an online community where people can explore life. Its aim is to create in secular and post-modern Europe a place where people connect, share, dialogue, meet and are invited to become disciples of Christ.

God has truly blessed LIFEconnect. The 25 web pastors, community developers and team members heard how the LC community has grown. There are over 367 digital missionaries who helped create the 1.5 million hits on the LIFEconnect website in 2012. Almost 19,000 people have signed up to the network, and a number have already made the decision to connect with God!

Outlining some of the recent technological trends and innovations, Dr Pujic laid the foundations, showing how LIFEconnect and digital evangelism can work in our Division before opening up the technical training in areas of Social Media – from marketing strategies and network development to search engine optimization and technical issues. The newly redeveloped LIFEconnect website was shared (www.lifeconnect.info) and planning for further LC Stream events in Poland, Macedonia and Serbia and Montenegro during April was discussed.



Alongside the training delegates were able to exchange ideas and resources and came together to support each other in friendship, worship and prayer. Perhaps the most important lesson came from the Macedonian community developers. When asked how they had managed to generate their exceptional online statistics they replied, "First ask God to lead, then trust Him to do it."

In the British Union the LIFEconnect project is administered by the Adventist Discovery Centre. If you would like to discover how you can take part in this growing ministry, or how your local church, Facebook page or website can be used to connect with others contact the British web pastor Andrew Willis (awillis@adventist.org.uk) or log on to www.lifeconnect.info.

EASTER PERFORMANCE OF HANDEL'S MESSIAH [June Coombs]



A member of the group 'Only Men Aloud' sang the tenor solo parts at a performance of Handel's Messiah at Stanborough Park Adventist church, Watford, over the Easter weekend.

Ben Smith, a Welsh lyric tenor, joined a group of 50 choristers and musicians, mostly amateurs, in performing highlights from the world-renowned production before an audience of more than 300 guests both from the church and the local community. As Paula Carrillo put it, "Music is definitely another language and it manages to get a better message across."

According to Audrey Balderstone, "The atmosphere was electric throughout the concert and at the end of the Hallelujah Chorus there was spontaneous applause."

The guest soloists are both talented students at the Royal College of Music with impressive CVs. Soprano Elizabeth Holmes is a post-graduate student who has already performed many operatic roles around the country and won awards, including a 'Fringe First' at the Edinburgh Festival.

Tenor Ben Smith is a second year student who has enjoyed phenomenal success since joining the Pontypridd Male Voice Choir in 2009 and has performed with Only Men Aloud at various venues including the opening ceremony of the London Olympic Games in 2012. He has made various other appearances on stage and television including featuring in the BBC2 series 'Young Welsh Tenors'.

But it was the combined talents of all fifty performers that made the evening an inspirational success. Audrey reports, "At the end of the concert there was prolonged, thunderous applause for the choir's conductor, Ji-Eun Ahn, for the leader of the ensemble, Victoria Balan, for the guest soloists, Elizabeth Holmes and Ben Smith and for the choir. In response Ji-Eun Ahn invited the audience to join with the choir in an encore of the Hallelujah Chorus."

After the concert there was an Easter egg hunt for the children and refreshments for the adults giving them the opportunity to socialise and discuss the concert. Audrey adds, "After the concert people happily queued for hot cross buns, hot chocolate and delicious home-made cakes. A warm and friendly atmosphere meant that eventually the lights had to be put out to encourage people to leave!"

Proceeds from the evening went towards the church's Development Fund. The event was also reported in the Watford Observer: [Only Men Aloud's Ben Smith performs at Stanborough Park Seventh-day Adventist Church](#).

'THE JOURNEY' RETURNS



Next week sees the return of the popular series, 'The Journey' on Revelation TV and on The Hope Channel. During the first series a viewer wrote, "Last night was the first time we had watched Hope Channel for some time, as we have had a problem with our receiver, and we were really blessed by your beautiful message."

The five new programmes which will start to air on Revelation TV on Thursday, 11 April will continue the storytelling theme but will cover issues such as Where is God when disaster strikes, The meaning of 'Sanctuary' in the 21st century, Lessons in forgiveness from Hiroshima, and How to fill the empty void in my life.

A Revelation TV viewer wrote: "I'm sorry to say I've never watched The Journey before, but I recorded it and having just watched it...I could kick myself for not seeing it before... I loved the way you linked all the books of the Bible together, you just rolled them along, brilliant. You made people want to pick up the Bible and read it personally... The way you presented the programme will appeal to many people, not just Adventists."

Part of the success of the series is that it appears to have bridged generational and cultural barriers in the balance between carrying a story and sharing Biblical knowledge. The two flow together and carry the viewer along.

"Before another day goes by and another programme of The Journey simply must send a little note to say how much I really do appreciate your weekly presentation... At times I cannot help but laugh as you are so dryly seriously funny – it tickles my funny bone!... The background photography is par excellence – appreciated."

