BUC Quinquennial Session 2006

Seventh-day Adventist Church

On a Journey of Hope to
Tell the World

British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
Quinquennial Session

Central Hall, University of York
26-30 July 2006
British Union Conference Executive Committee
16th September 2004
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Hope in the Coming of the Lord

It is this hope which united us in pursuing the objectives and goals we had set at the BUC Quinquennial Session in 2001. The overarching theme, “United by the Word”, embraced the concept of the active engagement of the Living and Written Word in fulfilling God’s purpose in His Church.

The idea of a corporate church “growing together in one accord” expressed the great desire for the 21st Century Church in BUC territory during the period covered in this report.

In a series of Bible Conferences we extrapolated on the GC annual themes designed to nurture the flock. They covered the following:

- 2001 United by the Word of God
- 2002 United in the Worship of God
- 2003 United in the Wonder of His Grace
- 2004 United in Warmth of Fellowship
- 2005 United in Witness of Truth

These nurture themes were also covered in the annual Week of Prayer readings. The boundary of the church’s spiritual growth is defined by the willingness of its leaders and members to foster a life of devotion through study of the Word, prayer and cultivating the presence of Christ in their lives. This report cannot adequately measure spirituality, although it can point to some of its results.

Our church must face the reality of its need of a spiritual renewal; quality of life; growth; unity and community involvement. The task for mission and witness has barely begun. We cannot rest on our laurels.

The supposed inscription on the Pillars of Hercules in the strait of Gibraltar reads *ne plus ultra*; no further beyond – the acme has been attained. The Seventh-day Adventist church cannot make such claims. Our inscription must read *plus ultra*. We have not yet attained the goal. There is much more beyond.

Millions are yet to receive our witness. More than just a simple majority of members must be involved in witness and spiritual nurture.

The reports of the 2001-2005 quinquennium demonstrate God’s loving care for His church during a time of international terrorism 9/11/2001 and 7/7/2005. Despite a time of distrust, social and political insecurity and mega-disasters the hand of God brought us this far. To Him we give the thanks and praise for what has been accomplished.

**Staff retention and turnover**

Staffing during the quinquennium was not the traumatic challenge it was during the 1991-1996 period. Nevertheless we had some significant changes in our field.
The 'Evidence' and ‘Mind-the-Gap’ DVAs along with other resources are available. It is interesting to know that other unions in the Trans-European Division have adopted the Lifedevelopment strategy and have found the resources very relevant to their witnessing needs.

One of the by-products of this new evangelistic initiative is the access many church members have to the Hobird satellite which brings the Hope channel into their homes. It has given us a wider view of the activities of the world church.

Nevertheless we have the challenge of access to the local and national media networks. The barriers of prejudice are slowly being lowered as the airwaves become more competitive. In preparation for that future the Union field must begin to lay urgent plans to create a purpose-built Media Centre.

** Strategic plans**

The 2001-2005 strategic plans were re-evaluated shortly after the 2001 session to ascertain whether or not the objectives were attainable. The 16 strategic foci were accepted and costed within the annual budgets. Some of the objectives at the end of the quinquennium were fully met; others are ongoing because they are not time-limiting.

The integration of the strategic plans at all levels of the church meant that we shared common objectives. The growth edge of the church has been where the plans were implemented. The success of our plans must therefore be attributed to the Conferences, Missions and Local Churches pursuing the vision and mission of Kingdom building.

** Administration**

The dynamics of administration in the Union and Conferences have changed since the taking on of Charity status and the demands of external legislations from the government and Brussels.

The extra attention needed to address employment and pension issues has stretched the role of the secretariat beyond the regular requirements of that job.

The administration on the whole, at all levels, faces more legal and human relations issues than at any other period in its history. Health & Safety regulations; Keeping the Family Safe laws; and attendant issues relating to human and civil rights all suggest the need for additional mechanisms to be put in place to deal with these additional challenges.

The growing pressure put on administration because of the aforesaid, led the South England Conference to employ a Human Relations officer. The benefit of this extended beyond their borders. At the Union office we had to engage an in-house solicitor for consultation.

In any future drive for proficiency in the administration it will be necessary to resource a human relations-cum-legal department to handle, professionally, employment and other industrial and legal issues. Personnel for this department should be appointed and not elected. This would leave the elected leadership with more time to deal with the priority mission of the church, which is evangelism growth and nurture.

** Evangelism**

The scope of evangelism takes too narrow a definition by many who see it as mainly a planned series of meetings or events. Evangelism is a God-given imperative that has to do with overt witnessing and Christian living. It is having a redemptive story and telling it. That’s why the Union has adopted the GC slogan “Tell the World” as a recurring theme to pervade the evangelistic agenda for the coming years.

The ‘50s to the ‘80s were dominated by the evangelist as the central performer. The Vandeman, Lacey and the American evangelists era gave way to multi-faceted evangelism; a seminar-type evangelism took centre stage. Revelation, health, cooking and prophecy seminars became the popular evangelistic expressions.

The changing mood of a diverse public that responds less and less to the Billy Graham form, or tradition-al forms of evangelism has now sent us searching for effective ways to connect with a society in which...
Christians will comprise just 2% by 2050. However, a new evangelistic awakening has taken place in the Union. Church-based-lay-driven evangelism has experienced a revival. Interests in personal and small groups outreach programmes caught the imagination of those whose spiritual gifts motivated them to seek training on how to witness and form small groups. Big public evangelistic series and tent meetings became fewer in number as the resolution for more contemporary ways of communicating with the changing mood of society was sought.

Nevertheless large meetings are still productive as reaping campaigns and source for team building and for feeding interests in the Bible Class.

The investment in evangelism was not fruitless, as seen in the rise in accessions by baptism and profession of faith. Four thousand and ninety-nine members were added to the church.

### Evangelistic expenditure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>British Union Conference</td>
<td>£1,305,057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North England Conference</td>
<td>£525,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South England Conference</td>
<td>£1,594,241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Mission</td>
<td>£54,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish Mission</td>
<td>£71,396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welsh Mission</td>
<td>£44,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The figures above do not include the financial contribution of churches and individuals to evangelism. The tent meetings in the Midlands, London, Manchester, the West London-SKY TV uplink and large meetings drew on big budgets funded mainly by the area churches and appropriations from the Conferences.

### Lights across London and provinces

This is another exciting initiative launched through the auspices of the General Conference, the British Union Conference and the South England Conference. London was chosen as one of the 13 mega cities of the world designated under the heading “Mission to the Big Cities”. The city of London is one of the most diverse cities in Europe. Over 300 languages are spoken in the city of 7 million.

The goal of the Conference was to establish 20 new church plants among the multi-national groupings. There exist in the city many church plants that incorporate Hispanics, Portuguese, Romanians, Caribbeans, mixed nationalities, Africans and East-Europeans. Since the launch of the programme in the summer of 2005 seven new mission groups (church plants) have been established.

### Small groups

Small group evangelism is a growing phenomenon. This form of witnessing is more doable for many members, who find it easier to witness in a more informal and less threatening setting. The environment for study can be within the familiar setting of a person’s own home or chosen environment. The number of small groups at various stages of development now number 400 or more, according to recent figures.

### Church planting

The Trans-European Division, along with the Union, accepted that church planting would be an integral part of evangelism in each field. The concept took nearly five years to become an all-embracing idea. The intentional workshops and conferences conducted for church planters and administrators opened up a new path to discipleship. It would appear that more new church plants have sprung up in the past five years than at any other period in the past 20 years. The report would suggest that more than 33 new church plants were established.

### Contemporary church forms

A new, contemporary wind of change, or expansion of worship styles aimed at the religiously indifferent and bored, has been slowly introduced in some services, varying at times uncomfortably from the traditional form. The contemporary way of doing church has found favour in some quarters where the worship forms are tailored to interest people who otherwise would not identify with the traditional forms. The Kennington Community Centre, New Café Beck, Blue Café, and Moor Close Services fall within this category.

### Global mission

Global Mission support to new outreach projects continued for New Café Beck, Advent Muslim Relations, Blue Service, Yeovil Frontier Project, Welwyn Garden Plant, Epsom Church Plant, Hope Avenue Community Church Plant and the Tiptoe Barking Church Plant. The church plant in County Cork in the Republic of Ireland, although struggling, remains the Irish Mission’s costliest global mission outreach project.

### Lay evangelism

Many thanks to all who dedicated their money, time and spiritual gifts to help expand the kingdom of God. The lay members have been our greatest allies in soul-winning. The LETS programme operated by lay persons in the North England Conference have been involved in conducting Revelation seminars; lay training and nurturing programmes resulting in baptisms.

In the South England Conference the programme of lay training has been productive of better trained church members for ministry and leadership in the church. In recent years more and more lay involvement in evangelism is evident in churches and in lay-led evangelistic outreach.

### Accessions - membership growth

During the period under review there were 4099 accessions through baptism and profession of faith. This is a 24.51% increase over the last quinquennium. Transfers in of 3977 and out of 2075 gave a net transfer growth of 1902 as compared to a net transfer growth of 346 for the 1996-2000 period.

The recent inflow of immigrants from Eastern Europe, South America and Africa has accelerated our rate of growth in the quinquennium. The challenge remains for us to reach the majority population and stimulate appreciable growth in that sector.

The prediction is that by the year 2010 our membership, which at the end of 2005 was 25,520, could be around 31,000. However, this fades into insignificance when compared with the possibility of reaching the millions around us. The statistical analysis of the executive secretary speaks volumes.

The strategic intent of investing in the LIFE development initiatives – promoting church planting and encouraging the various evangelistic programmes within the context of secular Western Europe – must move apace with urgency. The Union’s bold attempt to create a paradigm shift in the mindset of those who want to remain undisturbed about evangelism to the whole society must be central to any future strategy for inclusive church growth. The 21st-century church must seek to win the winnable; mingle with and befriend the unreachable; wait patiently for the result of the Holy Spirit’s working on secular hearts.

### Finance & development

The church operates on the goodwill, loyalty and faithfulness of its members to the degree that they are in close relationship to God. Christian stewardship is the act of spiritual service we offer to God. Despite market forces, global and national economic unpredictability, the combined titre income union-wide for 2001-2005 showed an increase of £21,077,221 or 54.7%. The analysis of the figures in the treasurer's
Thanks to Mike Stickland, who retired during the quinquennium, for his contribution through challenging times. During the quinquennium the church ordained 30 pastors to the gospel ministry. The church as an employer and registered charity has the demand in law to have a fully-funded Pension scheme. This is not currently the case. This challenge is not insurmountable if our fixed assets are set aside against the deficit and we continue to make fixed payments into the plan.

Ordination

During the quinquennium the church ordained 30 pastors to the gospel ministry.

Bairagee, Amalendu (SEC)
Blake, Wilfred (SEC)
Burton-Schnull, Stefan (SEC)
Daday, George (SEC)

VOP activities

Faith Bible Course:
Active VOP students 3353
Graduates 1484

Health Course:
Active 1620
Graduates 1092

Note: The Faith & Health courses were the most popular during the quinquennium.

Departmental Activities

Adventist Discovery Centre/VOP

The reactivated ADC department has had a new lease of life under Dalbert Elias and his dedicated team of workers. They are building on the good foundation left by Mike Stickland and Fretson Taylor. The report from that department will show the potential of that silent witness. The ‘connect one’ million-card distribution by members, and adverts placed in magazines such as the Reader’s Digest, elicited positive responses.

The responses to the distribution resulted in 4427 new applications which is a ratio of 4-5 per thousand cards distributed.

Ministerial Association

This department was in part responsible for the promotion and production of LIFE.info. Fifty thousand copies are printed at each issue with a subscription level of 17,000. The average circulation has been running at 30,000.

One of the department’s remits is to organise the Union-wide workers’ meetings. Three successful ones were held with a view to team bonding and in-service education for ministerial workers.

The department has been a resource centre for the distribution of nurturing and training materials for church pastors and elders. It also oversees the ‘Project for Reaching Every Active Clergy at Home’ (PREACH). Nine hundred and seventy non-Adventist clergy are receiving the Ministry magazine on a bi-monthly basis.

The director Alan Hodges is also charged with the responsibility of liaising with his counterparts at the Conference level, and helping to provide pastoral nurture in the field. We appreciated the services offered by Alan and his colleagues during the quinquennium.

Departments

The functions of departments at the Union level are mainly that of providing resources, training and support, to counterparts at the Conference level. They act directly as directors to the Missions.

Education and Worker development

The investment in our children and workers is a part of our personnel development programme to equip members and workers with the necessary skills to be efficient in the service of the church.

During the quinquennium thousands were spent on sponsorship and grants to students at Newbold. Appropriations to Christian education amounted to millions. The question may be asked, ‘is this too much to invest in our children, youth, workers and prospective employees?’ It is difficult to quantify the effectiveness of someone who has been trained for service on earth and for eternity. Having said this, the administration have noted the need to seek, where possible, alternative funding to help the budget of our primary and secondary schools. The South England Conference took this step when it accepted the state maintained grant for The John Loughborough School.
Strengthening the programme in education was achieved by the employment of Cheryl Blake on a 50% basis. This was the result of the growing government legislations in education and the demands for a new kind of teacher in the classroom. This action will provide our teachers with the necessary tools to cope in today's classroom.

Keith Davidson, who earned his doctoral degree within the quinquennium, was instrumental in negotiating voluntary aid status for The John Loughborough School. He is currently seeking that same status for the Harper Bell School in Birmingham.

Keith Davidson is the link we have with the many government agencies and other external bodies in education. At present he serves on the LEA Management Board for Building Schools for the Future; the Government Religious Education Working Group; the Steering Group on the National Framework for Religious Education; The DFES Faith School working group; and The National Churches Joint Education Policy Group (faith school providers).

Thanks to Keith Davidson and his team for their untiring ministry in motivating our teachers and pupils towards excellence in performance.

Education grants & sponsorships & appropriations to schools 2001-2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South England Conference</td>
<td>£569,592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEC Appropriations to School</td>
<td>£2,050,946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North England Conference</td>
<td>£600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUC/Stanborough School Appropriation</td>
<td>£1,291,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUC Education Department</td>
<td>£66,620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Grants Newbold</td>
<td>£212,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants to Parents Stanborough School</td>
<td>£106,354</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: £2,620,538

Sabbath School, Children's Ministries & Personal Ministries

These departments serve the fields in two ways, firstly as co-ordinators where counterparts are elected in fields, and secondly as directors for the Missions. The service and resources provided through these ministries are reflected in the written reports of these departments. Training, nurturing, mentoring and resourcing are their main responsibilities.

Sabbath School revitalisation continues to be a great challenge in many places. The General Conference has taken the issue seriously in that it has asked for a world-wide response to finding a solution to flagging Sabbath Schools. Reasonable and consistent attendance at the time arranged for Sabbath School and the Bible study period is vital to the development and dynamics of this frontline ministry. The resources provided for revitalisation may be excellent but if the pews are near-empty and the cooperation poor, the pulse of the Sabbath Schools will be feeble. Many good things are happening in some Sabbath Schools, both in the Adult and Children's sections. We wish that this could be said of all our churches.

The future of our church depends not only on mission outreach but also mission prayer and nurture. Sabbath School is still the heart of the church and should beat for all its members and attendees.

However, in recent years we have been blessed with the attempt made to provide our children with up-to-date study guide materials. The Gracelink Bible study guides for 1-14 year olds were piloted by the BUC while the adult study guides followed a certain variation of themes.

Communication

The Union has sought to improve its mode of communication to the churches and public in the past ten years in order to give greater clarity and openness as to its operational activities.

The production of the weekly news bulletin has been a vital source of information for our BUC members.

The combination of this department with audio visual has made it possible to produce interview programmes for the Hope channel. Thanks to Wes Kapon for his consistent production of quality programmes. The department's target of training co-ordinators and leaders in media matters and crisis management as part of its overall strategy has been realised. The emergence of skilled lay persons in media production amongst us augurs well for the future of producing more programmes for the internal and external market.

Although we have come a long way since 2001 we have yet to reach the target of more exposure on the national media. John Sumridge has done a commendable job, for which we say thanks.

Youth

It remains a truism that how we care for the youth in the church will determine the quality of the leaders we get tomorrow. It is noteworthy to observe how many of our youth over the years have volunteered to serve in the Mission field. Reciprocally many AVSs have come to work in our institutions; Roundelwood and Stanborough School among them. Taking up the teaching of English in the Korean Language School has been a favourite for many of our young professionals.

The requirements to qualify as Youth or Children's leaders have stiffened so that on-going training in health and safety issues has become an essential part of the leadership programme development. The many youth and Pathfinder events during this quinquennium gave our young people a focus for team building and healthy inter-relationships.

The range of activities in which young people were engaged included a variety of building projects in Africa, India and Romania. The Pathfinder camporees and youth congresses provided for the hundreds of children and young people who attended them an opportunity for character building and developing good international relations. Attendances at training events in Brazil and the United States by Youth leaders have helped to sharpen leadership skills.

Thanks to the many members and Youth leaders who have dedicated their time to the training and developing of the young minds among us. Thanks to Des Boldeau and his colleagues for leading the department so ably during the period.

Health Ministries

This caring ministry is one that is highly resourced in many of our local churches. The department is blessed by a director who is also a writer. He has authored 10 books ranging from AIDS to the Contribution of Dr J H Kellogg to health education.

Richard Willis as a health educator shares his time as executive director of the UK National Committee for the Prevention of Alcohol & Drugs Dependency (UK NCPA) and a member of the ICPA. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine and an officer of their Food and Health Forum and Journal Publication committee.

Health remains at the top of the list as one of the things about which most people are concerned. Whereas the church does not operate a medical work in this union, we have a health message that is integral to the gospel message we believe.

The primacy of health education is also integral to our strategic plan, relating to the method of conveying the message to the community. The question of health and temperance becomes critical for the church as mega diseases become more rampant as animals and peoples cross borders.

When binge-drinking and drug-taking are blighting our society, the church must join the brigade and ring the temperance bell.

Thanks to the medical personnel in our churches, who do their part in educating the church members and public on health issues. We appreciate the contribution of our Health Ministries director and his work among government health officials.
Religious Liberty

The growing threat to civil and religious liberty because of volatile and unstable world conditions cannot be dismissed as merely one of the signs of the times. Religious liberty has to do with human dignity and human rights. It has to do with the freedom to worship or not to worship according to the dictates of conscience. In recent years the violation of this freedom has become more subtle, hiding under so-called legislations which reduce the individual’s civil and religious rights.

In the debate surrounding the Racial and Religious Hatred Bill, human rights lawyers and church-men pointed out some of the dangers to religious liberty if the Bill was passed without the modifications recommended in the House of Lords. There was the fear that a piece of legislation intended to stem religious abuse could be mal-administered to muzzle free expression.

Employment legislations and de-regularisation of working hours presented difficulties for some wanting their Sabbaths off. During the quinquennium several workshops on religious liberty were held. More churches have elected religious liberty co-ordinators.

The mediation work of the department had to do with the presentation of letters and verbal contacts with employers and colleges to grant Adventist students and employees Sabbaths off for matters of freedom of conscience.

Since more vigilance is needed for the protection of religious freedom it is therefore necessary to have a department represented at all levels of the Church.

PARL or the ‘Public Affairs and Religious Liberty’ Department is linked to the International Religious Liberty Association of the General Conference and shares its resources.

The future expansion of the department must be part of any strategy to provide a service for members who are likely to be victims of injustice and religious discrimination.

A programme of education on religious liberty issues should be on-going in the churches, sensitising members on dangers to religious freedom.

During the quinquennium we have made contact with public officials or associated individuals who could exert a positive influence in the area of human rights and religious freedom.

The Rutherford Institute of Religious Freedom has been helpful; likewise representatives of the main church bodies.

The more the church’s position is clarified through the flow of information into the public arena, the more we understand that we are likely to get when the press is negative. Creating a good public image on communication is indispensable when dealing with matters of religious liberty. Reminding political leaders from time to time of their obligation to help preserve justice, equality and religious freedom, has been one of the functions of PARL during the past 25 years.

Institutions

Stanborough School

Stanborough enjoyed stable leadership in both the Secondary and Primary schools. Steve Rivers and Anne Pilmoor respectively raised the quality of academic performance and standards above the national average.

The enrolment in the secondary school enjoyed a rich diversity of pupils. Among them were pupils from Hong Kong, the result of recruitment in the Far East. As a revenue earner the ‘English as a Second Language School’ has been successful. In 2004 the board voted to open an International School on the campus, not to compete with the existing school’s curriculum, but to widen the scope of its offering to foreign students in particular.

The history of Stanborough School must be judged by its product. Many who are in leadership positions in the church had their early academic grounding at the school. The challenge for our schools is to guarantee quality staff in that our pay structure cannot compete with that of the State. Finance will remain an issue as the cost of education escalates above the affordable income of many church members. Although the appropriation to Stanborough is high a sizeable portion went into discount to parents.

Recruitment of more Seventh-day Adventist students must be a strategic priority for the future. Likewise alternative funding must be found to keep the institution going for the next five years and beyond.

Good Health Association (Scotland) Ltd

Roundelwood

The vision to operate Roundelwood as a health spa and nursing home co-jointly, could not be sustained for strategic reasons. The GHA board faced a difficult challenge, either to close the institution or shed its nursing wing. The institution was suffering from financial losses year on year. These losses were in part the result of (i) government legislation restricting support for client intake; (ii) high cost of operating nursing homes; (iii) fall in health clients; (iv) lack of capital for further expansion. As a result the board had no alternative but to take the decision to close the nursing wing. This action was taken reluctantly, as Martin Bell and the board were determined to save the institution.

These and other external circumstances forced the board to take the definitive action to change course.

The institution has started a new life under Malcolm Hayles as the new administrator who took up his responsibilities in November 2005. Loraine, his wife, is a trained health educator and will be in charge of the health education programme while Malcolm functions as the overall administrator.

Martin Bell gave 25 years of outstanding service to the institution, and had to bow out on medical grounds into semi-retirement. He has been given the responsibility of managing the retirement properties along with other concomitant assignments. Thanks to him for his indefatigable service to the Good Health Association.

The Dell Residential Care Home

After painful and long deliberations The Dell Residential Care Home was sold as a going business. The transfer of ownership took place in March 2006. Unfortunately GHA could not guarantee its viable operation after years of struggle with governance, finance and increasing nursing home regulations.

The welfare of the Seventh-day Adventist clients in the institution was taken into account during the negotiation of sale with certain assurances. Martin Bell has worked with the new owner to reduce any anxieties that the residents might have harboured. The Union has worked closely with the South England Conference in finding an alternative place of worship.

The Stanborough Press Ltd

The report from the manager of the Stanborough Press will reveal the turn in fortune of the finances of the Press from a position of negative working capital and liquidity to a positive one. Strong financial management and marketing have been mainly responsible for the optimistic state of affairs.

Outsourcing of the printing to areas of cheap labour saved pounds. The work of Paul Hammond and Graham Barham in marketing, especially in Africa, has been behind the economic success achieved so far.

Thanks to management and staff whose commitment has helped Stanborough Press to pull back from the brink of closure.

Editorial Department

The Stanborough Press can boast of having a strong editorial department. David Marshall may have broken the record as the longest-serving editor since his appointment in 1979.

Forty-three book titles were produced (2001-2006). The Stanborough Press report carries the listing.

FOCUS magazine, a long-standing outreach tool, has a distribution figure of between 30,000 and 100,000, depending on the issue.

MESSENGER - This is the Union’s official church paper which has undergone a makeover in recent years. It is now produced as a colour magazine with more topical issues and pages or double issues. The magazine which bore the title ‘The Missionary Worker’ in 1922 has reached its 110th birthday. Twenty-six issues are produced yearly with a distribution of 286,000 copies annually.
MESSERER COSTS 2001-2005
Number of copies 1,189,000
Cost £579,703.17

It may be noted that production moved from 9,700 per print run in 2001 to 11,500. The Conferences, Missions and church units may have to give study to the number of copies needed so as to reduce wastage. The cost of the MESSENGER is borne mainly by the administrative units and given as a free gift to the church. It would be helpful if churches were to budget for this expense in their annual budgets.

Publishing

The Publishing ministry in Western Europe has seen a demise over the past 15-20 years. The changed climate for the house-to-house marketing of literature demanded that the Union try different methods to revive the flagging literature ministry in the UK. Previous efforts to rejuvenate the work had failed. Nevertheless, the prophetic voice of the church has words of encouragement. E G White said that the literature ministry is one of the last witnesses to give way before the end of time.

The appointment of Curtis Murphy as the new Publishing director is a response to the need to restore the publishing ministry to its rightful place. The main objective of this department is to use our truth-filled literature to bring others into a holistic relationship with Christ.

LE SALES FIGURES

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2001</th>
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<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
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<td>Cost £579,703.17</td>
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<td>Grand Total of £210,263.56</td>
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</table>

The percentage decrease in sales from 2001, when the department had an unstable leadership, was significant as the above figures show.

There are approximately 36 part-time literature-evangelists and the goal is to recruit more with the aim of re-establishing a contingent of fulltime LEs.

Women's Ministries

Women's Ministries has expanded greatly since its inception 10 years ago. The objectives are laudable and have created in many members a vision in which women can use their divine potentials and talents in the churches to live fulfilled lives.

Women's Ministries has benefited or enhanced the role of women throughout the Union. To her we extend thanks for her indefatigable services.

ADRA-UK

ADRA-UK has made great progress since its repatriation from the TED to the BUC in 1996. The increase in staff and the globalisation of its humanitarian efforts have made it one of the few small charities that are making a difference to the lives of thousands.

ADRA-UK has been involved directly or indirectly with over 70 projects in over 46 countries. Matching funds are either provided from its own local resources or in working in collaboration with other donor ADRA offices.

Many thanks to John Arthur, Tony Welch, Paul Tompkins, Doug Sinclair, part-time directors, and latterly Raafat Kamal and Bert Smit, our full-time directors. Among the lay people thanks must go to Dave Balderstone, Brian Davison, Nigel Phillips, Harry Wilby and other supporters such as Community Services personnel.

Under Raafat's directorship the work of ADRA-UK exploded internationally.

The strategic direction taken by ADRA-UK to emphasise proposal writing for project-funding from donor bodies such as DFID and the EU has increased the potential of the charity to help many more good causes.

The transference of the Ingathering programme from World-Wide Advent Missions-TED to ADRA-UK has given tremendous impetus to the ability of the charity to attract other funds to finance the implementation of more projects. Therefore the church in the British Union must never succumb to the temptation as elsewhere of Ingathering becoming a member-donation charity rather than a public one. Between 2001-2005 members in the British Union Conference collected £2,671,743, the highest amount collected by any Union in the Division. Congratulations must go to our faithful volunteer collectors and contributors who benefited 42 projects.

Disaster Relief is equally important to ADRA-UK as capacity building and sponsoring of sustainable projects. The response to the tsunami appeal was tremendous. £281,114.03 was given by friends and members.

The Pakistan earthquake received £49,690.19. The hurricane disasters in the Caribbean also got a swift response from the charity. Thanks to all who participated so generously in those appeals.

Introspection

These reports are not only about past achievements, they tell us about what could be if the whole church had seized the opportunities presented to them. The paralysis of analysis can inhibit us from venturing into areas of change and renewal. Churches that grow are churches that are willing to take holy and calculated risk to confront the changing culture of society.

Statistics would suggest that membership conservation (youth) must be balanced with transformational witness. It is not for the few - or paid proxy, but an incarnational ministry to all: lay members, workers, adults and youth. This must be a family affair with parents confronting their children to embrace kingdom values; second and third generation immigrants to think of their relationship to Christ and the church.

Diversity

Immigrant and indigenous churches are legitimate, they were called to be inclusive and not exclusive - complementary and not condemnatory. The increased diversity we have experienced in recent years must make for a church that respects human cultural differences without racial overtones. Ethnic churches, while trying to be true to their roots, must send down those same roots into the soil of their transplantation or adoption.

The British public has become multi-national, multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and multi-religious. The truth is the church will reflect this diversity. Church growth which is pivotal to the enlargement of the kingdom must be intentional to ensure the growth of all of God’s people. The Seventh-day Adventist Church in the British Union has the grand opportunity of being a model of Christian unity, amidst a rich diversity. This does not imply cultural uniformity in every aspect of worship. The tension of integration and co-existence must be managed through the impulse of the Holy Spirit and not human feelings or prejudice.

Quality of life

During the quinquennium the Union ran a number of church-based Bible Conference in the North England Conference, focusing on church nurture and the quality of the Christian life.

The programme of spiritual nurture was evident in camp meetings, family and youth camps and the scores of spiritual activities conducted by the leadership in the Conferences, Missions and churches.

It was the desire of leadership during the quinquennium to seek for a higher level of spirituality in the church with the emphasis on reconciliation and forgiveness. What comprises Adventist values is crucial in determining the quality of tomorrow’s church and its lifestyle. Who we are as a people will determine what our priorities will be as we approach the challenges of end-time.
Leadership

After 27 years of leadership at different levels in the church in the British Union Conference I have drawn the conclusion that innovative, transformational, open-minded and spiritual leadership is what will meet the demands of the 21st Century. Informed leadership is important and that’s why the Union sponsored some of our leaders on the postgraduate course on leadership within the quinquennium. Leadership skills saturated by humanistic and secularised rhetoric is not enough because human ideas often inhibit the room for the working of the Holy Spirit. The on-the-job training that workers received at Newbold College and Andrews University included the Christian perspective of leadership. The intrusion of external regulations on the operation of the church (now categorised as a charity) needs a leadership that can discriminate between the religious and the secular; a leadership that will defend the purpose and mission of the church.

The leadership support that the Union gave to the various levels of the church during the quinquennium had to do mainly with policy decisions and best operational practices. The BUC administrators’ role at Conference and Mission sessions, executive committees, Conference and workers meetings are not merely one of duty but also of mentoring leadership and overseeing the constitutional processes.

At least four pastors took advantage of the Sabbatical policy designed to lessen burn out and stimulate senior pastors to pursue an area of interest that would enhance their ministry. The church, in giving concern for the welfare of its pastoral workers, adopted the policy of professional renewal for those with over ten years of service.

Eric Lowe and Victor Pilmoor provided invaluable support as members of the administration in statistical and financial matters. They have worked tirelessly in the maze of pension matters, health and safety issues, and the mountain of charity legislations.

Prospect

The future success of the British Union Conference is guaranteed only as it is in the hands of the Lord and those of committed and consecrated workers and members.

Looking ahead we must ever remember the words recorded in Life Sketches, p. 196, “We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us and His teaching in our past history.”

The past has produced thousands of documents as to what the Church should do to be successful in modern and post-modern Britain. One hundred and eighteen years ago the seventh-day message came to these shores. Since the church’s inception we have experienced an average growth of 217 annually, taking the membership up to 25,520.

The shift in Adventist concentration in recent years should not make us fear. God is yet to surprise us, for He is in control of history and the changing dynamics of His church as He was in the Early Church.

The strategies of the future must be based on the following:

1. Improvement in the quality of life and nurture in the church.
2. Maintenance of spiritual and doctrinal unity – taking a responsible attitude towards the core beliefs of the church.
3. Making evangelism a priority by placing it at the top of the church’s agenda – exploring those forms of evangelism that connect with the churched and unchurched without sacrificing the distinctiveness of the Church’s message and mission.
4. Engaging the church with the community – involving the church in some of the issues affecting people such as poverty, justice, abuse, religious liberty, health, etc.
5. Conservation of church membership and revitalisation – involving more of our youth in mission expansion and service in the life of the church.
6. Patient management of the church’s resources to foster the mission of the church.
7. Integrating the principles of Christian education in the curriculum of the church – giving positive support to our educational institutions, Newbold College, Secondary and Primary Schools, that provide future worker needs and spiritual nurture to encourage our young people.
8. Emphasis on Christian stewardship and support for missions – meeting among other things the challenge of mission in the 10/40 window.
9. The formulation and implementation of a programme to address diversity – seeking to foster harmony among the various groups making up the church.
10. Utilising the potentials of the lay members in every aspect of church life – pastors and lay persons working closely together.

I am pleased to be part of a church that is forward thinking; which believes in accountability and the prophetic nature of its message.

The progress and success of the Church is assured when people become more important than programmes and systems; compassion for the lost more important than creature comfort and class. To the church is given the ministry of forgiveness to address bruised and broken relationships. If both leaders and people are willing to appropriate these virtues, the church of the next quinquennium will be a power channel for the outpouring of His Spirit to save millions.

Conclusion

The British Union at the end of the quinquennium remains the largest Union in the Trans-European Division. We have experienced growth in many areas including membership and finances. Pathfinder has surged ahead, likewise skills training among workers and lay persons. Some churches are bursting at their seams and evangelism has seen a new awakening. Small groups and church plants are proliferating.

The departmental and institutional reports are testimonials of what God has done. Firstly, I give God thanks for what He has done for His people; secondly let me thank the faithful members of the church without whom this report would not have been possible.

Thanks to members of our office team, administrators, departmental directors and support staff such as accountants, secretaries, receptionists and those behind the scenes in the ADC and ADRA department.

Thanks to those who worked unstintingly in our institutions, Stanborough Secondary and Primary Schools, The Stanborough Press, Roundelwood and The Dell.

The field leaders and pastoral teams including all other workers, are all worthy of our appreciation.

Thanks to the members who keep me on their weekly prayer list.

Thanks to the Trans-European Division and General Conference for their help and support especially in making the Ldi process and the Hope Channel broadcast uplink a possibility.

Thanks to the members of the Executive Committee whose contributions made for wise decision-making in the administration of the Union.

Valerie Pearce has been my secretary for 15 years and I wish to thank her unreservedly for the years of unceasing service in the presidential department. In her 25 years at the BUC she has served four presidents.

Finally I want to thank my wife Alma and children for their moral support and understanding when the demands of the job took priority over an already limited family time.

God has been very gracious to me these 45 years of working for the church in that my health has never prevented me from discharging my ministry. Whatever the future I hope I can continue to play a part in active ministry.
We are grateful for the contributions and the variety of skills that the new members from overseas are giving to the life and witness of Seventh-day Adventist churches in the British Isles.

Because the significant transfer growth during the last five years distorts the net growth rate, an examination of the accession growth rate over the past 25 years provides a more realistic comparison.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quinquennium</th>
<th>Membership at Start of Quinquennium</th>
<th>Baptisms and POF</th>
<th>Accession Annual Growth Rate (5 year Rate)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991 – 1995</td>
<td>17,739</td>
<td>3,101</td>
<td>3.50 (17.48)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996 – 2000</td>
<td>18,734</td>
<td>3,292</td>
<td>3.51 (17.57)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001 – 2005</td>
<td>20,637</td>
<td>4,099</td>
<td>3.97 (19.86)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This combined growth enabled the North England Conference and the South England Conference to pass the 7,000 and 17,000 member mark respectively at the end of the 3rd quarter 2005. The total BUC membership is divided between the constituent conferences and missions as follows:

The BUC, with a membership of 25,520, makes a significant contribution to the Trans-European Division, being the largest single Union within the division and making up approximately 25% of its total membership.

Trans-European Division Membership Report 30 June 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Union Conferences/Churches</th>
<th>Churches</th>
<th>Companies</th>
<th>Membership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adriatic Union</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3,973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltic Union</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6,548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Union</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>24,907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danish Union</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland Union</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungarian Union</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>4,615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East Union</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>14,514</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands Union</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norwegian Union</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistani Union</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>9,744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polish Union</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>5,727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East European Union</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swedish Union</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attached Fields</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1,826</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TED Total</td>
<td>1,348</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>99,998</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

While we give thanks to God for the nearly 5,000 members who joined the Adventist family in the British
Isles in the last five years we recognise that a tremendous evangelistic challenge still faces the church. This is reflected (i) in the uneven growth patterns across the BUC – while some areas have enjoyed growth close to the BUC average of 3.97% other areas have struggled to reach this level and (ii) in the reality that the church still finds it challenging to make a significant impact on the majority population as reflected in the national census.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference/Mission</th>
<th>Membership at Start of Quinquennium</th>
<th>Accession Growth</th>
<th>Annual Accession Growth Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Irish Mission</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>4.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEC</td>
<td>5,992</td>
<td>1,116</td>
<td>17.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish Mission</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>0.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEC</td>
<td>13,581</td>
<td>2,842</td>
<td>21.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welsh Mission</td>
<td>449</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>9.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUC</td>
<td>20,637</td>
<td>4,099</td>
<td>20.15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Members Dropped and Missing

It is with regret that we record that 499 members were dropped from their respective membership rolls during the period. This was nearly 50% lower than the previous quinquennium which in turn was lower than the preceding 20 years.

Quinquennium | Membership at Start of Quinquennium | Members Dropped/Missing | Percentage of Membership |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1981 – 1985</td>
<td>14,569</td>
<td>1,298</td>
<td>8.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986 – 1990</td>
<td>16,065</td>
<td>1,119</td>
<td>6.97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991 – 1995</td>
<td>17,739</td>
<td>1,359</td>
<td>7.66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996 – 2000</td>
<td>18,734</td>
<td>975</td>
<td>5.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001 – 2005</td>
<td>20,637</td>
<td>499</td>
<td>2.42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One would like to believe that this reduction is due to enhanced nurture at the local church level and increased attention to those on the fringe of the church’s life. However, it may simply reflect a more cautious approach to dropping names from the membership roll. What we do know is that during the quinquennium a number of initiatives have been operating to reach out to those in danger of losing their relationship with the church. The Women’s Ministries teams, the Youth Ministries and Sabbath School departments have had programmes geared to seeking to reach out to those taking a break from church. In addition a number of churches have benefited from the ‘Learning to Care’ seminar and we thank Watson Southcott for his willingness to assist churches in this area during the past 5 years.

At the General Conference Annual Council in October 2005 an action was taken requesting Unions, Conferences and Missions to develop strategies to improve the retention rate and thereby achieve a reduced rate of membership loss due to members ‘dropped’ or ‘missing’. This was followed up by action at the TED Winter Council in Rogaska in November 2005.

The system recommended for the calculation of membership retention percentages was to compare the number of new members added through baptism and profession of faith with the number of losses through members dropped and missing. Using this rather general method the BUC loss rate for the past 25 years is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quinquennium</th>
<th>Baptisms and POF</th>
<th>Members Dropped/Missing</th>
<th>Loss Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1981 – 1985</td>
<td>3,624</td>
<td>1,298</td>
<td>35.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986 – 1990</td>
<td>3,499</td>
<td>1,119</td>
<td>33.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991 – 1995</td>
<td>3,101</td>
<td>1,359</td>
<td>43.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001 – 2005</td>
<td>4,099</td>
<td>499</td>
<td>12.17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Deaths and Obituaries

Using the above method the General Conference reported at its session in 2005 that over its five year period 2000-2004 the world church loss rate was 27.68%.

However, in discussion with the Conferences and Missions in December 2005 it was agreed that during the next quinquennium a study would be initiated taking the names of members joining the church in a given year and using the database to work out the percentage of those names still on the membership roll 10 years later.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quinquennium</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Deaths as Percentage of Membership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1981 – 1985</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>5.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986 – 1990</td>
<td>653</td>
<td>4.06%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996 – 2000</td>
<td>880</td>
<td>4.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001 – 2005</td>
<td>847</td>
<td>4.10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Among those who passed away were many former church employees and their spouses. We take this opportunity to recognise the contribution they made to the development of the church’s work in the BUC. These included:

Mrs M Coleman 26 January 2001 Dr E E White 22 February 2003
Mrs J H Emm 05 March 2001 Dr D Hertogs 02 March 2003
Mrs H M M Campbell 21 March 2001 Mr A Beccai 10 March 2003
Mr V Quinn 27 March 2001 Mrs B Wilson 23 March 2003
Miss E E Pratt 20 April 2001 Mrs Throssell 25 March 2003
Pastor J W West 23 April 2001 Mrs T Awan 22 April 2003
Pastor E Bell 13 May 2001 Mrs N I Roper 22 May 2003
Miss E Foley 26 June 2001 Pastor V H Cooper 13 June 2003
Mrs V Watts 07 August 2001 Pastor D H Thomas 25 June 2003
Miss L M Brookes 17 August 2001 Mrs M Cash 02 July 2003
Mrs E Fielding 26 August 2001 Mrs A Elliott 14 August 2003
Mrs M Baker 04 September 2001 Pastor E E Hulbert 22 October 2003
Pastor V H Hall 23 September 2001 Mr D Mason 21 October 2003
Pastor B F Kinman 10 October 2001 Mr D Paley 27 November 2003
Mrs N Cundy 12 October 2001 Mrs E W Bryan 21 December 2003
Mr F Smith 23 October 2001 Mr M T Rhodes 01 February 2004
Mr C Thompson 13 November 2001 Mr S F Frazer 03 February 2004
Mrs M Barnard 15 November 2001 Mrs G L Coates 13 February 2004
Pastor T Murdoch 07 September 2001 Mr K E Barradine 08 April 2004
Mr T Wams 18 February 2002 Mr W J Owen 29 April 2004
Mrs E Bull 21 March 2002 Mrs R Timothy 07 May 2004
Mrs K Culverwell 31 March 2002 Mrs F L Brookes 31 May 2004
Mrs G Guest 09 April 2002 Mrs A F Conroy 11 June 2004
Mrs K Clarke 08 October 2002 Pastor E W Marter 15 June 2004
Mrs K Baldry 09 October 2002 Pastor M W W Culbert 15 July 2004
Mrs Q Savage 18 October 2002 Mr N D H Shaw 01 August 2004
Mrs M Hyde-Crocker 30 December 2002 Dr Sonja Newell-Smith 20 August 2004
Mrs I A Howard 13 January 2003 Mr A J Sly 28 August 2004
The 87 who replaced them came from the following groups:

- 38 were provided by graduates of Newbold College
- 25 made independent transfers from overseas
- 7 former BUC workers returned to the British isles
- 8 Retirees gave post-retirement service
- 5 Senior lay persons were engaged
- 4 came from other sources

The BUC has continued to support the training of prospective ministerial employees with the regular Newbold undergraduate grants and the 10 annual sponsorships for the Newbold post-graduate ministerial programme. In addition, during the current quinquennium the BUC has joined with the Trans-European Division in sponsoring further specialised leadership development study programmes for existing ministers.

### Policy Matters

In preparation for the implementation of the final elements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, which came into effect from 1 October 2004, the comprehensive document 'The Church and Disability Discrimination - A Guide for Trustees and Church Leaders' by Stephen Birchall was distributed to participating units within the BUC in the last quarter of 2003. Recognising the value of an external review, the BUC child protection policy, 'Keeping the Church Family Safe', was submitted to the NSPCC during 2004 courtesy of Wilma Bartlett, and the small number of recommended adjustments were approved and incorporated.

Likewise, the BUC Health and Safety policies were reviewed by Joan Bussue, an independent lay person working in the field, in 2004 in order to ensure that these were brought up to date.

Guidelines for churches in relation to immigration and asylum were obtained and drafted during the last quarter of the quinquennium and distributed to ministers and local churches in January 2006.

### Stewardship

During the quinquennium the prior arrangement has continued whereby the Secretariat was asked to provide a co-ordinating role to facilitate the communication of materials and resources from the General Conference and Trans-European Division Stewardship departments to Conference/Mission Stewardship Directors or Sponsors.

In the last five years a great wealth of stewardship material and seminars has been shared by the GC Stewardship department on their web site. These have included the annual Title and Offering Readings and the quarterly ‘Dynamic Steward’ magazine. Many of the seminars are available as PowerPoint presentations which can be downloaded for local use.

By invitation the Secretariat has participated in Conference/Mission-hosted Stewardship workshops and has conducted an average of 2 stewardship programmes per quarter in response to local church requests. Each year an annual calendar of special offerings is approved in conjunction with information provided by the General Conference and Trans-European Division and input from the Conference and Mission presidents.

### BUC Pension Plan

The BUC secretariat has continued to serve as the co-ordinator for the Seventh-day Adventist Retirement Plan which is administered by Mercers Human Resource Consulting. The department works with the participating employers to process members joining and leaving the Plan as well as dealing with the initial
retirement application process for onward forwarding to Mercers. Fifty-seven applications were processed between 2001 and 2005.

The Plan’s reporting follows the tax year and at its report in April 2005 it had the following number of members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active Plan Members</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members with Preserved and Deferred Benefits</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pensioners</td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Membership at 5 April 2005</strong></td>
<td><strong>643</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The current Trustees of the Plan are as follows:

V Pilmoor (Chair)
M B Musgrave (Secretary)
L A Aguiar
G Barham
C S Bramble
Mrs E J Hole
A V Officer

Acknowledgement and Appreciation

The BUC secretariat is ably served by Judith Willis, who brings the wealth of 17 years of administrative secretarial experience in the department. In addition she has served the three Missions as their membership secretary for the past 5 years.