The Journey will air Thursdays, 8:30 pm on Revelation TV (Sky 581 or Freesat 692). It is repeated the following Sunday at 1:00 pm. It also airs each Friday evening and Sabbath on [The Hope Channel](#) where it is also available for broadcast on demand.

DEATH OF PASTOR ISAAC WILLIAMS



We are sad to announce the death of Pastor Isaac Williams on Friday, 22 March 2013, aged 76. Although long retired and suffering with a long term ailment, his faith and fortitude were unquestionable. He started work in the West Jamaica Conference in 1971 transferring to England in 1979. During his time Pastor Williams was a prolific church planter but retired from ministry in the South England Conference in 1992 due to ill health. For over 20 years Pastor Williams had been beset with acute health problems, despite which he was a very active leader in the church.

He is survived by his wife, Lois Williams, daughters Dorothy, Rachelle, Sheryl and sons Ronald, Louis and Winston.

The funeral service was held on Thursday, 4 April at the Holloway Seventh-day Adventist church.

DEATH OF STANLEY VINCENT MAXWELL



We are sad to announce the passing of Stanley Vincent Maxwell on Friday, 29 March 2013, aged 85. Born in Kenya on 13 June 1927, Stanley began early service as teacher and deputy head of Helderberg College, South Africa in 1948.

Following 14 years of service he moved to England becoming the head of the Commercial department at Newbold College in 1962. By then he married Joan in 1960, had their first child Alan in 1961 followed by Pamela born in 1963 and Audrey in 1968. Moving to West Africa, Stanley became Secretary/Treasurer of the Ghana Mission (1966-1968) and then Business Manager/Hospital Admin of the Ile-Ife Hospital, Nigeria (1969-1971). He came to the British Union Conference (British Advent Mission at the time) in November 1971 and served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Irish, Scottish and Welsh Missions as well the Seventh-day Adventist Association (SDAA) for over 20 years until he retired from active service a few months short of his 65th birthday in December 1991 having served the Adventist Church for 44 years.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his widow Joan, and his children Alan, Pamela, Audrey and their families at this time.

The funeral will take place at 12 noon at Stanborough Park church, Watford on Tuesday, 23 April 2013. No floral donations required but the family wishes that all monetary donations be made to the Adventist Discovery Centre.

PROGRAMME CHOICES FOR THE WEEK



Programme highlights for the coming week:

On [Revelation TV](#) (Sky 581 or Freesat 692): **Faith Talks** concludes its current series of issues central to the Christian faith with ['Is Christianity a straightjacket?'](#) Join the debate Thursdays 8:30 pm, repeated Sunday lunchtime, 1:00 pm. Next week, Thursday, 11 April, **The Journey** returns with new episodes highlighting Christian faith in an engaging and contemporary style. The first in the new series visits Portugal and reflects on the Great Lisbon Earthquake in 'When disaster strikes'.

For internet radio listeners: Fridays at 8:00 pm, 'My Song' with Mike Johnson, online at www.lightfm.net. Two hours of your favourite songs from across the decades. Send your requests/dedications to radio@lightfm.net.

On Hope TV you can watch a wide variety of programmes on the satellite and [website](#). Next week's schedule includes the following UK produced programmes among its much larger international output:

Friday 5 April: 8:00 pm: The Journey: [Giants](#),
 8:30 pm: FaithTalks: [Is Christianity a straightjacket?](#),
 Midnight: The Journey: Giants
 Sabbath 6 April: 9:00 am & 7:00 pm: The Journey: Giants,
 7:30 pm: FaithTalks: Is Christianity a straightjacket?
 Monday 8 April: 12:30 pm: In Conversation: [Terrence Blackman](#) – Life in the city,
 9:30 pm: Viewpoint: [Is technology good or bad?](#)
 Wednesday 10 April: 8:00 am: Viewpoint: [King James Bible](#),
 11:00 pm: In Conversation: [Dan Augsburg](#) – Prayer in the real world
 Friday 12 April: 8:00 pm: The Journey: [The Angel Song](#),
 8:30 pm: FaithTalks: [Why is Christianity so divisive?](#),
 Midnight: The Journey: The Angel Song
 Sabbath 13 April: 9:00 am & 7:00 pm: The Journey: The Angel Song,
 7:30 pm: FaithTalks: Why is Christianity so divisive?

COMING EVENTS For a full listing of Coming Events please visit <http://adventist.org.uk/events>

With the ability to display posters, and the increase in the number of Coming Events, this section of the newsletter is now fully updated online and is the best source of events either in your own area or in another part of the country. Select your region for events nearest to you. You can also share events important to you on your Facebook or social media profile.

SMALL ADS

JOB VACANCIES. **Executive PA**, Trans-European Division office, St Albans. Closing date, 18 April 2013. **KS2 teacher**, Dudley House School, Grantham. Closing date, 25 April 2013. For full details and all current vacancies visit our [job vacancies page](#).

REQUEST FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS. Do you have the ten volume set of The Bible Story by A S Maxwell and/or My Bible Friends? A family would like to buy them to use with their children. Please contact Viv Vine on 01933 275922 or email josephineanne@talktalk.net.

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