Appreciation is also expressed to those who have served as executive secretaries at the two conferences – Paul Lockham, Humphrey Walters, Dalbert Elias, Victor Hulbert, and Godwin Benjamin, the Church Clerk for the SEC, for their invaluable co-operation with the work of the Union secretariat. In addition we would wish to acknowledge the support and advice that the BUC secretariat has received from Harald Wollan and Patricia Swan, the executive secretary and associate secretary respectively at the TED.

Above all, we give thanks to God for the ministry of his Spirit in the life of the church, without which there would have been no growth and increase.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Ordained</th>
<th>Commissioned</th>
<th>Missionaries</th>
<th>Ministers</th>
<th>Commissioned</th>
<th>Missionaries</th>
<th>Licensed</th>
<th>Regular Workers</th>
<th>Commissioned</th>
<th>Missionaries</th>
<th>Licensed</th>
<th>Regular Workers</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Irish Mission</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North England Conference</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>99</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish Mission</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South England Conference</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>200</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welsh Mission</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>134</strong></td>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
<td><strong>28</strong></td>
<td><strong>46</strong></td>
<td><strong>23</strong></td>
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<td><strong>133</strong></td>
<td><strong>227</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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I have great respect for people who fastidiously journal their work. My diaries log appointments, minutes recorded decisions, but efforts to record the thinking behind events and transactions are more difficult. One of my first payroll letters reflected on the treasury role with reference to the Gracie Fields lyric about the mill worker, whose task was the manufacture of a ‘thingamabob’ somehow vital to the conduct of war. It is recognition that actions taken echelons from the front line, somehow impact our cause for the better. Being at the crossroads of the organisations that constitute ‘the Union’ is a fascinating, serious and at times exhilarating experience. I am humbled and grateful to have been given the opportunity.

Given the commission to share the gospel of the kingdom with every kindred, tongue and people, where does one begin? Presumably with our core endeavour:

The ‘Life’Ed Development’ theme, mandated at our last convocation, recognised the need for a fresh approach to build on the Adventist heritage of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Within days of our administrative appointment ‘9-11’ signalled the futility of confrontational religion. Beyond the pain of those directly affected, it served as a reminder that faith without the work of grace is doomed and that mantras without mercy are divisive in the face of diversity.

The motif draws on foundational ideas in Ellen White’s treatise Education, which connect character development, redemption, sanctification and the work of a lifetime. Developing people in Christ is the grist of being Adventist in community, a significant inroad to a society in search of meaning. The contrast of approach is between fear-driven proclamation with hope being fulfilled in the future, and a hope-drawn persuasion that embraces kingdom present and kingdom in the near future. It embraces methods and relational exercises long-used to embed faith in ‘growing Adventists’ through the Sabbath School, Youth, Educational and Lay ministries with credibility equal to those in the arsenal of evangelists. This approach is accessible to the many rather than the few.

We were saddened to learn that a significant portion of our community came to see a life-ennobling relationship as a compromise with secularism. Our commission to every nation, kindred, tongue and people includes those who are in the British Isles. The gospel cannot be the preserve of those who found it personally. We stand on the faultline with our shed homes without mercy are divisive in the face of diversity.

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The establishment of our church is inextricably associated with literature ministry. 'Present Truth' was the recognition of the need to contextualise the Gospel in the present milieu, to be scattered like ‘the leaves of autumn’. It was a means by which ‘the few’ could reach ‘the many’ in the quietness of their own soul.

With similar intent we have sought to produce accessible literature and broadcastable materials to reach our population. For many Adventists, faith is a private hinterland inaccessible to neighbours and colleagues.
The uniqueness and complexity of our doctrine becomes a protective barrier to be defended. LIFE.info was introduced as an entering wedge, a means by which members could engage people known to them with a dialogue of shared values. Focus remains the option where a direct approach is appropriate.

Over the years we have intended that the distribution of materials should be self-financing, the result of which has been high unit costs and low distribution numbers. Pre-printing cost is the same whether one prints 100 or 100,000 copies. The structure adopted for LIFE info has been to bear the up-front costs (£10,000 per issue or £2 per member) in the hope that costs to the witnessing member are no more than the cost of a postage stamp, thereby maximising potential uptake. To anticipate that a church with 25,000 members should be able to sponsor 10 items each at a cost of £10 a year is not an extreme ambition. In practice, print runs have ranged from 50 to 100 thousand per issue. If we are to be serious, distribution needs to be counted in millions.

From a marketing perspective, promotional material needs retention power. Read and reread, picked up and put down over a period of time. Magazines are never the last wedge, a means by which members could engage people known to them with a dialogue of shared values. Like a low cost airline they introduce people to new horizons and enriching cultures. Where tried, the magazine has become a vehicle that people who are willing to connect with the community have been comfortable displaying in waiting rooms, sharing with neighbours and friends. My personal endeavour has been to ensure that every family with children in Stanborough Primary School receives a copy. Feedback indicates that children read it from cover to cover and become aware of the cultural heart of Adventism.

‘Evidence’ and ‘Mind the Gap’ - media based elements - were initially contracted to Faith for Today of the North American Division. Our goal was to combine a total package of promotional materials, website development, production, filming and editing of the final product. With some regret staffing commitments in the USA did not work out. We were thus obliged to partner with the Australian Media Centre and the Voice of Hope in Germany.

Much of the preparatory work for the Evidence was done by Miroslav Pujic of the Trans-European Division, supported by Sally Salmon and Behren Schulz from Australia. The series is now available in DVD format with a choice of 15 languages, fulfilling our object to share the gospel with every kindred, tongue and people. The series is repeatedly broadcast on Hope Channel worldwide.

Mind the Gap was intended to be illustrative of a small group in discussion of the tenets of faith with regard to God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. The original text was written by Clifford Goldstein of the General Conference, personalised by Sally Salmon, and tested for contradictory jargon by several secular readers. The DVDs, plus study manual, are now a useful resource for study groups or those on a personal search. This resource has also been produced in a variety of European languages.

The cost of £1 million was substantially supported by the South and North England Conferences to whom we are indebted.

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**The Stewardship of Tithe**

The Seventh-day Adventist church is intimately dependent on the flow of tithe contributed by members to our Conferences and Missions, by common agreement the ‘storehouse’ of scripture. This response reflects the health of our church. Resources grow as we grow; downturns reflect sorrows and the pain of conflict. Local peaks reflect extraordinary events in the lives of individual people. We are indebted to the experience of 25,000 members including those from distant lands. Growth reflects our capacity to welcome, embrace and retain new people. Our task is to stimulate the social and spiritual environment to make this possible.

Tithe has increased at 9.4% per year or 6.5% when adjusted for inflation. This compares well with membership growth of 4.7% per annum. This difference is likely to be accounted for by attendance leading membership transfer. The British Union benefits from about one sixth of contributed tithe. Five percent is sent in support of our Trans-European Division and nine percent is contributed in support of retired employees.

Whilst growth in the Conferences is consistent with the mean; the Missions illustrate the volatility of small numbers and dynamic growth. Tithe in the Irish Mission more than doubled. This is due to new groups in the Republic of Ireland, a field once resistant to growth. The Church has grown beyond recognition with several new groups having been established in Dublin and the West of Ireland. In Scotland, almost every church is a haven for incoming students who enrich the worship experience of longstanding members.

Every city in England has benefited from incoming people. This dynamism in turn contributes growth through evangelistic effort. Growth is further encouraged through the establishment of cultural/linguistic/national niche churches. The return of tithe is a personal and spiritual response, not readily influenced by public directive. However, our efforts to refresh faith, mentor the mentors, nurture people and address the needs of the world’s poor through Mission programmes and Humanitarian efforts contribute to the fabric of our community of hope.

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**Remuneration and Pay Policy**

The use of tithe is defined by General Conference policy V 05 05: “The tithe is to be held sacred of the ministry and Bible teaching, including conference/mission administration in the care of churches and outreach operations. The tithe is not to be expended on other lines of work such as church or institutional debt paying or building operations.”

This policy is applied primarily with reference to agreed policy schedules centred round the salary of an Ordained Minister.

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**Life Development Expense**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Cost (in £)</th>
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<td>Prayer Ministries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Get Connected</td>
<td>£51</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evidence</td>
<td>£398</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mind the Gap ’LIFE.info’</td>
<td>£214</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hope Channel</td>
<td>£56</td>
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Total Thousands £964
Historically, this has been augmented by a variety of allowances to address specific needs. In recent years, accommodation provision grew at the expense of other needs to the point where it became disproportionate to basic salary. National statistics suggest that we use about one third of our total income to cover the cost of housing. Development of this allowance was aimed at correcting the disparity between home owners and those for whom homes were provided. A perverse consequence was to reduce the proportion of total benefit to which pension applied. Further tension arose between institutionally-based employees and travelling field workers. Travel provision was seen as a supplement to living costs.

The need for transparency and equality within categories of workers suggested that we restructure our arrangements. This objective has been long espoused by lay members on the Remuneration and Allowance Committee. Following comparative research on earnings, regional differentials, professional scales and consultation with every employer in our Union a package arrangement was agreed. Whilst the package was designed to have a neutral impact on core salaries, it has presented challenges to the education fraternity, the group most distant from national scales. The package also adjusted the starting position of ministerial graduates with Bachelor’s degrees to 79% and those with Masters to 85% with three percent increments per year.

In our December 2005 committee we were able to advance the pensionable proportion from 70 to 71.5% with the intent of increasing a percentage point at a time, finances allowing.

Offerings in support of wider charitable objectives

It is a conventional myth that offerings compete with one another for the hearts and minds of supportive members. In practice, most of us have different motivators at different times in response to our own circumstances and the environment around us. The Tsunami for example elicited an unprecedented response from our society in general and church members in particular. A frequent question asked was “did this compassionate response replace charitable support for tithe and home ministry?” As always, the answer is complex, it may well have been that some did respond to the emergency of the moment at the expense of other causes. Long-term evidence suggests that the virtues of generosity, compassion and charity complement and reinforce one another to strengthen our overall faithfulness. Few of us can be motivated to give more to causes on the grounds of marginal self interest. Rather, concern for others creates a quality of experience that turns out to be beneficial. God’s promise in Malachi is not intended as a bribe, it is an experiential truth. Our intent is that our cause prospers as our members prosper and not at their expense. Whilst it has been common to encourage formulaic stewardship with reference to God’s witness to the Hebrew nation, our current approach is to lay emphasis on God’s intent that the Hebrew people were to be a witness to the nations as a consequence of the values instilled through His precept.

Gift Aid was introduced fifteen years ago with restrictive criteria. The 2000 dispensation effectively replaced the ‘Deed of Covenant’ process and has brought great benefit. It is now a mature non-contentious feature of our stewardship portfolio. Our convention with regard to these returns has benefited congregational endeavour. Churches are increasingly able to embrace initiatives for the purchase and development of buildings, support students, youth programmes and outreach ventures. Larger churches have been able to install media suites to widen access to services. Others like Stanborough Park and Newbold have concluded building projects free of debt. Leicester, Derby, Balham, Cambridge, Lewisham and Wood Green have been able to realise long-standing goals whilst servicing debt. Conferences have been emboldened in their resolve to offer greater support to churches with amounts expressed in terms not dreamed of in earlier years.

Data below indicates that contributions for world mission have increased (5.15% pa) although at a slower rate than tithe returns. Our challenge is critically to improve attendance at Sabbath School, the opportunity at which world mission offerings is received. The introduction of ‘Adventist World’ to every member should expand the horizons of our members. Ingathering has increased at 3.6%, which reverses the trend of earlier experience. ADRA offerings remain steady, although the picture is distorted by contributions direct to the ADRA office.

British Union Conference Offerings 2001 - 2006

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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>£800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>£850,000</td>
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Annual Salary Growth

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The church for many years operated an unregistered 'pay as you go' arrangement within a framework designed by the General Conference. Funds were held and invested at the Trans-European Division with some cross-fertilisation of interest between national funds. This policy was supported by a reserve equivalent to three years' provision, (about £3.5 million). This situation has changed dramatically over the last ten years with legislation being introduced requiring employers to fully fund their liability with exchangeable reserves. During the last quinquennium my predecessor Marcus Dove ably worked with Mercer's to design a legal framework for the new ‘Seventh-day Adventist Retirement Plan’. Trustees were set in place in 1998 with a fund of £7.2 million which was thought to be sufficient to cover the liabilities of existing pensioners without increases in benefit or cover for new retirees. The total pension liability at the time was thought to be of the order of £21 million. The first actuarial valuation was provided in 2002, the second in 2005. During this time the rules of assessment moved from 'Minimum Funding Requirements' to 'Ongoing Funding' and then to Solvency/buy-out criteria. The latter has brought the total assessment to £31 million were all liabilities consolidated with the Trustees. At present less than half of the total liability has been accepted by trustees, the balance remaining on the balance sheets of respective employers. The strategic plan is to transfer liabilities at a rate consistent with funds being available.

2005 was the first year in which Generally Accepted Accounting Principles required pension liabilities to be quantified on the Balance Sheet. This significantly reduced the recorded net worth of all of our organisations. Whilst this may seem dramatic, it needs to be recognised that these liabilities have existed and been accrued over a long period of time. The total liability is being shared by all participating employers, proportioned on current contributions.

During the last five years we have had to find ways of covering the deficit. The first actuarial funding plan was designed by the General Conference. Funds were held and invested at the Trans-European Division with some cross-fertilisation of interest between national funds. This policy was supported by a reserve equivalent to three years' provision, (about £3.5 million). This situation has changed dramatically over the last ten years with legislation being introduced requiring employers to fully fund their liability with exchangeable reserves. During the last quinquennium my predecessor Marcus Dove ably worked with Mercer's to design a legal framework for the new ‘Seventh-day Adventist Retirement Plan’. Trustees were set in place in 1998 with a fund of £7.2 million which was thought to be sufficient to cover the liabilities of existing pensioners without increases in benefit or cover for new retirees. The total pension liability at the time was thought to be of the order of £21 million. The first actuarial valuation was provided in 2002, the second in 2005. During this time the rules of assessment moved from 'Minimum Funding Requirements' to 'Ongoing Funding' and then to Solvency/buy-out criteria. The latter has brought the total assessment to £31 million were all liabilities consolidated with the Trustees. At present less than half of the total liability has been accepted by trustees, the balance remaining on the balance sheets of respective employers. The strategic plan is to transfer liabilities at a rate consistent with funds being available.

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Institutional Development

One strategic objective identified at the last session related to the security and self-sufficiency of institutions. Union treasury is not involved in day to day operations but we are called to assist with capital restructuring, strategic development and business consultancy. This is one of the more fascinating parts of portfolio. Being absorbed with a Health Spa, a School, a College, a Publishing House and Pension fund issues in the course of one day is a challenge requiring a broad spectrum of awareness and understanding.

### Stanborough Press

Early in our administration we were faced with the capital restructuring of Stanborough Press. The Press had coped with a long-standing costly commercial capitalisation loan. The British Union worked first with Press administration to bring the finances current following an unfortunate chapter in its welfare. Once evaluated, the British Union made a capital grant of £150,000 and a long term loan of £150,000 to dissolve the commercial loan to fund the cost of stock required by a wholesale distributor of religious material.

In order to sustain viability we needed to review staffing levels. The sales structure cost more to maintain than sales, let alone the margin on sales. Further, technological advances required investment in machinery that would need to operate in volume around the clock to be cost effective, with operators whose salaries match those in low-cost economies.

We recognised that our competitive advantage lies in our ‘creativity with the English language’, potential for visual expression, marketing and distribution skills, positioning in an international hub country and traditional connectivity with Commonwealth countries.

It is with regret that we had to ask several long-term employees to discontinue service, and sell the machine that represented the ‘heart throb’ of their daily experience. This exercise was painful for all involved, many of whom were colleagues and friends of longstanding. Sustaining a cohesive spirit in this circumstance has been part of our challenge.

Apart from the commercial and evangelistic benefits of LIFE.info its freshness of approach symbolises the rejuvenation of the whole operation and the desire of our Church to address the twenty-first century.

We are now able to print in volume choosing between commercial printers in England or countries like Denmark and Thailand with much reduced costs, and provide literature to our home market at affordable costs, and supply gospel literature throughout Africa and Asia where the church is expanding and Literature Evangelists continue to be active.

As a result we have been able to record small surpluses on operations during the last three years. The Press has also elected to return a tithe of gains to the British Union to replenish our capitalisation investment.

### Financial Activity

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<td>Member related income</td>
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<td>1,474,178</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benefits paid</td>
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<td>1,130,260</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other payments</td>
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<td>5,976</td>
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<td>Administrative expense</td>
<td>165,533</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income from member related activity</td>
<td>207,364</td>
<td>232,326</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net return on investments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increase in the fund</td>
<td>881,484</td>
<td>513,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opening Balance</td>
<td>10,643,370</td>
<td>10,320,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing Balance</td>
<td>11,534,854</td>
<td>10,643,376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>11,251,160</td>
<td>10,481,781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>209,074</td>
<td>161,036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>11,460,236</td>
<td>10,643,310</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Contributions Required

- 16.9% of Pensionable Salaries
- plus £1,048,000 per annum until 2010
- plus a charge of £4,811,000 on property.

### Summary

One strategic objective identified at the last session related to the security and self-sufficiency of institutions. Union treasury is not involved in day to day operations but we are called to assist with capital restructuring, strategic development and business consultancy. This is one of the more fascinating parts of portfolio. Being absorbed with a Health Spa, a School, a College, a Publishing House and Pension fund issues in the course of one day is a challenge requiring a broad spectrum of awareness and understanding.

### Stanborough Press

Early in our administration we were faced with the capital restructuring of Stanborough Press. The Press had coped with a long-standing costly commercial capitalisation loan. The British Union worked first with Press administration to bring the finances current following an unfortunate chapter in its welfare. Once evaluated, the British Union made a capital grant of £150,000 and a long term loan of £150,000 to dissolve the commercial loan to fund the cost of stock required by a wholesale distributor of religious material.

In order to sustain viability we needed to review staffing levels. The sales structure cost more to maintain than sales, let alone the margin on sales. Further, technological advances required investment in machinery that would need to operate in volume around the clock to be cost effective, with operators whose salaries match those in low-cost economies.

We recognised that our competitive advantage lies in our ‘creativity with the English language’, potential for visual expression, marketing and distribution skills, positioning in an international hub country and traditional connectivity with Commonwealth countries.

It is with regret that we had to ask several long-term employees to discontinue service, and sell the machine that represented the ‘heart throb’ of their daily experience. This exercise was painful for all involved, many of whom were colleagues and friends of longstanding. Sustaining a cohesive spirit in this circumstance has been part of our challenge.

Apart from the commercial and evangelistic benefits of LIFE.info its freshness of approach symbolises the rejuvenation of the whole operation and the desire of our Church to address the twenty-first century.

We are now able to print in volume choosing between commercial printers in England or countries like Denmark and Thailand with much reduced costs, and provide literature to our home market at affordable costs, and supply gospel literature throughout Africa and Asia where the church is expanding and Literature Evangelists continue to be active.

As a result we have been able to record small surpluses on operations during the last three years. The Press has also elected to return a tithe of gains to the British Union to replenish our capitalisation investment.
Decisions with regard to Roundelwood are legendary in the cycle of Union sessions. A generation ago, our Crieff facility was to be sold, but survived thanks to the indomitable efforts of Martin Bell among others. This folk lore is a source of inspiration on the one hand but contributes toward the stress of siege in leadership. For most of the last twenty years the business has depended on Retirement, Care and Nursing home facilities. This was feasible where social support was available but impeded when it limited people transferring from one authority to another. Indeed the care offered at Roundelwood was amongst the best available in all the land. There was a time when our facility was the sole provider in Crieff. The town now has a surplus of supply. Increased regulation made it difficult for older properties to conform and prosper. Reinvestment and renewal was an option considered, however the changed demographics of the church means that investment in traditional retirement areas would be inappropriate. Further, recruitment of Adventist staff in these districts has been and would be a challenge. It is our clear understanding that if Adventist Institutions are to bear our mission, then substantial involvement of Adventist leadership is a sine qua non.

We were not able to achieve this objective at ‘The Dell’ in Oulton Broad which, given repeated but marginal losses, meant that action had to be taken following the conclusion of several research panels. With regret, after fifty years the institution has been sold into private ownership. The value of the original property donation will be set aside for retirement homes in a new venue, with GHA’s investment being used to further our health programme at Roundelwood. Operations at Roundelwood were also reviewed by several panels due to losses running at £20,000 per month. The findings from each review recognised that geriatric nursing care and restorative health care, whilst engaging similar skills, address incompatible markets. We had to decide which of the two, if any, was feasible.

Directors are conscious of Dr Gertrude Brown’s legacy, whose vision for health had its roots with the origins of Adventist natural health care in Battle Creek. Whilst success is by no means certain, we are convinced that the Church needs to persevere with its commitment to an exemplary health education facility. It is part of who we are. Paradoxically, whilst we subscribe to the benefits of a vegetarian diet, avoidance of stimulants, preventative health care and natural healing agents, there is considerable debate as to what this actually means and how it can be delivered to people yet to embrace these values.

Above and beyond involvement in finance and budgets, treasury has been supportively involved in business and staff development and marketing initiatives. Our challenge is to create a facility that has sufficient capacity to be economic, and foster loyal clientele who view our service as life mentoring.

During the process the British Union has contributed £284,000. The operation has been further supported with gains from the retirement home business. After eighteen months losses have been reduced, fresh management has been introduced with the facility being further renovated to increase capacity and refurbished to project the image of a health centre rather than a retirement home. Customer responses indicate improved satisfaction with the programme although confusion exists with those expecting an opulent environment.

Research into comparative models in the USA and Australia suggest that external support is required for the success of health education institutions. We continue to search for a formula that proclaims our ideals, is attractive to the public and is self-sustaining.

Adventist education, like Adventist health and literature, helps define who we are. Schools contribute to the essence of an Adventist world view for the coming generation. With regret, we have not been able to establish this ideal alongside every church. The Stanborough Schools among others uphold the ideal. To sustain this vision we have made grants totalling £1.4 million. The British Union invested in a new facility almost twenty years ago. In the early years the building needed remedial work, we are now at the place where many of the original fittings are due for replacement. In 2004 the windows in the primary school were replaced, in 2005 more than half of the 32 bathrooms in the boarding school were refurbished. The Garston area around the school is becoming more densely populated, making safety on Stanborough Park a serious issue. The introduction of a security company is a sad reflection on our times.

Newbold College

Newbold is operated by the Trans-European Division under a fifty year agreement with the British Union on whose land the College has since developed. One of our objectives has been to formalise the terms under which the land is used and developed. Beyond this issue, Treasury is involved in the College’s finance review committee which has sharpened overall accountability and strategic development. A group of seven worked to encourage the College to be accessible to a broader span of students and develop curriculum options that enable young people to find their life purpose through mission.

The Scottish, Irish and Welsh Missions

Members in Scotland, Ireland and Wales have always been geographically spread in smaller churches with pastor-to-member ratios around 1:50 compared to 1:150 in the Conferences. The need for support in these territories is in no way due to lack of faithfulness amongst members, if anything, per capita contributions are higher in the missions. It would be a mistake to view the missions as ‘dependent’, we are all interdependent. When all contributions are considered, our fields make a net contribution to the world field. During the last five years the income when compared within each entity has increased around 50% in the Conferences 70% in Scotland and Wales and 140% in Ireland (although the underlying trend is more likely 70%). With growth comes the need for additional pastoral and church provision. Total appropriations to the three Missions totalled £1.3 million. Whilst we have had years where it was necessary to vote deficit budgets, each year has turned out better than anticipated.

Treasury and Departmental personnel contribute significant operational and motivational service to Mission operations. The Treasury in particular has consolidated accounting functions to reduce duplicate processing.

ADRA-UK

Active participation in the growth of ADRA has been a key objective, not so much for the sake of building a humanitarian agency, but rather, the building of a compassionate community.

2002 was the first year that the Annual Appeal (Ingathering) was collected in the name of ADRA. We were conscious that this transition, although successful in several countries, had not been altogether successful in the United States. One of the drawbacks of the former arrangement was a limitation on information about the way funds were used and accountability given for projects supported. Historically the principle motivational method had been to set a series of competitive collection targets. Our goal was to halt the decline in collection by informing members about the humanitarian work of ADRA, the methods of its operation and issues in the development of the poor and suffering, and relieving the

Just because it's embarrassing, doesn't mean it doesn't work
plight of disaster victims. In 2002 and 2003 we launched a series of fliers in the Messenger with the goal of bringing fundraising and development issues to members. We found that many serious collectors compiled the materials into a portfolio. In 2004-6 we produced 'Spotlight' to cover the projects, issues, and to give account of funds collected. We also recognised that creating a passion for humanitarian cause was not just about the Annual Appeal, but making ADRA a charity of choice. Evidence of our success came in response to the Tsunami. Within hours, funds were being volunteered through the web site with the eventual total approaching £300,000. This confidence enabled us to win two bids with DFID for Sri Lanka, contribute to the general relief centre in Thailand, and rebuild a school in Nias hit twice by Tsunamis. In addition to being involved in marketing, we have reshaped the record-keeping materials and relaunched the Conferences of the tedious audit role. In 2004 we experimented with direct response to collectors. Some members appreciated the effort, others found it unnecessary. The availability of funds has enabled us to increase the value of resources by matching grants from DFID and the EU, and participating in partnerships with other ADRA branches around the world. We will be challenged in the future with new regulations that change our permit and access to the public collection process. The new regulations will open new possibilities, but will require extra rigour.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adventist Development and Relief Agency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summary of financial activity</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income from collections</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>449,697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>551,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>126,417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>596,468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income from investments</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11,374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15,498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29,753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38,473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating Income</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76,764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,416,666</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,063,653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,278,742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,549,954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other operating income</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>463,517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,483,741</td>
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<td>1,110,106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,480,907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,197,777</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expense</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Employee expenses</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53,742</td>
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<tr>
<td>67,675</td>
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<td>80,631</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>116,467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>156,486</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Administration and General Expenses</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9,104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79,424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70,201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>146,362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>241,418</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Operating Expenses</strong></td>
</tr>
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<td>27,269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>112,607</td>
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<td>126,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>649,349</td>
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<tr>
<td>781,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Increase before appropriations</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>422,611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,273,746</td>
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<tr>
<td>879,611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>535,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,034,014</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Appropriations Received</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56,544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82,964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,137,876</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,436,605</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Appropriations Made</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- 410,106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 941,614</td>
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<tr>
<td>- 895,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 1,044,057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 1,932,325</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Increase after appropriations</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15,747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>354,425</td>
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<td>181,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>619,064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>548,054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Opening Fund Balance</strong></td>
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<td>149,717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>572,864</td>
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<td>1,154,946</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Closing Fund Balance</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>209,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323,004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>355,844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,154,946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,700,042</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Balance sheet representation:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash and Bank</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>155,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>526,537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>469,872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,073,070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,407,893</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Accounts Receivable</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24,034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14,868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13,076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54,038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>272,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fixed Assets</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 76,399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 29,759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 31,686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 27,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 30,636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>273,804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>535,844</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,154,946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,700,042</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funds invested in property</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 20,299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 29,759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 31,686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 27,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 20,636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funds allocated</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 54,408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 352,441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 239,032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 651,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 741,678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unallocated Funds</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74,201</td>
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<tr>
<td>181,904</td>
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<tr>
<td>233,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>275,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>906,037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Funds</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>209,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>273,884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>536,844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,154,946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,700,042</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Growth of ADRA-UK Funds 2001 - 2005

- **Property**
- **Allocated**
- **Unallocated**

Gratitude to Treasury Colleagues

Little is achieved by any of us in isolation. Our department has the full range of personality types. I am indebted in the first place to my friend and colleague Marcus Dove. It was Marcus who gave me the opportunity to develop within Treasury work in the British Union. He has a refined sense of system development, an interest in charity and trust affairs which meant that I inherited a well-ordered operation. To replace one’s mentor is not the most comfortable turn of events. That we have continued to work together is a credit to his graciousness and commitment to the cause.

Dean Papaioannou served the British Union as Missions Treasurer and was head-hunted by the Trans-European Division in the domino effect restructuring of 2001. He is meticulous and consistent in his work with a fine sense of humour. We are thankful for the contribution that he made to the Missions office.

Peter Archer gave a lifetime of service to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The most significant of which was to the health food industry, rising to become the General Manager of Granose and thereby a member of the British Union Conference executive committee. Following the sale of Granose to Haldanes, Peter developed his hobby and became a self-employed landscape gardener. He readily accepted the opportunity to care for the Stanborough Estate, around which his life had centred, when the opportunity arose. We are thankful for the care and dignity that he offered for seven years prior to his retirement in 2005.

Michael T. Taylor has also given full service to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Initially as a minister in the South England Conference, Irish Mission, and North England Conference. Church buildings in Oxford, Coleraine, Londonderry and Newcastle have his mark on their cornerstones. Michael has a meticulous eye for detail, is highly numerate and relished the opportunity to join the Treasury team in 1986. His knowledge of treasury, property and trust operations became encyclopaedic. He is a loyal and committed friend who served his church with honour. Developing a home to his personal taste in retirement became an increas-
ingly attractive horizon. We are indebted to Michael for his contribution.

Michael Garkov joined the British Union seven years ago from Bulgaria via Newbold College on a student visa. He developed particular skills as Payroll Manager, Church Auditor and Senior Accountant. During this time he became the focal point for the development of the Bulgarian Adventist community and a conduit for the development of their business affairs. Michael is by nature an entrepreneur and has now ventured into Bulgarian property development. We thank him for his service and wish him well in this enterprise.

Maritza Sabatier joined our team as Cashier, Receipts accountant and Ledger operator. She is a team player committed to the Church and is a joy to work with.

Gary Montague, home grown in Watford, responded to the vacancy of estate manager. He has a willing spirit and gets things done. We are thankful for the environment that he creates and maintains to our comfort and the glory of God.

Carolyn Bellamy has served the last four treasurers as Secretary. She has a keen sense of order, propriety, tact and timing – precisely the skills needed to complement my shortcoming. Whilst she had a sense of patience before my tenure, this virtue has been further developed and tested in coping with my chaotic whirlwind existence. I am grateful for her service, friendship and loyalty.

During the last five years I have had the privilege to work with a sterling group of people. I could deplete every emotional epithet describing the support given by leaders in the twenty intersecting organisations that constitute this Union. It has been a joy working with administrative colleagues, the Mission and Conference Presidents, fellow Treasurers, institutional heads and departmental directors. Whilst many members know these people from a distant pulpit, close up they are genuine fun-filled Christians. Every day has been a pleasure, for which I offer thanks.
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Auditor's opinion on the summarised financial statements</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditor's policy compliance report</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
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<td>Combined funds balance sheet</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Combined funds statements of financial activity</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Statements of changes in fund balances</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes to the financial statements</td>
<td>6-7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reporting currency:** All amounts are stated in British pounds £ (see note 2)

**To the Members of the Executive Committee,**

British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Stanbrook Park

Gruston

Watford

Herts

We have audited the financial statements of the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for the five years ended 31 December 2005, on which the accompanying summarised financial statements, consisting of balance sheets and the related statements of financial activity and changes in fund balances for the years then ended, are derived.

The preparation of these summarised financial statements is the responsibility of the organisation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether these summarised financial statements are consistent with the financial statements issued for each year.

**Basis of our opinion**

Apart from a lack of formal independence, we conducted our annual audit in accordance with International Auditing Standards. In our reports dated 5 February 2006, 3 March 2003, 19 May 2004, 11 February 2005 and 16 February 2006, we expressed an opinion as to whether, except for the matters noted below, the financial statements from which these summarised financial statements are derived presented fairly in all material respects the financial position of the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as at the end of each year and the results of its operations for each year, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted by the Seventh-day Adventist denomination.

For the years prior to 2005, we referred to the omission of pension liabilities without qualifying our reports.

We have assessed whether the accompanying summarised financial statements are consistent with the annual financial statements for the relevant years.

**Confirming opinion**

In our opinion, as internal auditors of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, the summarised financial statements referred to above are consistent with the annual financial statements of the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for the five years ended 31 December 2005.

In connection with our audit, we have also issued a report dated 16 February 2006, regarding compliance with the Working Policy of the Trans-European Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.
To the Members of the Executive Committee
British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
Stanborough Park
Gorsley
Worthing
Hants

Apart from a lack of formal independence, we have audited in accordance with International Auditing Standards the accompanying summary financial statements of the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for the five years ended 31 December 2005, and have issued our report thereon.

In connection with our audits, as internal auditors of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that the Organisation was not in compliance with the Working Policy of the Trans-European Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists insofar as it relates to financial matters. However, our audits were not directed primarily toward obtaining knowledge of such noncompliance.

This report on policy compliance is intended solely for information and use within the Seventh-day Adventist Church and should not be used for any other purpose.

General Conference Auditing Service
(Trans-European Area)
16 February 2006

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### Seventh-day Adventist Church
BRITISH UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS
Balance Sheets
for the five years ended 31 December 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit of currency: GBP £</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
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<td>4,198</td>
<td>4,171</td>
<td>4,517</td>
<td>4,377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>762</td>
<td>518</td>
<td>493</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>896</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notes and loans receivable</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies and prepaid expense</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>129</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current assets</strong></td>
<td>4,762</td>
<td>4,812</td>
<td>4,954</td>
<td>5,248</td>
<td>5,652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Property and equipment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAND</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>Land improvements</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUILDINGS</td>
<td>2,165</td>
<td>2,013</td>
<td>1,557</td>
<td>2,067</td>
<td>2,223</td>
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<tr>
<td>Furnishings and equipment</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total property and equipment</strong></td>
<td>2,190</td>
<td>2,232</td>
<td>2,190</td>
<td>2,294</td>
<td>2,396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment properties</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes and loans receivable</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total other assets</strong></td>
<td>208</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td>3,950</td>
<td>7,229</td>
<td>7,378</td>
<td>7,602</td>
<td>8,935</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **LIABILITIES**         |      |      |      |      |      |
| **Current liabilities** |      |      |      |      |      |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 476 | 798 | 634 | 1,869 | 1,889 |
| Trust fund balances     | 3    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| **Total current liabilities** | 479 | 798 | 634 | 1,869 | 1,889 |
| **Other liabilities**   |      |      |      |      |      |
| Accounts payable        | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    |
| Retirement liabilities | -    | -    | -    | -    | 2,613| 3,024|
| Notes and loans payable | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    |
| **Total other liabilities** | 3    | 2    | 2    | 2,614| 3,024|
| **Total liabilities**   | 482  | 801  | 636  | 4,803| 4,919|

| **FUND BALANCES**       |      |      |      |      |      |
| **Unallocated funds**   |      |      |      |      |      |
| Title funds             | 533  | 790  | 409  | 600  | 903  |
| Pension fund surplus/(deficit) | - | - | - | (2,501) | (1,753) |
| Non-title funds         | 1,685| 1,414| 1,513| 1,577| 1,431|
| **Total funds**         | 2,118| 2,145| 2,920| 1,967| 1,966|
| **Allocated funds**     |      |      |      |      |      |
| Invested in property fund | 2,331| 2,279| 2,219| 2,312| 2,433|
| Investment property revaluation reserve | - | - | 81 | 81 | 81 |
| **Total fund balances** | 4,449| 4,424| 5,239| 5,319| 5,485|
| **Total liabilities and fund balances** | 8,329| 11,633| 11,627| 12,126| 14,404|

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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements
## Seventh-day Adventist Church
### BRITISH UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS
#### Statement of Changes in Fund Balances

**for the five years ended 31 December 2005**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>UNALLOCATED FUNDS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title funds</td>
<td>641</td>
<td>(115)</td>
<td>526</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>(291)</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>666</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>900</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent fund surplus/(deficit)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-title funds</td>
<td>1,944</td>
<td>(250)</td>
<td>1,695</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>1,444</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>1,912</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>1,577</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>1,831</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property funds</td>
<td>1,985</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>2,331</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>2,460</td>
<td>(63)</td>
<td>2,400</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>2,523</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>2,534</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total unallocated funds</strong></td>
<td>4,172</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>4,410</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>4,508</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>4,587</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>4,720</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>4,735</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ALLOCATED FUNDS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating funds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement</td>
<td>1,467</td>
<td>736</td>
<td>2,203</td>
<td>(1,520)</td>
<td>(41)</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>(100)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>268</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evangelism</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>(151)</td>
<td>(40)</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>(226)</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>288</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General meetings</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>(15)</td>
<td>187</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other operating allocated funds</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>(100)</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>(31)</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>(65)</td>
<td>202</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total operating allocated funds</strong></td>
<td>1,301</td>
<td>704</td>
<td>2,009</td>
<td>(2,441)</td>
<td>788</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>933</td>
<td>(122)</td>
<td>771</td>
<td>(98)</td>
<td>677</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital funds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Churches buildings</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>661</td>
<td>637</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>795</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>723</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>812</td>
<td>(166)</td>
<td>646</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement home</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>(26)</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>208</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revolving loan fund</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>446</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>315</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other capital allocated funds</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>(39)</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>49</td>
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<td><strong>Total capital allocated funds</strong></td>
<td>558</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>1,218</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>1,372</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1,404</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1,439</td>
<td>(166)</td>
<td>1,273</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total allocated funds</strong></td>
<td>2,861</td>
<td>1,350</td>
<td>4,211</td>
<td>(2,000)</td>
<td>2,145</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>2,293</td>
<td>(67)</td>
<td>2,226</td>
<td>(260)</td>
<td>1,966</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total funds</strong></td>
<td>3,433</td>
<td>1,488</td>
<td>4,928</td>
<td>(2,000)</td>
<td>4,653</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>4,888</td>
<td>(2,000)</td>
<td>4,114</td>
<td>(3,557)</td>
<td>3,343</td>
<td>3,488</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Note 1 - Organisational Structure

The British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is an administrative entity of the world-wide Seventh-day Adventist church. It supports the activities of local conferences and congregations of Seventh-day Adventists in the territory of the British Isles. Many of its dealings are with related parties:

- Trans-European Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists - its senior organisation.
- Local conferences:
  - North England Conference
  - South England Conference
- Institutions:
  - Adventist Development and Relief Agency (UK) - international humanitarian aid
  - Good Health Association (Scotland) Ltd - health promotion and retirement care
  - Seventh-day Adventist Association Ltd - holding in trust properties of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Britain
- Seventh-day Adventist Trust Company Ltd - executory of estates of deceased members of local congregations
- Stanborough School - primary and secondary level education
- The Stanborough Press Ltd - publishing and distribution of Christian literature.

Local missions (Irish, Scottish and Welsh), and the Bible correspondence school, are consolidated into these financial statements.

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Accounting Method - The accounting records are maintained, in all material respects, on the accrual method of accounting at historical cost.

Estimates - Generally accepted accounting principles demand the use of estimates by management. Estimates relevant to these financial statements are:

- the market value of investment properties,
- the actuarial value of pension liabilities,
- the useful economic working lives of property and equipment.

Property and Equipment - Capital assets are recorded at historical cost (or at fair value if donated) in local currency, and depreciated by the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Acquisitions costing less than £1,000 are expensed on purchase. Annual depreciation rates range from 1% to 25 percent.

Retirement Plan - Employees are eligible to participate in a funded non-contributory defined benefit pension plan. The plan is administered by the independent pension fund trustees appointed by the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Note 3 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Currency - The functional currency is the British pound, and all reports are submitted in this currency.

The Trans-European Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists approved the fixed rates of exchange, which were, in relation to the US dollar, as follows:

| 31 December | 2005:   | GBP 9.37 = USD 1.00 |
|            | 2006:   | GBP 9.52 = USD 1.00 |
|            | 2007:   | GBP 9.56 = USD 1.00 |
|            | 2008:   | GBP 9.62 = USD 1.00 |
|            | 2009:   | GBP 9.69 = USD 1.00 |

These rates are an approximation to the current market rates. Any differences between the fixed and current market rates are not considered to be material.

Note 4 - Statement of Working Capital and Liquidity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Working capital turn over</td>
<td>1.59</td>
<td>1.58</td>
<td>1.27</td>
<td>0.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of recommended level</td>
<td>120 %</td>
<td>142 %</td>
<td>142 %</td>
<td>106 %</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

LIQUIDITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liquid assets</td>
<td>5,884</td>
<td>4,598</td>
<td>4,171</td>
<td>4,557</td>
<td>4,577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivable from other organisations</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total liquid assets</td>
<td>5,889</td>
<td>4,603</td>
<td>4,176</td>
<td>4,562</td>
<td>4,582</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Commitments

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current liabilities</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>798</td>
<td>674</td>
<td>1,169</td>
<td>1,886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued staff balances</td>
<td>5,294</td>
<td>7,245</td>
<td>2,282</td>
<td>11,274</td>
<td>1,886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total commitments</td>
<td>5,773</td>
<td>8,043</td>
<td>3,257</td>
<td>9,455</td>
<td>3,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net liquid assets/(deficit)</td>
<td>1,220</td>
<td>1,555</td>
<td>1,244</td>
<td>462</td>
<td>725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of commitments</td>
<td>126 %</td>
<td>143 %</td>
<td>143 %</td>
<td>111 %</td>
<td>119 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Prior year adjustments

In 2001, the accounts of the three Missions and the Adventist Discovery Centre were consolidated into the accounts of the British Union Conference.

In 2005, British accounting standards IFRS7 required the recognition of pension liabilities in the financial statements for the first time. The results for 2004 have been restated accordingly, and the element of the liability relating to prior years is shown as an adjustment to the fund balance at 1 January 2004.
Quinquennial changes

It has been gratifying to see the progress made in Sabbath School Ministries through this past quinquennium across the Union territory, although, it must be said, Sabbath School attendance is not as good in many churches as it was in the past. Too many church members are coming late to church Sabbath by Sabbath. The dividing of Sabbath School Ministries into separate Children and Adult Sabbath School departments has worked well and has posed no problems at administrative level.

Sabbath School revival

Concerns were expressed at the last BUC Session in York about the need for revival in the local Sabbath School. Two sets of Revival materials were purchased to be used by groups feeling the need to put revival high on their church agenda. Although there has been little up-take for these despite their annual advertising, evidence of revival can be seen in churches across the Union. Many Sabbath Schools are using innovative ideas in both the format of Sabbath School time and the Bible Study. Small discussion groups have caught on in a variety of Sabbath School settings, and with some churches illustrating the Sabbath School study theme with supporting PowerPoint presentations. The use also of well-thought-out questions and handouts has made the studies even more interesting.

Conference Sabbath School directors

Appreciation is expressed to the Conference Sabbath School Directors for keeping leadership and teacher training high on their departmental priority lists. Roy Morgan (NEC) and Richard Delisser (SEC) have arranged and conducted a number of Sabbath School workshops in their territory. Thanks also to Aristotle Vontzalidis who directed the SEC Sabbath School department before being called to other departmental arrangements. The workshops have included input from the writer, Paul Clee, of the Trans-European Division, and Faith Crumbly, the editor of the Sabbath School Leadership Journal produced in North America. Mission Sabbath School workshops are notoriously hard to convene due to the very scattered membership of the Missions. They may be better served in the future by having training sessions with one of the Conferences. The work of the Mission Sabbath School sponsors is much appreciated and evident in the churches under their wing.

Bible Study Guides

There is still a little reticence on the part of some Sabbath Schools to study themed lessons due to the sensitive topics involved. However, most Sabbath Schools have been blessed by the materials during the quinquennium. From time to time statements appear in the lesson materials that either give offence or stir theological debate. It is worth noting that neither the Union Sabbath School department or the Editor at the Stanborough Press have any say in the lesson material. It comes to the Press copy ready with a GC prohibition on changing it in any way. If there are questions or comments these should be addressed directly to the Lesson Editor at the General Conference.

Mission emphasis

The way in which Mission giving is promoted has changed considerably through the years. Posters and bookmarks were used until these became too expensive to produce. We have also used Mission Spotlight slides and videos. The former were phased out, and the latter had increased royalties to the point where these were no longer affordable.

It is hoped that the new DVDs from the Global Mission department of the GC will fill the mission promotion slot in the Sabbath programme. The BUC Adult Sabbath School department took the decision to issue a free copy of the DVD each quarter to the churches to gauge their interest. Unfortunately the introduction of the DVDs has not been seamless. They should have been available by the first quarter of 2006 but were not produced in time. As this Report goes to press it is anticipated that all churches will have received the DVDs from the second quarter.

General

At the end of each year all Sabbath School Superintendents receive materials which will be of use to incoming leaders. Often these are not passed on and money is wasted in sending out new sets. Please help the efficiency of the department by aiding the new leaders with your materials and expertise.

I take this opportunity to thank everyone who participates in arranging and conducting Sabbath School each week. The effort really shows, and we do appreciate that you do this work against a background of other heavy family and employment responsibilities.

A special thank you to Dawn Tompkins, our office secretary, whose gentle manner and secretarial expertise is the public face of our department.

It is our privilege to be united in the Sabbath School Ministry:

To be labourers together with God means a great deal more than merely to go to Sabbath school, and attend the services of the church, and take part in the work of teaching, and in bearing testimony in the social service.

To be a labourer together with God means that your heart is drawn out in strong desire for the salvation of the souls for whom Christ has died. It means that you are filled with solicitude for the work, that you are ever planning to make your instruction interesting, to devise ways that you may draw with every entrusted power of your nature along the lines in which Christ is drawing, that souls may be won to His service and be bound to Him by the cords of His infinite love. CSW. 120

We thank God that He has called us to share this work with Him through this past quinquennium.
**Mission Statement**

The department of Children’s Ministries will guide the children in developing a Biblical foundation for a lifelong redemptive love relationship with God and create avenues of service for each child within their home, church and community.

The Mission Statement has been implemented by:

- Building up a team of trainers, volunteer conference and Mission sponsors. The January 2000 team attended a training weekend with BUC, TED and GC presenters.
- Unfortunately when Conference and Mission events run simultaneously the BUC director cannot support as efficiently as the conference’s own departmental director would do. This was rectified in the SEC, 2003, with the election of Pastor and Mrs Holford to this department. Due to commitment of these team members they were able to present seminars at a training weekend in March 2001, 2003 and 2005.

A special word of thanks should also be given to those who have been a part of the Children’s Ministries team:

- There is a choice of activities, which help to connect the Bible principles to life. These activities incorporate the students’ learning styles and modes.
- Monthly themes are based on four dynamics of a Christian life: Grace – Jesus loves me; Worship – I love Jesus; Community – We love each other (inreach); Service – Jesus loves you (outreach).
- An emphasis is given to the students participating and feeding back what they are learning.

The most exciting feature is that at the end of the programme each child should know how what they have learnt from the Bible can be put into practice during the week.

**New age groupings have been suggested:**

- Beginners 0 – 2 . . . . . . a 2 year cycle
- Kindergarten 3 – 5 . . . . . . a 2 year cycle
- Primary 6 – 9 . . . . . . a 4 year cycle
- Junior/Teen 10 - 14 . . . . . . a 4 year cycle (PowerPoint)
- Earlieteen 12 – 14 . . . . . . a 2 year cycle (Real-Time Faith)

The Cornerstone lessons are for 15 – 18 year olds. They were previously updated and have a 4 year cycle encompassing the 27 fundamental beliefs of the SDA church and discussions on life’s issues.

**Evangelism Encouraged Through:**

- Inreach – to the largest number of unbaptised contacts, the children who attend Sabbath School and Camp meeting.
- Outreach – by Holiday Bible Schools, weekly Bible clubs and Toddler groups and Camp meeting are important avenues of witnessing to children and parents.
- Suitable Bible study guides are made available to pastoral workers.

**Feedback from the local church**

The yearly survey sheet helps the department to know what is happening for the children, and what further input is needed from this department.

**Consultation Weekend**

Daventry; November 19th – 22nd 2004

Members of the training teams, and pastors, were invited to share resources, expertise and receive training. The outcome was a wealth of ideas, materials and plans which are being collated to produce as an inreach and outreach manual in 2006.

**G.C. Children’s Ministries Manuals**

In 2005 a co-ordinators’ handbook for those involved with children, and a separate pastors and elders manual, were published. These have been distributed in 2005 and early in 2006.

**Quarterly Newsletter**

This goes out to the Superintendents or Children’s Ministries leaders. It includes news, views, calendar events and resources.

Thanks go to Bernie & Karen Holford for their contributions.

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**Introducing the new curriculum for 0 - 14s.**

The GraceLink Bible Study Guides were piloted within the BUC. The comments from parents, teachers and children resulted in the new curriculum having a number of new features:

- The Bible story or passage and memory verses are presented first at Sabbath School.
- The following Sabbath they feedback to the class leader their memory verse and what they found out during the week by studying and living out the Bible principle.
Communication

John C Surridge

Introduction

The last five years have been a time of building, development and expansion for the BUC Communication department. Communication in a general sense, including writing and publishing, has always been an integral part of Church life. However, ten years ago it was recognised that the more specialised role of communication which was emerging in parallel with new communication technologies, warranted having a full department at Union level. Since the establishment of this department it has become an integral component of the Church, contributing to the effectiveness of every other department and every programme that the Church runs. Website and information systems which were considered to be innovative ten years ago are now accepted as essential tools. Occasional video production by the Adventist Media Centre has given way to focused and regular output for the Hope Channel. Crisis communication training for leaders, once thought of as a luxury, has become part of an annual routine.

Public Relations

Much of the day-to-day work of the Communication department is in maintaining a constant stream of "low level" public relations activities. These include ensuring that the Church is listed in various directories, submitting news releases, handling press and media enquiries, and promoting good practice in local churches in matters such as signage, logo usage, and good community relations.

Though these activities are necessary and important for the department to carry out, the main public relations coups of the quinquennium have been generated entirely independently by certain members with special talents. Particularly worthy of note have been Ken Burton and the members of the London Adventist Chorale. As well as featuring prominently on television in connection with the Queen’s Jubilee in 2002 they have also appeared regularly on television programmes such as Songs of Praise. Charles Ngandwe’s winning 2004 performance on "Stars in their Eyes" was seen by millions of television viewers and there have been many other Adventist members, mainly connected with music, who have contributed to raising the profile of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the United Kingdom and Ireland. To all these people we say a big thank you and recognise that the God who gave them the talents is using them to bring glory to His name.

Keep the Church Family Safe

All those involved in the church’s children’s programmes are encouraged to attend the training seminars.

Children’s Ministries One-Day Conferences

Good working practice is important for the safety of the adults and children. These are for teachers, parents and others involved in Children’s church-based programmes. The Family Ministries department has also taken part in these events:
• Teaching with crafts
• Story telling
• Children’s church
• Teaching the new curriculum
• Puppets can teach too...
• Challenging teens
• Sabbath school resources
• Helping children to love worship
• What’s right with Harry Potter
• How faith grows

Child-friendly Churches

By promoting resources for children’s church and the children’s Sabbath, (now held annually in October), and working with the Family Ministries department, emphasis has been given to making churches more aware of the needs of children, youth and families.

Future Development for this Ministry

Build up resources for:
• Bringing children to accept Jesus as their own personal Saviour
• Involving children in a prayer ministry
• Making church more child-friendly
• Understanding how to give positive discipline
• Encouraging more male participation
• Continuing the one-day conferences as well as the area Sabbath workshops.
• Implementing "Keeping the Church Family Safe"
• Promoting ASNA events

Ultimate Aim

The church will live out the words of Deut. 6:4-7 by actively teaching the children to love the Lord with all their hearts, souls and strength.

Inter-Church Relations

Good relations with other Christian denominations are a vital aspect of the Adventist Church’s Public Relations policy. Over the last five years the Communication director has represented the Adventist Church at all of the regular Churches Representatives’ Meetings (CRMs) organised by Churches Together in Britain.
and Ireland, as well as the 2002 and 2005 General Assemblies. The CRMs have been held in each of the four nations of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, and the Assemblies have been held at the Hayes Conference Centre in Derbyshire.

The Adventist Church is an Associate Member of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, which equates to the Observer Status recommended by the General Conference. However, the connection with CTBI has given us recognition and legitimacy in the eyes of the public and has enabled hundreds of Adventist children find places in Church of England schools. It has also helped to minimise the misunderstanding of Seventh-day Adventist beliefs and practices which still exists in our society and has helped us to break down some of the barriers that this misunderstanding creates.

BUC News

Over the last five years the primary circulation of BUC News, the weekly email newsletter of the British Union Conference, has almost doubled, from around 900 at the beginning of 2001 to around 1,700 at the end of 2005. With general improvements in email technology the size of the newsletters has been able to be increased slightly, with each edition now averaging about 4,000 words. Over the five years a total of 245 editions were sent out with many of the articles being reproduced by ANR, the news service of the Trans-European Division, ANN, the news service of the General Conference, and in the Messenger. As well as being sent out by email the newsletters are also displayed, and archived, on the website.

New Websites

Access to the Internet throughout the UK and Ireland has increased significantly over the last five years. According to government statistics 64% of all adults had access to the Internet at the end of 2005 compared with just 40% at the beginning of 2001. In addition there has been a dramatic rise in the number of people with broadband connections and the use of the Internet for more than just email.

Responding to these changes in society the Communication department has dramatically increased its web-presence over the last five years with a number of new, though integrated, websites being set up. More importantly the new websites have mostly been built on underlying database technology, making large quantities of data available in an easily accessible format. The new sites include the following:

- An Events database, enabling anyone to publicise their church events in one central location.
- A Churches database, listing all the Adventist churches in the UK and Ireland, each with contact details for the pastor, service times, the number of members, a link to the teaching plan database (see below), and links to maps and statistical information about the local area.
- A Preaching Plan database giving the opportunity for each church to list who is preaching on every Sabbath of the year.
- An Adventist History website containing a number of historical documents and a database of over 500 photographs. Following a collaborative project with Newbold College old copies of the Missionary Worker and Messenger from 1923 to 1950 are also available on this site.
- A Resources website, enabling members to order and buy evangelistic resources online.
- A Hope Channel website, giving contact information for approved satellite installers as well as details of Hope Channel broadcasts and links to streamed programmes.

A donation system has also been integrated into the main website allowing members to give and Gift Aid their regular tithes and offerings, as well as special donations, online.

LIFEdevelopment

The Communication department has been heavily involved in the promotion and implementation of the LIFEdvelopment.info strategy over the last five years. As a large part of the strategy is educating Church members into a new way of thinking about evangelism, good communication has been very important. An entirely new section on the BUC website, as well as numerous articles in the Messenger and BUC News, have contributed to this process.

Television Production

This quinquennium has seen major changes in the Adventist Church’s use of television. What began as occasional broadcasts from a business satellite for media evangelistic campaigns, developed into the Hope Channel’s 24/7 broadcasting from the high-powered Hotbird 6 satellite. In order to meet this changing situation the BUC’s Media Centre shifted the focus of its work from the regular “Video News Review” video, which contained news from around the BUC and was distributed to churches, to programme content for the Hope Channel.

In the early phase of the Hope Channel the BUC Media Centre produced reports for a programme called “Adventist Newsline”, a regular Adventist television news report broadcast from the General Conference. This popular programme used a number of television reports from the BUC but unfortunately proved too costly for the Hope Channel to sustain.

Following the demise of “Adventist Newsline” the BUC Media Centre, after careful consideration of its existing resources and available finance, and in consultation with the Hope Channel, developed a half-hour interview programme called “In Conversation”. This has since become a regular feature of the Hope Channel’s schedule with sixteen showings around the world every week.

The BUC Media Centre continues to assist with the production of internal reports and offers technical assistance across a broad spectrum.

Radio

Certain churches in the South England Conference have continued to use radio communication through the Restricted Service Licence (RSL) scheme over the quinquennium. Splash-UK, based at the Holloway church, has added the Internet as a delivery mechanism for its programming.

Sadly, in January 2005 Adventist World Radio closed down its English language services, which were based near Newbold College in Binfield, shifting production of these programmes to the countries in which they will be broadcast. However AWR is continuing its international programming from a new office in Bracknell.

Office Infrastructure

The office network has developed into an integral and “mission critical” component of the BUC office. For this reason it has been significantly upgraded over the last quinquennium with a new server, fault tolerant storage system, and robust backup hardware. The server and critical components are maintained by a specialist support company, but routine maintenance, computer purchases, software installation and troubleshooting, are all handled by the Communication department.

Membership Database

During the quinquennium the Communication department in consultation with the Secretariats of the BUC, and North and South England Conference, developed a brand new, multi-user database to handle all membership and local church officer records. This database now provides the definitive information for membership statistics as well as generating up-to-date mailing lists for administrators and directors in each Conference and Mission. This database is also linked dynamically to the database of churches on the BUC website, thus ensuring that the public are always presented with the most accurate data available.
Resources

It is impossible for one departmental director to carry out all the communication work that needs to be done in an organization the size of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the UK and Ireland. For this reason we have concentrated on building up resources that can be used for communication at a local level. A complete and up-to-date list of these resources is on our web-site at <www.adventist.org.uk> but the following is a sample of what is available from the Communication department:

- Pens, bookmarks, rulers, key-fobs, plastic bags and fridge magnets, bearing the Church logo and contact information
- Church Information Cards
- Inside Look booklets
- Presentation folders bearing the Church logo and contact information
- General information sheets
- Information sheets for hospitals and other medical institutions
- Picture sets containing large pictures and captions for county shows and libraries etc.
- A large pop-up display
- Computer files containing the Church logo in different graphics formats
- Manuals for using the Church logo

Local Church Training

Although we target national information providers directly from the BUC office, we rely heavily on local Communication Secretaries to carry out the distribution of reference information at the local level. Results, as indicated by our news monitoring service, have been patchy and depend very much on the commitment and capability of the local person. On average at least one local church communication workshop per month has been run over the last quinquennium and generally these have included a number of church members outside of the normal communication team. Occasional larger training events have been run, both at Conference and Union level.

Crisis Communication

For at least the last ten years crisis communication training has been seen as an essential component of a Union-wide Communication Strategy. Each year selected Church leaders are put through a professional crisis communication skills training course by a company called "The Media Suite". As with insurance it is hoped that the training will never need to be used in a genuine crisis situation, and it is certainly the case that during the last quinquennium the Church has not experienced any major media crises. However, the training itself may well have had a preventative effect as leaders become more skilled at defusing potential crisis situations before they get out of hand.

Thanks

Over the last five years the Communication department has benefited greatly from the secretarial services of Mary Kapon. Although she also has to cope with the demands of a growing Education department she has always been able to keep the department functioning even under times of considerable pressure.

We are also very grateful to Wes Kapon who has managed the growth, development and restructuring of the Media Centre over the quinquennium. His creative skills, in filming and editing, are well recognised, both inside and outside of the Church. However it is his knowledge of the professional world of video production that has allowed the Media Centre consistently to produce the broadcast quality material that is required by the Hope Channel.

Conclusion

Church Communication continues to evolve in order to meet changing demands. There is a great deal more that could be done and it is certain that the direction of the department will change in line with new priorities. However, the department remains committed to a balanced approach, operating within financial constraints to find the most efficient, effective and appropriate ways of communicating the message of the Church during the next five years.

5. Media training for Church leaders, December 2005.
6. One of the many archive photos now on the Adventist History website. This one pictures the members of the BUC Committee who served from 1926-1932.
Introduction

It is useful to preface this report with a reminder of the important reason why the Seventh-day Adventist Church is engaged in the work of Education. Thus, for this purpose we draw on: (1) the well-known statement made by Ellen White, which says: "In the highest sense the work of education and the work of redemption are one, for in education, as in redemption, "other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." "It was the good pleasure of the Father that in Him should all the fulness dwell." 1 Corinthians 3:11; Colossians 1:18. R.V." (Education p. 30); and (2) the Divine Admonition given through the wise man Solomon, which reads: 'Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.' (Proverbs 22:6)

The conclusion that can be drawn from these statements is that Seventh-day Adventist education is mission driven and must be an essential aspect of the Church's work in the 21st century. In order to sustain growth and to realise its evangelistic responsibilities Christian education must be an integral part of the Church's long-term strategic endeavour. In the world of industry it is a recognised truism that the work of the Research and Development (R&D) department, in any organisation, is the oil that keeps the business alive and flourishing. Likewise, for the Church, but more profoundly, education is the oil that sustains church growth, and accordingly transforms it into a dynamic movement. This assertion of education being an instrument for nurture and evangelism is supported by the above statement from Ellen White.

Furthermore, through the work of Adventist education: leaders are groomed to fulfil the mission of the Church; workers are trained for service in the Church's institutions; and experts in many fields of learning are developed and their skills shared with the international community. In essence, Adventist education takes on and gives real meaning and substance to the concept of dedicating our children to God. For Adventist parents and the Church, Adventist education allows parents the opportunity to commit their children fully to a process of learning that acknowledges God as the source of all wisdom, knowledge and understanding; and prepares pupils for unselfish service to others. Adventist education provides the environment for our children to hear the voice of God calling them, and for them to respond like Samuel, saying: 'Speak, for thy servant heareth.' 1 Samuel 3:10.

Thus, I am happy to report that our educational work in the British Union is making a significant contribution to evangelism and the promotion of Seventh-day Adventism in the British Isles.

Since the last Union Session held in York (25 – 29 July 2001) the focus of the Education Department has been on the following key educational issues:

• Promoting the values of Seventh-day Adventist education throughout the constituency of the Union.
• Considering Voluntary Aided (VA) status as a route to the establishment of a much-needed secondary school in the West Midlands.
• Working with our schools in developing systematic and effective school improvement strategies.
• Building leadership capacities through training and support.
• On-going teacher development.
• Implementing the education strands set out in the BUC strategic plan.
• Developing the role of education secretaries in local churches.

In addition, there have been other developments such as the appointment of an Associate Director to the Department in 2005, the purchase of a property in Dulwich (London) for Theodore McLeary School, the redevelopment of the Education website, the search for a new site for the Hyland House School, the building of external links in the wider field of education, a regional educational award given to Laura Osei, and the General Conference Inspection of Stanborough Secondary School and The John Loughborough Seventh-day Adventist School.

Promoting and developing the work of Adventist Education

During the quinquennium the Education director was involved in over 100 visits to churches and related events such as education days, camp meetings and days of fellowship promoting the benefits of Adventist education and the work of our educational institutions. Nevertheless, our education programme in the British Union is estimated to be serving only approximately 10% to 12% of Seventh-day Adventist children of primary and secondary ages. Thus, church school provision is not keeping pace with the growth in membership. Presently the Church operates nine primary schools and two secondary schools. The table below provides data of enrolment and staffing for the period covering 2001/2 to 2005/6.

It is important to note that teaching is part of ministry and is a systematic witnessing endeavour that is undertaken five days per week, excluding holiday periods. This is in contrast to local church services which are held mainly on Sabbaths, and limited activities on Sundays and Wednesday evenings. Today, teachers form approximately 43% of the worker force in the British Union, thus, confirming their role in ministry.

The British Union’s commitment to the work of Adventist education is concretely demonstrated by the financial resources it deploys to education. During the quinquennium a total of £1,784,733 was spent on education, broken down as follows:

- £212,966 Grants to parents Newbold College
- £106,354 Appropriation to Stanborough School
- £106,827 Maintenance of the estate
- £6,620 Funding for the Education Department
- £5,291,966 General Conference Inspection of Stanborough Secondary School and The John Loughborough Seventh-day Adventist School

Enrolment and Staffing

### School Enrolment and Staffing Figures 2001-2006

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dudley House</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>59</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fletwood</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>60</td>
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<td>58</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grianach House</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harper Bell</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>125</td>
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<td>Hyland House</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>102</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newbold Primary</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stanborough Primary</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theodore McLeary</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Primary</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>706</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanborough Secondary</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Loughborough</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Secondary</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>453</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>474</td>
<td>446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>1078</td>
<td>1152</td>
<td>1190</td>
<td>1126</td>
<td>1026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Eden &amp; Eden High (Independent)</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Educational Funding for the Year Ending 31 March 2006**

- £1,784,733 Total Educational Funding
- £5,291,966 General Conference Inspection
- £106,354 Appropriation to Stanborough School
- £212,966 Grants to parents Newbold College
- £106,827 Maintenance of the estate
- £6,620 Funding for the Education Department
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- £212,966 Grants to parents Newbold College
- £106,827 Maintenance of the estate
- £6,620 Funding for the Education Department
Proposed Secondary School for the West Midlands

As a result of the growth and educational success of The Harper Bell Adventist School over the last 15 years, local church members have been showing greater interest and appreciation for the work of Seventh-day Adventist Education. Thus, there is an increasing demand for the establishment of a secondary school in the area to bridge the gap between 11 and 19 years. The North England Conference (NEC), with the support of the Education Department of the British Union Conference (BUC), has been discussing this issue with church members and church leaders in the constituency for the past year. However, given the fact that the NEC would not be in a position to support financially the establishment of a privately operated secondary school, a consensus has emerged, through the process of consultation, that the NEC should actively follow the route of Voluntary Aided (VA) status as a realistic way of achieving this objective. As a consequence, the NEC Session (held in June 2004 at Scarborough) voted decisively to pursue this proposition. In addition, the action also included a parallel VA application for The Harper Bell Adventist School. The Education Department has since been working closely with the NEC Executive Committee in implementing this action. Churches in the area have been surveyed to establish evidence-based data of demand for the existing Harper Bell Adventist School and the proposed secondary school. Furthermore, a series of consultation meetings have been held with the local authority on the issue.

Developing School Improvement Strategies

The Education Director has given high priority to the work of developing coherent and systematic School Improvement (SI) strategies in all of our schools in an effort to keep our leading edge in the nation’s drive to raise educational standards. As well as this, schools and headteachers have been supported with on-site in-service training programmes, led by the Director and the Associate Director, in the following areas: lesson planning; teacher appraisal; target setting; assessment; and other topics. During this five-year period approximately 370 visits were made by the Director and the Associate Director to schools, supporting and advising headteachers, attending board meetings, and conducting training events.

Building Leadership Capacity

The Education Department believes strongly in investing in the development of existing school leaders and in nurturing and building the capacities of emerging school leaders. Thus, through its School Leadership Development Programme (SLDP) systematic training has been provided for headteachers and other school leaders. Recent training for school leaders covered aspects such as a survey of current developments in educational leadership and management principles, approaches to school self-evaluation, an induction to the new OFSTED framework, nutrition and learning, legal updates, the implications of the government’s Education White Paper entitled ‘Higher Standards, Better Education For All’ and innovative teaching and learning styles.

In-service Training

Regular in-service training programmes have been conducted by our schools in meeting the staff development needs of our teachers and in enhancing standards in teaching and learning. In addition, the Education Department has conducted Union-wide training for primary teachers in the following areas: Information and Communication Technology (ICT); Personal, Social, and Health Education (PSHE) and Citizenship; Assessment and Target Setting; and Special Educational Needs (SEN). As well as these provisions, the majority of our teachers (secondary and primary) attended the TED Convention held in Slovenia in 2003. This was an inspirational programme and our teachers gained much from lectures on faith and learning, SDA history and philosophy of education, and school leadership and management. A BUC Convention is being considered for the future.

Progress Made on the Strategic Plan

The Education stands in the BUC Five Year Strategic Plan contained 13 elements. Below is a brief evaluation of the Department’s performance against these targets:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action No.</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.1.1</td>
<td>Set goals for each school in delivering quality education.</td>
<td>Achieved in 70% of schools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.1.2</td>
<td>Voluntary Aided (VA) status for more schools.</td>
<td>Applications being pursued for Harper Bell Adventist School and a proposed secondary school for the West Midlands.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.1.3</td>
<td>Monitor governance policy.</td>
<td>More governing bodies need to delegate work to sub-committees for effectiveness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.1.4</td>
<td>Implement whole school reviews and strategic planning.</td>
<td>Achieved in 50% of schools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.1.5</td>
<td>Produce and review curriculum documents.</td>
<td>No progress made with respect to subject specific faith and learning curriculum documents, with the exception of work being done on writing a secondary RE curriculum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.1.6</td>
<td>In-service training for teachers and school leaders.</td>
<td>Achieved.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.1.7</td>
<td>Encourage the development of church-linked primary school.</td>
<td>The Department has been promoting at Conference sessions and elsewhere the need for churches to consider provisions in three areas when embarking on development to their plant, namely: worship auditorium, social amenities, and primary education facilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.1.8</td>
<td>Reform of teachers’ salary.</td>
<td>No progress, except with extending certain allowances to teachers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.1.9</td>
<td>The appointment of a school marketing specialist.</td>
<td>No progress/financial constraint.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.1.10</td>
<td>Use of website and CD/DVD to promote schools.</td>
<td>Achieved – many schools now host their own websites and have produced DVDs to promote their schools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.1.11</td>
<td>Monitor school performances.</td>
<td>Achieved through whole school reviews/ self evaluation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.1.12</td>
<td>Develop RE curriculum for primary schools.</td>
<td>RE document in existence, but needs updating.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.1.13</td>
<td>BUC SEN coordinator for primary schools.</td>
<td>Partially achieved with the provision of access to an external SEN consultant.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Developing the Role of Education Secretaries

In an effort to improve on the support provided to education secretaries in local churches, the Department commissioned a research of education secretaries to establish their perception of their role and a way of developing the work of education in churches. This was conducted by Leriko & Associates, an external consultancy group, in 2004. Their conclusions and recommendations are set out below (lifted from the full report):

Conclusions

The foregoing analysis of the information provided by respondents has led us to the following tentative conclusions:

1. Respondents are aware of a large number of young people in the Seventh-day Adventist Church (SDAC) and they know a good number of followers who are interested in the education work of the Church.
2. The respondents are highly trained and a majority hold teaching and lecturing qualifications; however there is little evidence of training or qualifications that are designed around the empowering of others (such as parents and carers) to become supporters of learners or learning coaches.
3. There is evidence of respondents giving advice, offering counselling and coaching but there is no evidence of a systematic approach that is followed.
4. The main approach for giving support to parents and carers appears to be via the organising of education days and the giving of advice and information.
5. There was close agreement around the main purpose of the role of Education Secretaries, which includes developing others to become learning mentors; however there was little evidence to show how this was being achieved.
6. Respondents appear to rely on the Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs as the main channels for offering support to young people.
7. Respondents have identified three central issues that make their role difficult, they are: the shortage of resources; attracting help and assistance to do the work; and finding enough time to do what is needed.

These issues give the impression that respondents are asked to volunteer their time in a climate that is not particularly conducive to the purpose.

Recommendations

Based on the foregoing analysis and tentative conclusions, it is possible to make the following recommendations:

- Education secretaries need a framework that outlines the core features of the SDAC education vision, objectives, and which shows the contribution that is expected of an education secretary.
- There needs to be a clear indication of the importance of education within the SDAC and within each local church and the tasks expected of each education secretary.
- There should be a move away from having one education secretary per local church to having an education team of 3 or 4 that is led by an education secretary. Creation of education teams would bring other church members into the activity and create additional capacity and flexibility.
- To ensure that there is minimal loss of focus it is suggested that the education secretary should not be leading any other significant or time-consuming activity in the church.
- The role of education secretary needs to be made explicit and there needs to be a clear statement of the competencies and skills required; and where it is clear that some of these skills are absent training needs to be provided.
- The scope of the training to be offered needs to match the scope of the educational objectives and the skill-set of the education team members.

- An indicative training programme for members of education teams should include the following features:
  1. Overview of the rationale for SDAs to embrace youth education;
  2. Overview of the issues encountered in the church, schools and homes that might hinder the educational development of young people and explore options for overcoming them;
  3. Exploration of the desired relationship between the church, parents and schools in the process for developing the learning abilities of young people;
  4. Exploration of a parent-centred model for the educational development of young people and show the contribution of the education secretary within this model;
  5. Exploration of the concept of the education secretary as a learning coach and impart a systematic approach for engaging and supporting parents and young people in the field of education.

In response to this report the Department has provided four days of training for education secretaries in the area of educational mentoring during 2005.

Other Educational Accomplishments

Appointment of BUC Associate Education Director

In April 2005 the BUC Executive Committee appointed Cheryl Blake to serve as Associate Education Director for the British Union for the remainder of the quinquennium. She took up this position following a successful career in education as primary and secondary school teacher, deputy headteacher in the London Borough of Haringey, Headteacher for eight years in the London Borough of Lambeth, Consultant for the National College for School Leadership (NCCL) and as one of Her Majesty’s Inspectors of schools (HMI) for Ofsted.

The appointment of an Associate Education Director came as a result of the changing role and function of the Education Department identified by the Director’s report to the Executive Committee, summarised in the appendix to this report.

New Building for the Theodore McLeary School

After 12 years in the Brixton church the Theodore McLeary School now operates in its own building, but we must express thanks and gratitude to the Brixton church for its generosity to the school. The SEC at a cost of approximately £650,000 purchased the new school building, in East Dulwich. Local churches throughout the SEC constituency contributed £250,000 to this amount. The school wishes to thank everyone for the part they played in realising its dream to be in a building with adequate playing space and facilities.

Appreciation must be extended to the Headteacher, Joyce Thompson, for her pioneering work in assiduously searching for the most appropriate property for relocation. Nevertheless, at the time of writing this report the school’s enrolment is very weak, risking its financial viability and the SEC is giving urgent consideration to its long term future.

Education Website

The Education website was redeveloped this year to provide the church and other users with a more effective service. The address is www.adventist-education.org.uk. Explore the site for more information on Seventh-day Adventist schools we operate in the British Union.

External Links

The Education Director has continued the work of building important contacts and links with external bodies and national educational agencies. Education articles were written for the UK Black Links Directory, the Director made a significant contribution to the Mayor of London 2002 Education Conference, presented by Diane Abbott at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre and attended by over 1,500 participants, and he has served on a number of DFES bodies such as the recent Steering Group responsible for drafting the present non-statutory framework for Religious Education. In addition, the Education Director represents the Seventh-day Adventist Church on the Churches Joint Education Policy Committee, which is a national...
grouping of multi-faith education providers in the maintained sector. The Director is also a member of the African Caribbean Evangelical Alliance, and regularly advises its education committee.

Regional Education Award for Laura Osei
On 16 June 2003 Laura Osei, headteacher for the Little Eden School, received The 2003 Promethean Regional Award for School Leadership at a ceremony held at The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre. This annual award is sponsored by British Telecom (BT), The Guardian, Leadership Trust, the Promethean Company and The Teacher Training Agency. The 2003 event was hosted by the BBC. Undoubtedly, this achievement by Laura Osei has brought credit to the Church and in particular to the work of Adventist Education.

General Conference Accreditation
In April 2003 the General Conference Adventist Accrediting Association (AAA) team led by Andrea Ludon conducted inspections of both Stanborough Secondary School and The John Loughborough Seventh-day Adventist School. The outcome was successful for the two schools and they have been given accreditation for a further five years. We congratulate the schools for maintaining their commitment to the Seventh-day Adventist philosophy and practice of education, highlighted by the inspection reports.

Appreciation
During the quinquennium there have been changes in headship in a number of our schools. Firstly, we pay tribute to the late Maurice Brooks, headteacher of Newbold Primary School for 17 years. Mr Brooks resigned as headteacher on 31 August 2005, but unfortunately after a short illness passed away on 2 January 2006. The Education Department, along with fellow colleagues in teaching, would like to express our feelings of the deep loss of a school leader who provided dedicated service to the work of Adventist Education in the British Union for many years.

Secondly, we pay tribute to Oscar Stewart who retired as headteacher of The Harper Bell Adventist School after 11 years of outstanding leadership at the school. During his tenure the school's enrolment increased from 80 pupils to 140 and pupils' progress in national examinations improved significantly.

Thirdly, we must say thank you to Patricia Eastwood, who led the Dudley House School from September 2000 to 31 December 2005. Under her leadership the school's enrolment grew and this provided greater financial stability to the school. Patricia Eastwood is currently employed as a classroom teacher at Newbold Primary School.

Fourthly, we must also record our appreciation to Edwena McFarquhar for her leadership of The John Loughborough School during the period January 2000 to August 2004. She guided the school successfully through its first Ofsted inspection, with the support of the Education Department.

Finally, we say thank you to Steve Rivers for six years of excellent leadership as Principal of Stanborough School. During his leadership we have seen improvements in enrolment and GCSE examination results and the development of a financially successful summer language school programme. In addition, the school is now registered to offer the prestigious International Baccalaureate programme.

Welcome
We offer congratulations to the following on their appointment to headships: (1) Solomon Senessie who took up the headship position at the Harper Bell Adventist School on 1 September 2004; (2) June Alexis, the new headteacher at The John Loughborough Seventh-day Adventist School since 1 September 2005, has been in teaching for 23 years and has a successful track record as a curriculum leader with senior leadership experiences at Greig City Academy, Haringey; (3) Victoria Chilvers is the new headteacher at Newbold Primary since 1 September 2005, but has been a classroom teacher at the school from 1 September 2000 to 31 August 2005; (4) Jenny Johnson, the newly-appointed headteacher for Dudley House School as of 1 January 2006, was employed in the maintained sector for 13 years before joining Dudley House School as a classroom teacher prior to her appointment; and (5) Roger Murphy who took up his appointment as Principal for Stanborough School on 1 July 2006 after three years as Deputy Headteacher. Roger Murphy has been a Chemistry teacher at Stanborough School for approximately 11 years and in addition, he had previous experience as a business manager.

Conclusion
Seventh-day Adventist education can be at the forefront of our national education system. We have an educational philosophy and a perspective that can address many of the current educational challenges confronting our nation as we seek to develop the potential of our young people. Our focus on spiritual, mental, physical and social development takes education beyond just meeting an economic and national self-preservation need. It can transform the individual (his/her capacity and potential) into a real asset for national kudos and honour to God, the provider of all wisdom and knowledge. Education today needs more experts. The challenge for every Adventist teacher is to become an expert in his/her field of work. Consider the impact that this will have on the quality of pupils we produce and the influence our education system will command locally and nationally. Indeed this will be a powerful witness for the true and living God we serve.

I close with thanks to the following for the support they have provided to the department during the quinquennium: Cheryl Blake (Associate Director); Mary Kapon (Secretary to the Department); Cecil Perry (BUC President); Eric Lowe (BUC Executive Secretary); Victor Pilmoor (BUC Treasurer); Don McFarlane (former President of the SEC); Egerton Francis (President of the NEC); Humphrey Walters (President of the SEC); and all our headteachers and teachers in the BUC.
Family Ministries is a ministry of grace. It draws people into the circle of fellowship in God’s church. People who are alone and estranged are invited to experience love and belonging.

Family Ministries is also a story of what Jesus can do among human beings when we are incorporated into the body of Christ. This is the ultimate family, the place where we find wholeness and belonging.

The role of the Family Ministries director at the Union office is primarily that of a co-ordinator. This role/duty involves:

1. Chairing the BUC Family Ministries Council;
2. Supporting the Conference/Mission directors or sponsors by:
   - researching for suitable resources
   - attending the GC Certificate Leadership course
   - passing on news from the Trans-European Division and General Conference
   - supporting and participating in their programmes, e.g. Church Officer Training and Workshops
4. Distributing the annual Family Ministries GC Planbook.

Thanks to the Family Ministries directors, Bernie & Karen Holford at the South England Conference and Cyril Sweeney at the North England Conference; Richard Vine and Peggy Mason, Welsh Mission Family Ministries sponsors, for their support and inspirational leadership. We also recognise the valuable work done by the secretaries, pastoral and lay people who give their giftedness to the Lord’s work for His earthly family.
In addition to these shorter presentations the following programmes have been conducted:

**Stress**
- Amersham (Church Plant)
- Banbridge
- Bodmin
- Dublin
- Erdington
- Redditch
- Swansea
- Watford Town
- Yardley

**Positively Healthy**
- Birmingham (Tent Evangelism Programme)
- Bristol (Church Plant)
- Bury St Edmunds
- Crieff (Roundelwood)
- Dublin
- Greenwich
- Nuneaton
- Port Talbot
- Uxbridge
- Watford Town

**5 Day Plan**
- Reading (Girls’ Grammar School)

**NEWSTART**
- Roundelwood

**You are what you eat**
- Advent Centre
- Harrow
- Oxford

The writer also attended the Royal Cornwall Show, and was a guest speaker at the:
- Alberta Conference Health Retreat
- Polish Union Maranatha outreach programme, held in three separate venues across the country
- Welsh Mission Health Retreat (Cardiff)

**Special conferences**

During the quinquennium I participated in the following as:
- Academic Programme Planning Group member for the 7th Berzelius Symposium between the Swedish Society of Medicine and the Royal Society of Medicine Conference on Alcohol.
- Guest speaker
  - International Commission for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Dependency Seminars in Belfast and Londonderry for the NHS
  - National United Temperance Council AGM
  - Royal Institute of Public Health Conference on Alcohol
  - United Kingdom Alliance Youth Choices Seminars at the House of Commons and Bristol (Binge-drinking and The Cannabis Issue)
- Organiser of the National Committee for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Dependency Seminars on Mentoring and Empowerment (Newbold and London)
- Host and co-organiser of the Adventist Nursing Convention, Coventry
- Attendee
  - Alcohol and Family Violence Conference, Northants

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**Concepts of health**

Fortunately the SDA Church does not hold the view of Joseph Adison:

> I consider the Body as a System of Tubes and Glands, or to use a mere Rustik Phrase, a Bundle of Pipes and Strainers, fitted to one another after so wonderful a manner as to make a proper Engine for the Soul to work with. This Description does not only comprehend the Bowels, Bones, Tendons, Veins, Nerves and Arteries, but every Muscle and every Ligature, which is a Composition of Fibres, that are so many imperceptible Tubes or Pipes interwoven on all sides with invisible Glands or Strainers.

Nor do we hold the jaundiced concept of another author who describes us as, ‘... ambulatory brains, plugged into meat-puppets that lug our precious grey matter from place to place’. Instead, we believe that we are totally integrated beings – body, mind and spirit – acting in a harmonious whole. It is this elevated position that the Health Ministries Department has taken and promoted through the past quinquennium.

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**Church and community health programmes**

As well as attending churches to preach for the divine service, many churches have invited me to make health presentations (on a variety of topics) on either the Sabbath afternoon, Sundays or mid-week evenings for church members and invitees from the communities they serve. During the quinquennium these have included the following churches (and in some instances, on more than one occasion):

- Amersham (Church Plant)
- Aylesbury
- Bethel
- Birmingham (Camp Hill)
- Bradford
- Bristol (Lodge Causeway)
- Cambridge
- Canter bury
- Cardiff
- Carmarthen
- Castle Vale
- Clapton
- Croydon
- Etham Green
- Exeter
- Gloucester
- Greys
- Halifax
- Hampstead
- Hastings
- Holloway Ilford
- Lewisham (Ghana)
- Liverpool
- Londonderry
- Longeaton
- Manchester (Lonsight)
- Mosside
- Norw ich
- Peckham
- Piaistow
- Rhy l
- Slough
- Stanborough Park
- Stake Newington
- Southall
- Southend
- West Kilburn
- Willesden
- Wolverhampton
- Worthing
- Yardley
their organisation of AIMS (the Adventist International Medical Society) which enables doctors and dentists in particular to fellowship in a variety of settings and hold seminars on topical issues. This has been supported by the GC Health Ministries Department and by other interesting speakers during the quinquennium.

Postscript

Health Ministries in the BUC has been pleased to welcome Elsie Staple as its leader in the SEC, and George Mabeza as health sponsor for the NEC. We are also grateful for the work of the Mission Health sponsors, Martin Bell (Scottish Mission) and Irving and Lil Saunders (Welsh Mission) who have kept the work alive around the Union territory. We thank all the Church Health Ministries’ Leaders for their sterling work from week to week.

‘Laughter is the best medicine’, it is said, and so very special thanks to Dawn Tompkins for her cheerful and uncomplaining secretarial support in keeping the Health Ministries train on the track, and making work in the department so pleasurable.

Inevitably, quinquennial Reports sound like ‘been there, done that, got the T-shirt’, but since you are delegates of the constituency at large you need to know that I have ‘been there, done that’ and ‘got the T-shirt’, that’s why we have the department. However, it is never one person’s job. There is a team that makes it happen, and God is the major player:

‘Apart from divine power, no genuine reform can be effected… Not until the life of Christ becomes a vitalizing power in our lives can we resist the temptations that assail us from within and without’ (Ministry of Healing pp 130-131). We thank God that His divine power has been shown in the many ways in which He has opened and blessed this work. To God be the glory.

• Foetal Alcohol Syndrome Society Conference, London
• Institute of Health Promotion and Education meetings
• International Commission for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Dependency Boards, Washington DC
• National United Temperance Council meetings and seminars
• Roundelwood Boards
• Royal Society of Health Seminars
• Royal Institute of Public Health Seminars
• Royal Society of Medicine Food and Health Forum council meetings and meeting of the RSM Publications committee
• TED Health Advisory, Rogaska
• Westminster Diet and Health Forum Seminars

Health communication

During the quinquennium I have continued writing for the Messenger, KIT (Stanborough Park newsletter), and the FOCUS magazine. For a two year period I also have to contribute the President’s Letter for the International Journal of Health Promotion and Education, to which I have also contributed an article on Dr J H Kellogg’s role in health promotion.

Manuscripts awaiting publication at the Stanborough Press include A Picture of Health (a compilation of Messenger articles), and books on Alcohol, Tobacco, and First Aid and Home Treatments (co-authored with John Wilby of the Glasgow SDA Church).

The media interest in SDA longevity, and the new alcohol licensing laws enabled me to talk on Radio Dublin and BBC Radio Scotland. The BUC Media Centre produced an ‘In Conversation’ with me which was aired through the Hope television channel.

Health networking

It has been my privilege to network with the following organisation in various capacities over the last five years as:

President
Institute of Health Promotion and Education

Chairman
United Kingdom Alliance

Vice-Chairman
National United Temperance Council

Executive Director and Treasurer
National Committee for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Dependency

Board Member
International Commission for the Prevention for Alcohol and Drug Dependency

Officer
Council of the Food and Health Forum and Publications Committee member of the Royal Society of Medicine

Professional membership in these and other organisations mean that the Church has representation across a vast spectrum of health agencies. I take this opportunity to thank Clemency and Colin Mitchell for
At the last British Union Conference Session held in York 5 years ago, the position of Ministerial Secretary was reinstated following a period when the Ministerial Association was not represented by a full-time director.

In addition, the LIFEdevelopment.info concept was adopted by the Session as a major outreach project to secular, post-modern people and came under the auspices of the Ministerial Association. Shortly after the last Session the pastors from the British Union attended the Trans-European Ministerial Council in the Netherlands. We traveled on 11 September 2001, which now has become a significant date in history, since which the world has not been the same. The Mission of the British Union, however, is still the same – to proclaim the everlasting gospel to all people groups within its territory, leading them to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, and to unite with His church in preparation for the imminent return of Jesus. The Ministerial Association’s Mission is to assist its pastors in fulfilling this task through proclamation, personal growth, professional growth and church growth.

LIFEdevelopment.info

The LIFEdevelopment.info concept was introduced to leaders and other representatives in the British Union in March 2001. A meeting of the Net Evangelism Committee met on 25 April 2001, when Miroslav Pujic, the Trans-European Division Communication Director and the architect of the concept, made a presentation. LIFEdevelopment.info is a strategic vision to involve Adventists in building authentic, lasting friendships with post-modern people, leading them step by step to a friendship with Jesus Christ with the support of a multi-media package.

A number of meetings with pastors and church leaders were held to inform and to receive feedback regarding the concept. A meeting took place on the 13 November 2001 with Area Co-ordinators, Mission Presidents and other key pastors in the BUC. The concept was presented and discussion and feedback took place. As a result of these meetings it was voted to provide “How to become a Contagious Christian” seminar material to all pastors in the BUC. This material was distributed before Christmas 2001 and the pastors were encouraged to read the material prior to the Union Ministerial Council, which met at Swanwick, Derbyshire at the beginning of February 2002.

The Ministerial Council was the official launch of the LIFEdevelopment.info concept to our pastors throughout the British Union. We were happy to have as our guest speaker, Dwight Nelson, who was also the Presenter at the two media events, “Evidence” and “Mind the Gap”, which were televised at Newbold College 1-12 March 2004 and 18-22 July 2004. All our pastors received a promotional video, poster, bookmarks and brochures describing the LIFEdevelopment.info concept. This material was also distributed to church elders throughout the British Union. Also present at the Ministerial Council was Stew Harty, the director of ‘Faith for Today’, who produced the materials for the “Get Connected Package”.

The year 2002 saw the launch of a new magazine entitled LIFE.info, edited by Lee Gallaher. This magazine, designed as a tool for church members to use in level one of LIFEdevelopment – connecting and making friends in the community, is issued five times a year. By the end of 2005 fifteen issues were published with a total of 867,500 copies printed. Since the launch, the Ministerial Association/LIFEdevelopment office has operated the customer accounts and the Stanborough Press has covered printing and distribution. A Working/Editorial Committee was organised with David Cox as Chair. Albert Elias led in the marketing and promotion over a twelve month period. In consultation with the Ministerial Secretary and Faye Weekes, Thelma Hodges custom-built a database to assist in managing the finances and distribution of the magazine. The success of this journal has been the result of a team effort and the dedication and enthusiasm of Lee Gallaher. Feedback from readers has been encouraging and we would invite more of our members to use this publication as part of a strategy to reach the unchurched.

The media events, “Evidence” and “Mind the Gap” were produced by the Adventist Media Centre, Sydney, Australia. Our thanks and appreciation is extended to all those involved with these productions including, Miroslav Pujic, Dwight Nelson, Gillian J oseph, the late Kevin Townsend, Clifford Goldstein, Ken Burton, Paul Lee, Sally Salmon, Behren Shultz and all those who appeared on the programmes or worked behind the scenes.

Throughout the quinquennium LIFEdevelopment.info has been promoted through articles in the Messenger, at local churches on Sabbaths and at Ministerial Meetings. Special Days of Fellowship were held in both Conferences and Missions during 2003, with Dwight Nelson as the guest speaker in Wolverhampton (19 April) and at the Wembley Arena (26 April). In addition, special LIFEdevelopment.info Days were organised on 25 May 2002 and 4 October 2003. Richard de Lisser and Jeremy Brooks prepared sermon materials, which were circulated to the churches. A video report of the Ministerial Meetings was prepared by John Surridge and Wesley Kapon, which proved to be an excellent tool in the promotion of LIFEdevelopment.info. This was followed by a DVD entitled “The Story so Far”.

The churches that have caught the vision of this innovative concept have had mixed results. Surveys conducted in the Conferences brought encouraging reports from a number of churches. As the LIFEdevelopment.info concept follows a seven-step discipleship path it has been difficult to evaluate as one would evaluate a traditional form of evangelism as it is a process rather than a programme. Information regarding LIFEdevelopment.info is available on the BUC Website and each issue of LIFE.info magazine can be downloaded from the web. Interest in this approach has also come from various parts of the world, where secularism is growing. At the General Conference Session, held in St Louis, Missouri, USA in July 2005 Cecil Perry was able to report on LIFEdevelopment to the delegates, and his comments were transmitted on the Hope Channel and Three Angels Broadcasting Network around the world. This created an interest, and enquiries came from Adventists involved in the work in China, Africa, North America and Europe.

In addition, the LIFEdevelopment office has received emails from those who are not members of the church and an ongoing ministry is developing with individuals outside of the BUC territory. This exciting evangelistic initiative can involve every member of the church and many are realising that new ways of reaching the secular society have to be used so that the gospel commission to reach all peoples can be achieved. Work continues on providing resources for levels 4-7 of the concept and includes the beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists, baptism, nurture and training for witness.

Union-wide Ministerial meetings

During the quinquennium the Ministerial Association at the British Union has organised three Union-wide Ministerial Councils:

**10 - 13 February 2002** – Reaching the Unchurched through LIFEdevelopment.info
Guest Speakers – Dwight Nelson & Miroslav Pujic.
Held at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire.

Preach Programme

The “Preach Programme” is the Project for Reaching Every Active Clergy at Home. The Ministerial Association has encouraged district pastors in both Conferences and Missions to identify clergy of other denominations as a specially-focused group for personal friendship, theological dialogue, practical sharing and spiritual fellowship. Seventy thousand clergy worldwide of all denominations receive “Ministry” magazine with the following number of bi-monthly subscriptions in the British Union:

- SEC – 714
- NEC – 40
- IM – 62
- SM – 28
- WM – 126

Professional growth seminars

In connection with the “Preach Programme” the Ministerial Association at the General Conference has co-ordinated the Professional Growth Seminars for clergy of other denominations utilising the best resources of Adventist instructors and facilities. The BUC Ministerial Association Secretary had the opportunity of working with Nicolaus Satelmajer, Associate Secretary of the General Conference Ministerial Association in the organising of the seminar in 2002, which took place within the British Union, at Edinburgh, 9-11 April. The theme for the seminar was “Pulpits on Fire” and was an International congress on preaching. This gave a wonderful opportunity to share with clergy of all backgrounds. It was broadcast worldwide on the Hope Channel and including a number of sites around the UK. During the quinquennium the themes for this televised annual seminar were as follows:

- 2001 – In the Presence of the Holy
- 2002 – Pulpits on Fire
- 2003 – Rumours of Peace: Pastoral Care in an Anxious Age
- 2004 – Bridge Building: Clergy as Designers of Reconciliation
- 2005 – The Word

Appreciation of Pastors and their wives who have retired or been laid to rest

They are sadly missed, but the hope of the soon coming of Jesus and the resurrection, inspire us to do our part in hastening that glorious day.

Ministerial training & advisory committee

Following the preparation of a ten-year forecast of ministerial retirees the committee spent time looking at pastoral recruitment. As a result, the Ministerial Association has distributed a DVD entitled “Hearing God’s Call” to pastors and elders throughout the British Union. The short film shows pastors at work in various world divisions, including the Trans-European Division, and where shown, can inspire viewers to consider giving their lives in full-time service.

Study has also been given to improving the Internship Programme for pastoral staff, and plans have been laid for implementing seminars for interns and training for supervisors.

The intention of the Committee is to develop a closer working relationship with the staff of Newbold College in order to provide stronger and more practical training for those preparing for ministry.

During the quinquennium thirty pastors have been ordained to the gospel ministry.

Appreciation

Finally, the Ministerial Association would have had great difficulty in continuing its work in supporting the ministry in the British Union without the capable assistance of the secretaries who have served in this busy department during the quinquennium, namely Sharon Godman and Faye Weekes. Their support and commitment have been greatly appreciated.

Lay preachers/elders training

The training of Elders and Lay Preachers has been covered by the two Conferences and appreciation must be expressed to the Ministerial Secretaries, Mike Hamilton (SEC) and Fred Mapp (NEC), for the part they have played in organising seminars and training events to cover this important aspect of ministry.
So the world did not end in the year 2000, as some people thought it would. We survived Millenial fever! Five years on, the world is still here, despite the tragedies and trends which threaten it. So is the church. And it's not just surviving; against all the odds, it's thriving, at least from the perspective of this department. The Adventist church in the British Union Conference has probably seen more of its members involved in ministry and more new church planting projects initiated during the period under review, than during any other comparable period. We are still far from where we believe God wants us to be, but by His grace we're getting there. As those who read this report know, it's an uphill journey.

The Background

For several decades we have been aware that Britain's increasingly secular and multi-cultural society has posed new challenges to the growth of the church. Tried and tested methods of evangelism no longer yield the same results as in earlier years, especially among the indigenous white population. More recently we have seen the rise of post-modernism, and its disillusionment with all things traditional and institutional. Now, with as few as 6% of the total adult U.K. population regularly attending church, and less than 4% of children attending Sunday School, we understand why the society in which we have sought to witness to our faith and build the church over the past five years, is being described as a part of "post-Christendom." The vast majority of men and women we rub shoulders with each day have no experience of, no identity with, and no interest in, the Christian message as we know it ourselves. The church is no longer central to British society as it once was in the days of 'Christendom.'

That's not necessarily such a bad thing, however. We are closer now than we were before to where the New Testament church was - a small, marginal group on the fringe of society. And that should give us hope, especially in view of the fact that interest in spirituality is higher in this country than it has been for longer than most of us can remember. Many who 'don't want to know' when it comes to religion or the church, do want to know God. If there is a God, they want to experience Him. Most people may not be ready to study the Bible in depth, but they are ready - if they feel it is 'safe' to do so - to talk about the big issues of life, including the mystery of God and the person of Jesus.

It is important that we see this as the context in which the rest of this report is written. You don't have to be a trained theologian to see why the church has struggled (thankfully with some success) to make some headway in recent years.

Struggling but Alive

As I have observed the response of church members and congregations over the past five years to the complex challenges of ministry and growth in today's British Isles, I come to the conclusion that despite our struggles, as a movement we are still very much alive. It's good that we can rejoice in a numerically growing church. But it's vital to know that we are a living church if we are to grow with the Kingdom of God.

You may remember being taught that there are seven basic signs that a biological organism is alive. They are:
- Movement
- Respiration
- Sensitivity
- Growth
- Reproduction
- Excretion
- Nutrition

Some schools list them in this particular order because they form an acronym - MRS GREN - which is easy for children, or adults for that matter, to remember. I include it here not only as a way of summarising the work of this department in the BUC as a whole, but as a simple tool for delegates to use on their local church when they get home! So let's take a closer look at this check-list.

Movement

A couple of years ago I forgot the time of year and overestimated my potential when I jumped into a freezing lake in Scandinavia in late October (well, the sun was shining). I didn't stay to prove anything. I moved, fast, out of the water. That movement was proof that I was still alive. Movement is evidence of life in a spiritual body also. As Adventists, movement is an essential part of our identity. Remember, the Adventist church was raised up by God as a movement, not as an institution or a denomination. To be faithful to our heritage and our identity, we must be open to change, not for the sake of change, but in order to do better whatever we have been called to do. We cannot just stay put.

Clearly, the past five years have been years of change in our approach to ministry and witness. The department has offered workshops on traditional methods of outreach and growth, with the LETS programme of the North England Conference continuing to train and mobilise members in a variety of witnessing activities. The emphasis, however, has been in the following areas:

- The focus on discipleship. Training events at Union, Conference and Mission, and local church levels have given renewed emphasis to the call and commission of Jesus to be His disciples and to make disciples. Discipleship by its very nature implies openness to change and a commitment to growth for the whole of our spiritual journey. This department has provided most of the training for the LIFE development.info initiative which has played a large part in resourcing the church for a new discipleship-based concept of outreach and growth. Ongoing training in small group ministry has also been an essential part of this focus

- A broader understanding of evangelism. Traditionally our understanding of evangelism tended to be limited to giving Bible studies and preaching (which only the experts could do), and its goal was baptism and church membership. Now, we are more likely to understand evangelism as the process of leading another person further along in his journey toward God wherever that person may be at the time - whether that means requires a simple act of kindness, or developing an existing friendship. Many churches have used the Becoming a Contagious Christian course (or something similar) to emphasise the importance of relationships with people in this process. Consequently many more members see themselves on the evangelistic cutting edge of the church than before.

- Trying new methods of ministry and outreach. Purchasing and converting a double-decker bus for use as a mobile youth club, as Dana and Leslie King have done in Yeovil; cutting hair to connect with
community young people, as the youth of the Kennington Community Church do every week; involving non-Christians in the outreach ministries of the church, as numerous congregations are now doing, are only three examples of many ‘movements’ in our evangelistic methodology.

**Respiration**

Living organisms breathe deeply and ensure that life-giving oxygen is available to every cell in the body. The spiritual organism of the church must be energised by the Holy Spirit, the breath of God. We breathe deeply of that breath through prayer, opening the whole being to God and allowing Him to fill us with His Spirit.

Significantly, prayer has become more evident in many of our churches, and our ministry training events. During the Trans-European Division’s annual, week-long Church Planters’ Exchanges in which many UK church planting teams have participated, it has been ‘normal’ to see pairs or groups of people sharing times of spontaneous prayer together during break periods, or communion services continuing till midnight to give opportunity for special prayer needs.

Extended conversational prayer is felt by many to be the most important part of hundreds of small group meetings each week. Many lay people engaging in important ministries have created their own prayer support networks, while others ‘meet’ on the phone each day with prayer partners.

But we need more. Jesus has asked us to “pray to the Lord of the harvest” that He will send more reapers into the harvest (Luke 10:2). We cannot pray that prayer enough!

**Sensitivity**

Our senses – sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell – keep us informed about the world around us. Sensitivity is the measure of our connectedness with that world, enabling us to respond to it in appropriate ways.

I think we are becoming a more sensitive – and therefore a more alive – church. An increasing number of churches – especially new church plants – are becoming involved with the needs of their local communities, sensitive to the pains and joys of the people around them, by offering their services with no hidden ‘conversion’ agenda. Some local authorities see our churches as a community service resource in areas such as parenting, child-care, drug abuse, and youth work. The ‘Welcome to your new home’ community service pioneered by Rosemary and Douglas Lethbridge in Wales is another example of sensitivity in action.

ADRA Ingathering continues to respond to humanitarian needs around the world. During the quinquennium, £2,671,743 was raised by the members of the British Union Conference to service development projects and respond to major crises. While most of this total was raised through door-to-door collections, other methods were also used, from car boot sales to Pathfinder car-washes to musical concerts. The South England Conference’s half-marathon is now an annual event, and last year raised over £30,000.

Another evidence of sensitivity to human need is the growing diversity of churches in the British Union Conference. Some church plants have been designed for specific language or ethnic groups, and we are beginning to see the emergence of churches designed for specific age groups, such as youth or teens. Some members have expressed concern that this may result in fragmentation instead of unity; but remember that such ministries are evangelistic, and are the only way some people groups can be reached.

There is also a growing sensitivity of a different kind. We are more aware than we used to be of the importance of spiritual gifts in ministry, more sensitive to the moving of God’s Spirit among us. Consequently we are learning to build our ministries around them. And we are consciously looking beyond the present to the possibilities of the future. Many churches and groups speak of their ‘vision’ for their future, their ‘picture’ of what they believe God wants them to become. But that should be expected. J. oel saw this happening long ago (J os 2:28, 29)

**Growth**

Healthy, living organisms grow. And healthy, living churches grow also. Of course we can’t make ourselves grow, and we are not told to work for our growth. Only God causes growth to happen (IC 3:6-9; Col 2:19)

But we can create a growing environment.

One element of a growing spiritual environment is what is often referred to as empowering leadership. Ephesians 4:12 indicates that the primary function of the pastor (along with others) is to equip and empower God’s people to do their work so that the church will be built up. An increasing number of pastors in this Union are making this the priority of their ministry, resulting in more competent local leadership, the spiritual growth of their congregations, the multiplication of small groups, and the eventual freeing up of those pastors to spend more time on the planting of new churches.

We evidently still have much to learn about creating growing environments in our local churches. A recent study of why members of long-standing leave growing churches (see A Churchless Faith by Alan J amieson) came to the sobering conclusion that many believers committed to personal growth actually leave the church in order to grow in their relationship with God. We too must face the possibility that this may well be the reason why some have left the Adventist church.

So let’s make our churches places where people can freely explore their faith and work through their doubts. They should not need to leave to do so.

**Reproduction**

This is an obvious one, especially where loving relationships are concerned. If churches are truly loving communities, it is inconceivable that they will not share what they have with others. Disciples make other disciples. Leaders empower other leaders. Small groups give birth to more small groups. Churches reproduce churches.

While small group ministry has grown during the past five years the most visible evidence we have of reproduction is the church planting movement, gathering momentum year by year. Over 70 church planting projects – some still in the early pre-natal stages – have been started in the BUC during the past five years, a record for a five year period in this territory. The South England Conference launched their bold ‘Lights Across London’ and ‘Lights Across the Provinces’ initiatives last year; but the North England Conference also has its church planting strategy, and the Welsh, Irish and Scottish Missions all have church planting plans and/or projects.

Some church plants are spearheaded by pastors, others by lay members. Some are the result of ‘overflow’ from congregations that have outgrown their worship premises; many are intentional attempts to penetrate new geographical areas or new people groups with the Gospel of Jesus; some are the unplanned result of a small group meeting weekly to worship, to pray, and invite their friends to meet with them.

**Excretion**

Yes, there are some things we need to get rid of if we are to be fully alive and enjoying optimum growth. Many Adventist churches in the U.K. have worked through the Natural Church Development materials as a way of measuring their health quotient and identifying their strengths and weaknesses. One common growth inhibitor is non-functional structures.

You know the kind of thing: so many committees that there’s no time for people; departments which consume time, energy and money but do not serve the mission of the church; old methods of outreach which don’t work any more but we do them anyway; willing members carrying too many responsibilities. We need to streamline. That means letting go of old ways which have outlived their usefulness.

And dare I say that we also have to get rid of poisonous toxins: intolerance of those who think differently from ourselves; a critical spirit toward those who have the courage to try new things; condemnation instead of support when those new things fail. Some of us find it easier to ‘let go’ than others. The ‘pioneers’ among us are blazing new trails: the ‘settlers’ among us need to support them.
Nutrition

If living things don’t eat they will die, and the same is true of the church. So where do we get our nourishment? Some may say from Bible study. Jesus, who called Himself “the Bread of Life” (John 6:48) said, “My food is to do the will of Him that sent me and to finish His work.” (John 4:34)

One of the most encouraging signs of life I have observed in our churches is a renewed hunger for Jesus, a deeper longing to know Him, a stronger desire to live life in step with Him. Hence the new commitment to discipleship (the Great Commission) and to the creation of churches as caring communities (the Great Commandment) to movement, to change, to prayer, to simply be like Him.

Despite our faults, these signs of life are becoming more and more evident in the churches of the British Union Conference. In the Department of Personal Ministries and Church Growth, the future looks bright.

Thanks are due to Humphrey Walters and Aris Vontzalidis (SEC) and Paul Haworth and Roy Morgan (NEC) for their past and present devotion to the work of this department. We recognize also the enormous contribution of Personal Ministries leaders, small group leaders and church planting teams around the BUC.

Most of all we give thanks to God for the privilege of being called to partner with Him in the work of the Kingdom. Let’s commit ourselves fully to His service in the future.

Youth ministries

Desmond G Boldeau

The philosophy of the BUC Youth Ministries Department

The philosophy of the BUC Youth Department is to facilitate the spiritual growth of the young people within its territory. This is done in consultation and collaboration with the conferences and missions.

Vision Statement

The BUC youth department exists to facilitate a dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ through the various ministries made available to young people.

To package the Gospel within the context of the youth culture for the benefit of the young people whom we serve in the BUC.

To inform the church at large in youth matters with the intent of improving the quality of ministry that will value, affirm and encourage them to commit themselves to the mission and purpose of Christ and His church.

Aim

The aim is to provide the kind of support deemed necessary and appropriate by the entities within the areas of discipleship, evangelism, fellowship, ministry and worship.

Roles/functions of the director

- The various roles and functions carried by the youth director are as follows:
  - Editor of the Encounter magazine.
  - Student Chaplaincy in co-operation with regional departments.
  - Oversee the Adventist Volunteer Service.
  - Organise bi-annual Youth Advisories for the youth sponsors and directors of the territory for the purpose of planning and initiating such events and resources as would facilitate their ministry to their territory, while addressing any youth issues as needs arise.
  - Creating resources as required.
  - Nurture the development of Teen ministry.
  - Plan and execute Pathfinder Camporee once every four years.
  - Plan as the needs arise youth events for the nurturing of faith. Such events may be a youth congress, Bible conferences, etc.
• Support the Missions as and when called upon via retreats, camporees, youth and Pathfinder training.
• Represent the views of Youth on the British Union Conference Executive Committee.
• Represent the Youth of the British Union on the TED Youth Advisory which is held every two years.

The following activities and events represent the areas in which the above was executed:

### Chaplaincy

Part of the strategic plans for this period was to initiate a lay-chaplaincy training in student ministry and support. However, after advertising the event, and receiving little or no response, the event was deferred to some future time.

The NEC has had a strong chaplaincy ministry over the recent past under the NEC youth directorship of Steve Palmer and more recently Alan Hush. This has been based primarily in Leicester.

The SEC in 2004 elected its own chaplain for students under the leadership of Robert Hines.

The BUC was in the process of compiling and updating a database but there was very little response from the churches.

### Adventist Volunteer Services

#### Inward

During this period, we had in excess of sixty young persons coming into the UK to provide valuable voluntary support for many of our institutions like Newbold College, AWR, Stanborough School and church, St Albans church, SEC, Grianach House School in the Irish Mission and Roundelwood in Scotland.

#### Outward

At the same time, twenty-seven youth went abroad to serve our church in the furtherance of its mission to places like the Korean Language Institute, Japan, Spain, Honduras, Cambodia, Palau, Marshal Islands, Jamaica and Guam.

### Youth Advisories

The BUC has historically organised a bi-annual youth advisory: a time when all the youth directors/sponsors meet to share vision, plans and formulate proposals for the future of youth ministry in the BUC. A part of the strategy of our meetings was to offer training in some area specific to youth ministry and administration of the work. During the period I have provided training in Health and Safety for the outdoors credited by the OCC. This training took place on our advisory held in Northern Ireland in March 2003.

Further to this, additional training was offered in team building, diversity and more recently drug awareness.

### Drug educators training

In response to the current public and government discussions on the use and misuse and classification of certain drugs, in 2004/5 the youth department, in partnership with Hope UK (a Christian drug education organisation), advertised and arranged a series of four training weekends covering various issues related to how to train and educate schools, young people, parents, pastors and church leaders. This course was completed in February, 2006.
Youth Leadership conventions

In 2001, the BUC took a delegation to an International Youth Leadership Convention in São Paulo, Brazil. The object was to enrich the leadership skills and experiences of youth leaders across the world.

In March 2003, the TED hosted a similar Youth Leadership Convention in Denmark at which over forty delegates from across the UK attended. This event is scheduled to take place once every five years.

Youth Congress

The BUC did not host a youth congress during this period, but the NEC hosted several and the TED hosted one in Poland during August 2004, which 110 young persons attended.

Pathfinder Camporee

Pathfinder ministry is a huge success in the BUC youth ministry work. It had grown steadily in attendance, activities and is without a doubt a very great success story throughout the BUC territory.

The BUC hosted a national Pathfinder Camporee at the Northern Ireland Scouts campsite at Crawfordsburn in Northern Ireland during July-August 2004. There were in attendance 780 Pathfinders, leaders and Camporee staff on the site. One of the standard activities, which has become part of the Camporee experience, is the Market Day. It was decided that we would give the proceeds from the day toward the Northern Ireland Children’s cancer fund. We were able to give a cheque for £3,100. I thank God that we were able to leave a mark of our presence with some of the children of Northern Ireland.

The SEC and NEC have also had their own Pathfinder and Adventurer camporees with growing interest, evident in the numbers who have been attending.

ACTS

The BUC youth department supported (2001-3) the Newbold College Active Christians Together in the Spirit for three years, which in excess of one thousand young people from across the BUC territory attended. It was disappointing when the college was not able to continue this valuable event.

Three Missions youth weekend retreat

Annually, the three missions jointly organise a weekend retreat for their youth. They have seen a steady increase in the numbers attending, which is a positive indicator of the relevance of such a ministry for the Missions.

Some of them have also had their own Pathfinder camporees together with other youth events.

Youth Leadership Training

The BUC’s leadership training is undergoing change. The SEC, being such a resourceful sector of the territory, has taken some initiatives which have pushed the leadership training into territories hitherto not even dreamed about. They have an extensive training event annually in Spain where they make available a wide range of seminars in additional to the core subjects which have been part of the BUC’s level 1 and 2, to those who attend. At the time of writing, there are discussions going on about the feasibility of the SEC’s approach to youth leadership training and consideration to adopting certain aspects of the curriculum by the entire territory. This is yet to be voted.

Changes to regional leadership

During the period under review there have been changes in youth leadership in every entity of the British Union. These changes, although exciting, have not been without their challenges. The SEC’s leadership...
changed from Bernie Holford (Provincial Youth), Sam Davis (London Youth), Eglan Brooks (Pathfinders & Teens), to Japhet de Oliveira, Robert Hines and Nathan Stickland.

In the NEC Steve Palmer (Youth) was replaced by Alan Hush, and Mike Rossiter by Trevor Thomas.

The Missions also experienced changes. The Irish Mission changed from Nathan Stickland (following his call to the SEC) to Adam Keough, Welsh Mission from Paul Lockham to Ed Sammons, and the Scottish Mission from Gordon Smith to Marcel Ghioalda.

Mission Project

From June 24-11 July 04, 49 individuals from over the Union territory travelled to the Muslim territory of Tamale, North Ghana, to participate in building a community hospital.

We took one forty-foot container with medical equipment and furnishings for the hospital together with a team of builders, carpenters, plumbers, bricklayers and electricians to do the building work.

We completed the project as planned which included the operating wing, consulting rooms, records room, reception and other rooms on the ground floor. In addition to this, we had a medical team of doctors, nurses, pharmacists, etc, running a clinic twice daily, during which time they received and dispensed medicines to over 1,500 local persons. We ran three evangelistic campaigns and baptised over 30 for the three churches. Some of the team also went into schools to inform and educate on AIDS-related issues through mimes, drama, etc.

Thanks

In closing, I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude to the secretaries who have served the department during this period: Mary Kapon, Jacquei Johnson, Ellen Bryant and Karen Plaatjes.
Reasons to celebrate

During this quinquennium Women’s Ministries celebrated its tenth anniversary with a service of praise and testimony at the NEC Camp Hill church, Birmingham, while in the SEC a garden party was held at Newbold College. As you read this report and trace the handiwork of the Lord please celebrate too.

For the first time the department of Women’s Ministries is included in the 16th Edition of the Church Manual. In the BUC seven areas in the manual have been addressed as outlined in the following report.

Find ways and means to challenge the use of women’s gifts in the mission of the church.

“When the renewal of Women’s Ministries was conceived in the 1980s, it was hoped and dreamed that women could make an even greater difference in the Seventh-day Adventist church - that women would be more involved in the direction and leadership as well as in the mission of the church. That dream has been coming true. Women have shown not only what they can do for other women, but that they can make a difference to the overall success of the church as well.” Jan Paulsen, SDA General Conference President.

Dreams finding fulfilment always come with a challenge. In the case of Women’s Ministries:

• the administrative body of the church came to recognise and address the need for women now to be included in a greater way, and equally employed as department directors
• women sacrifice the monitory benefits of working elsewhere to be employed for the Lord by the church. While others working full time give voluntarily their expertise as sponsors and co-ordinators.

We want to give thanks to our church for responding to the phenomenal growth of this department and meeting this challenge by:

• listening to the will of the delegates at the last BUC/SEC session by voting in Women’s Ministries as a half-time paid position
• recognising, within the Missions, the role of the volunteer sponsors
• the NEC planning to reinstate a Departmental Director

Thanks is given to the women fulfilling these roles during the last five years:

SEC - Julia Smith
NEC - Claradell Morgan, Carleen Rafferty and Andrea Rashford-Hewitt
Irish Mission - Betty Sisson, Marion Cully and Ruth Hamblin
Scottish Mission - Judith Martin
Welsh Mission - Helen Lockham and Jane Wells

Fostering spiritual growth and renewal.

There are two annual calendar days which have impacted the women in our church.

• International Women’s Day of Prayer. Two resources to complement not just this day, but the ongoing year-long prayer ministry are “Prayer is more than talking, prayer is ministry” and “Women love to chat, a way of praying through the life cycle”. Prayer is also at the heart of this department’s programme of reconnecting with those no longer attending church.
• Women’s Emphasis Day. In affirming the place and role of women as individuals, and as a part of the church, many women have been motivated to fulfill their God-given role. This is a major reason why this department has grown.

Retreats.

In 2002, the retreat ‘Lifting the Mask’ was held in Coventry and saw the largest gathering of women in the history of the BUC. Just under four hundred women experienced faith, fun and fellowship by focusing on:

• evangelism, as non-members attend too
• developing our teens to enjoy and know they are unique and special to God and his church
• seminars on topics relevant to women’s spiritual, social, physical and emotional welfare

At this, and the NEC retreats, all the speakers have been “home grown”, giving them an opportunity to develop their skills further.

Across the Union there has been a big increase in retreats. The Irish and Scottish Missions have followed the lead of the Welsh and developed their own annual retreat. The NEC and SEC now lead out in a number of retreats. More and more churches are running their own. The resulting-spiritual bonds have encouraged women to work together in different aspects within their local church and in their personal lives.

The most important development is that of having a young women’s track running alongside the main retreat. If we do not develop our teens then the soap and pop stars will be their main role models.

Mentoring and encouraging SDA women.

At the last BUC session there was a plea to mentor our young women. This has been addressed through:

• our retreats
• developing a mentoring programme, eg Balham, London
• 2004, 2005 the Scottish Mission ladies joined with the prayer ministry in running a Prayer Conference
• the NEC team ministry will include running mentoring workshops, eg God’s gift of sex
• Adventist Woman magazine is including a young women’s article in each issue
• encouraging the local church Women’s Ministries department to include teens and twenties on their council
• The introduction of the General Conference leadership training certificate course, levels 1 & 2, which encourages women, and men, in their self development. The curriculum consists of 8 sections and within it are 3 levels of certification covering:
  • History and Philosophy of Women’s Ministries
  • Biblical Studies
  • People Skills/Personal Growth
  • Speaking Skills
  • Leadership Skills
  • Writing Skills
  • Nurture Project
  • Outreach Projects

Thanks are also given for the work of their teams and all those who have given secretarial back up, especially my present secretary, Ellen Bryant.

Please bear in mind as you read this report that the NEC at its next session is to include a Women’s Ministries Director in its team. During this quinquennium, I have been acting as the NEC Director as well as the BUC one. This has limited the effectiveness of both of my roles. If it were not for the help of Claradell Morgan and Carleen Rafferty the work in the NEC would have gone backwards.
• Four Union-wide training weekends took place. As the smaller churches have the same people carrying a number of offices, it was cost effective to run these weekends in conjunction with the Children's and Family Ministries departments. However, the largest number of attendees were representatives of the Women's Ministries department. In 2003 the writer and Dawn Small, the General Conference associate director, launched the first of three levels of the leadership training course. In 2005 Jula Smith organised this department's track.

Levels one and two are on CD with all the materials and PowerPoint presentations. Part of level one is also on DVD.

• Envisioning Days. Besides the BUC council meeting, these have been run for the Mission and Conference volunteer sponsors and SEC Department Director. In 2004/5 their team members were also included. It is a time of prayer, planning and sharing what God has been doing throughout the Union.

The envisioning day concept is being used by the SEC for team building weekends and the NEC for local church leaders and council.

Ministering to the broad spectrum of women's needs.

• Evangelism. It has been observed that if Women's Ministries in the local church does not become evangelistic within eighteen months, it will close down. The main outreach evangelism of this department is 'Heartcall', a ministry to those taking a break from church. The Adventist Woman magazine is used in conjunction with the training programme as a gift to those no longer attending church. It is a thrill to see these ladies recommitting their lives to God and being active Christians.

In 2005 an extra emphasis included supplying in the Missions and NEC the following materials to each Pastor:

- Prayer and Love Saves – seminars for those family and friends who want to reconnect their loved ones with Jesus and then the church family.
- Praying Home the Prodigals – video and 5-part Bible study, discussion & prayer
- Heartcall, a video/training course on how to reach out to those no longer attending church
- At the Belfast church there was an excellent Day of Fellowship, December 2005, where we looked at ways to prevent, and be more friendly to, prodigals

In 2006 the SEC will also focus more on this area of evangelism. In 2004 and 2005 Jula and her team invited Rosa Banks (of the North American Division and now General Conference) as their main speaker for a women's symposium and evangelistic outreach. In 2005 six (three men and three women) were baptised.

Since 2001 the Women's Ministries Evangelism Manual has been available. It includes many ways of sharing our faith.

• Abuse Prevention Awareness Day. Since 2002 there is a new day on the church calendar, the 'Abuse Prevention Awareness Day'. Material for this day's programme comes from a GC council with representatives from the Health, Children's, Women's, Family and Youth Ministries departments as well as the Ministerial Association and Review and Herald. This topic is one many find uncomfortable but the commission of God's church is to care for whichever part of its body is suffering. 1 Cor 13:26.

The team from 'Door of Hope' refuge centre (in the North American Division), which helps women recover from all types of abuse, were invited to the Welsh Mission (thanks to a member's kind gift).

They have presented workshops in the NEC and SEC and run special training for Pastors. Their ten presentations are available on CD.

• Inspiring Women. In 2004 this manual was published. It is a handbook for all those leading out. It covers every aspect of the work of this department, it is also on DVD.

• Newsletter “Across the Isles”. This is a quarterly write up on the news of events and dates of future events.

• Adventist Woman magazine. Since 2000 two editions a year have covered the topics of every-day life that affect all women but with a spiritual beat. This magazine is the important tool for reconnecting with those no longer coming to church. It has been gifted to many and resulted in bringing women “back home”.

In 2005, due to my increasing workload, Jula Smith took on the role of editorial sponsor, assisting the long-term editor, Lorraine Cudjoe. A word of thanks goes to her, our contributors and our graphic designer, Becky DeOliveira.

Liaise and co-operate with other departments.

Women's Ministries does not work alone, not only because women are involved in many areas of church life, but because it needs the support of other departments. It also supports them too. When building an interest in an evangelistic series, health and family topics are always good attractions, eg Handsworth's women’s outreach programmes and SEC's Women’s Symposium. One of the strengths Women’s Ministries has contributed to the church is the God-given ability to be a team builder. This was especially seen in:

- joint departmental training weekends
- promoting the Youth and Lay Evangelism Training ministries prayer ministry
- the Welsh Mission ladies requested David Cox, BUC Church Growth department, to guide them in developing their small group ministry
- abuse awareness day programmes.

Build goodwill among women in the World Church.

At the retreats money has been raised to:

- finance a church-based literacy programme for women in Pakistan
- support a Sudanese young lady through her last year at Spicer Memorial College in India
- Tanzanian Memorial Clinic for women and children
- ‘Door of Hope’ women’s refuge in the USA
- Women’s Trauma and Training project in Rwanda. In 2005 Judith Martin and Cynthia Joseph accompanied me to Rwanda to ascertain the best way to support this project. Money has been raised to pay for beds, mattresses and the wage of a counsellor. The SEC ladies are supporting a Rwandan charity. Speaking at retreats and other women’s events, women from the BUC have travelled to other parts of the world to be guest speakers in Africa, Europe and the West Indies – Audrey Balderstone, Ruth Mensah, Jula Smith and Mary McFarlane, to name a few.

In 2006 the BUC and Finnish Union will run a joint retreat. Each World Day of Prayer programme includes a prayer focus on specialist needs for a particular region of the world.

The way forward

The BUC Women’s Ministries Department will continue to strive to fulfil its aim of ‘encouraging women to reach their full potential in Christ’.

In celebrating we are not resting on our laurels. During the next quinquennium the strategic plans have been enlarged to include more areas, ie supporting the women who come as refugees. Please pray for the ongoing effectiveness of this department as the Holy Spirit accomplishes the fulfilment of the vision that Ellen G White wrote over a century ago:

Christian women are called for. There is a wide field in which they may do good service for the Master. There are noble women who have had moral courage to decide in favour of the truth from the weight of evidence. They have tact, perception, and good ability and could make successful Christian workers.

There is work neglected or done imperfectly that could be thoroughly accomplished through the help that they are able to give. They could reach a class that ministers could not reach. There are offices in the church that they could fill acceptably, and many branches of the church work that they could attend if properly instructed. Signs of the Times, Sept 6, 1886.
Adventist Discovery Centre

Dalbert Elias

It is a pleasure to report that the Adventist Discovery Centre, loved by many as the ‘Voice of Prophecy’, has continued its strong tradition of being a major force for evangelism. Blessed with committed leadership, an exceptionally dedicated staff and the magnificent ‘silent army’ of loyal and supportive church members, the ADC has achieved much for God. All this despite three changes of leadership during the quinquennium.

First Change

Appointed as Director and Principal of the ADC in 2001 Mike Stickland served, using his well developed administrative skills and creative abilities, until his early retirement in 2003.

Second Change

During the next 18 months (2004 – mid-2005) Eric Lowe as BUC Secretary ably supervised the ADC staff to, in effect, self-run the Bible Correspondence School. The staff were magnificent and deserve the highest praise for the dedicated, faithful and often innovative service given particularly over these 18 months. Also the ADC acknowledges the willing support given to the staff by Richard Willis who spent considerable time answering difficult student questions and giving guidance when needed. The SDA Church in Britain and Ireland owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

The staff members were at this time

- Thelma Hodges – Office Manager
- Jean Menkins – Registrar
- Joan Taylor – Cashier
- Becky DeOliveira – Lesson Marker and Graphic designer
- Philip Anderson – Treasurer

Third Change

The third change was the appointment of the current Director, Dalbert Elias, in March 2005.

Therefore the successes achieved by the Adventist Discovery Centre during this quinquennium are due largely to the strong and capable leadership of Mike Stickland and his staff. As the current ADC Director I applaud Mike Stickland as a gifted writer, a minister of God’s Word, a talented course designer and writer, and effective communicator, loved throughout the British Union.

The following section of this report is based on a report kindly prepared by Mike Stickland in retirement.

Adventist Discovery Centre 2001 to 2003 - Director Mike Stickland

Philosophy

- To put our Adventist name on our products (so that the public can identify what we do and what we teach).
- To attempt always to “do what it says on the tin” (as the Ronseal ad says). The ADC wants people to be able to say of us, “If I want a straight, dependable Biblical answer, I know who I can turn to with confidence.”
- To do all the ADC can to continue making contact with every enquirer. The objective is always not just to present a lesson, but encourage an interest for the next lesson and in other courses offered by the Bible Correspondence School.
- To train VOP visitors to understand that the biggest single objective of any visit or contact is to pave the way for the next visit or contact. That is never to ‘turn them off’, but keep them in the pool for as long as possible – indefinitely if necessary, because then local pastors and visitors have more opportunity to bridge them over to our local congregation.
- To stay loyal always to our own BUC institutions and networks, and where possible to Adventist businesses and professionals. To keep the money in the family. In the long term, VOP ministry is best served by negotiating best prices with SDA printers and suppliers.

Bible Courses in place

At the start of the period the ‘Bible courses’ portfolio contained the following courses: Great Teachings 1 & 2, Discovery, God Cares – Daniel, God Cares – Revelation, Start Into Life, Digging Up the Past.

Additional Bible Courses introduced

During the quinquennium the Director added the following courses to the School’s portfolio: Try Jesus 1 & 2, Focus on Prophecy, Digging Deeper, Digging up the Future. Additionally 3 large print courses, available in the US, were tested out in the UK.

Health Courses added

The ‘Health Courses’ portfolio containing Health Course (Australian v. 1), Coping with Stress, Family Life and World of Good Food (now obsolete) were supplemented by Health Course (v. 2), Taking Charge of your Life (Australian) and a totally renewed the World of Good Food course with the direct help of Richard Willis (BUC Health Ministries Director).

Printer purchased a significant asset

A deliberate policy decision to bring development and printing “in house” was taken and made possible by a generous gift from a Bournemouth couple to purchase a colour laser A3 printer. This was integrated into the ADC’s computer network, and along with software such as Quark, gradually the transition to in-house stock management took place. This benefited the ADC significantly in several ways.

- It avoided having to find significant sums to capitalise large print runs, with the need to provide dry long-term storage for heavy and bulky lesson supplies, and the staff cost of continually stock taking and reconciliation.
• It helped to get away from being tied indefinitely into courses that could be seen to have become 'old' or ineffective, and provided a way constantly to edit or modify courses based on experience with our students.
• It also brought onto the ADC staff Becky De Oliveira, who applied design and layout skills facilitated by this transition. This whole concept was installed by virtue of the vision and aspirations of the ADC’s donors.

Child/Teen courses

The need to add a portfolio of child and teen courses was identified and the school is very grateful to people such as Mary Barrett, Barbara Clee, Anette Moore, Becky de Oliveira and Jacqui Crawford for the development work they did on two junior courses (Let’s Begin and Let’s Explore, re-written from an extinct Australian course). The Director negotiated with the ADC’s German sister school for the use of their two excellent teen courses (Journey of Life and Pathfinder). These are creatively written and illustrated for the young mind with cartoons and drawings. Permission was obtained to proceed to translate and produce these courses. The Director also pursued use of the Australian “10 Questions for God” hard copy and website course and commissioned Carl Fletcher to help to develop a series of studies of Adventist doctrines suitable for the 13 – 15 year old. Unfortunately all this research and development had to be aborted due to staff and budget restraints, including being unable to replace the Bible Teacher. Work thus delegated had to come back to the Director which made it impossible to see these projects through to completion.

Asian Course

A further vision was inspired when it was recognised that the ADC achieves a much higher level of enquiry, enrolment and completion in our health course portfolio, from the Asian sector of our population. In a vast number of cases, it was found that they exhausted everything the ADC has to offer from this category, but the ADC has nothing that communicates to the Asian mind and culture to bridge them toward spiritual aspects. Although attempts were made by the Director to engage suitable Asian writers to help develop such courses this dream was not realised.

Methods

It was clear to the Director that the traditional ‘correspondence’ method has big strengths, but also big weaknesses. It was therefore important to find a way to involve local churches more actively with students. The DISCOVER BIBLE SCHOOL (DBS) project associated with NET ’98 was introduced to the BUC because it was the biggest single integral success factor to NET’97 in the US. The DBS system met very limited success in the UK, for a number of reasons, as follows.
• Insufficient budgetary provision
• Limited PM department, support and training. In the event, local DBS volunteers did their best but were not equipped to meet the challenge or to commit the relentless and indefinite ground work that is demanded.

However there were exceptions (Camp Hill, Ipswich, Wimbledon, Dublin to list a few) and those churches did eventually benefit with baptisms and church attendance. The ADC working with Roy Morgan, the NEC PM Director, and Carl Fletcher created a new card design (Something Wonderful for You SWFY), and intended revising and re-publishing the ENCOUNTER Bible course in a UK format. Thanks to a generous direct donation the school was able to purchase a specialised addressing printer which enabled the ADC to over-print SWFY cards with a local response address. Unfortunately this meant going to an outside printer for the card, but competitive prices were obtained.
In outline Connect One Million was organised as follows

- The ADC Director realised that if 20,000 of our members would distribute just 50 Discover cards in less than one hour’s work one million cards would be in 1,000,000 homes across Britain and Ireland.
- The estimated cost would be £18,000.
- Miraculously God provided the £18,000 by just two donations to the ADC/VOP.
- This meant that 1,000,000 Discover cards would be available free of charge to 20,000 members.
- Immediately a VOP Rally Sabbath promotions pack was designed using the excellent services of the Stanborough Press containing:
  - 50 Discovery Cards
  - A three-fold leaflet explaining the vision and project
  - A donation envelope
- In just 10 weeks thanks to the magnificent support of the Stanborough Press the ADC/VOP ensured that 20,000 Seventh-day Adventist throughout Britain and Ireland would share in the big vision – One Million contacts for Christ – on VOP Rally Sabbath.

Incredibly Connect One Million has gone beyond all expectations. The usual return for every 1,000 cards distributed is between 2 to 4 applications. Connect One Million has realised 4 to 5 applications per thousand cards. Clearly God supports big visions!

The ADC team wishes to thank every member who took part in the Connect One Million adventure of faith. It is thrilling working with God’s silent army!

Employment of IT/web design expert

Recognising the need for the ADC/VOP to be up to speed in providing our Bible correspondence courses online, the need for an experienced IT person to join the ADC staff became an imperative. Amazingly such a person became available at a salary affordable to the ADC.

The ADC Director heard that Paula Carrillo, an IT expert from Mexico, had been working, not primarily in her capacity as IT expert, for Stanborough School for the past year and would be looking for further employment August 2005. Immediately she was invited to join the ADC team and she accepted. God once again was blessing the ADC.

Thanks and appreciation

To the BUC Administration

The ADC wishes to thank the BUC administration for their guidance and support during the quinquennium. This does not mean that the BUC and the ADC always saw eye to eye but rather that the ADC recognises the importance of the BUC administration to its success.

To the ADC Board

In any organisation it is important and invaluable to receive advice and wise counsel. the ADC appreciates and acknowledges with thanks the Board’s important contribution to the success of the Bible School.

To Mike Stickland as ADC Director

Our grateful thanks go to Mike Stickland who administered the ADC for a major part of the quinquennium. Thank you for your vision and expansion of the services offered by the Adventist Discovery School. Your talents and writing abilities have enriched the ADC considerably. The course rewrites, such as the ‘Encounter Series’, though unfinished due to your early retirement, will not be lost. The current ADC Director desires to build on your substantive work to the benefit of the evangelistic mission of the ADC. Your friends and colleagues at the ADC/VOP wish you and your wife Sheila every happiness, peace of mind and personal fulfillment in retirement. May God continue to bless and use you to his glory.

To the ADC staff

Thank you for the excellent service each member of staff has given to the work of the VOP. In particular, thank you for in effect running the ADC following Mike Stickland’s retirement until the appointment of Dalbert Elias as ADC Director. The Church owes you a huge debt as you ensured the ADC/VOP continued serving the churches, efficiently and effectively, during this period. Your work has been magnificent.

To Richard Willis

Thank you for the time you spent during the quinquennium, especially when the ADC had no Director, answering student questions and problems and in general supporting and encouraging the ADC team. Your contribution at this time was invaluable.

To Joan Taylor

At the end of May 2005 Joan Taylor retired after almost 13 years service for the VOP. Joan served the VOP with dedicated commitment and devoted loyalty. Highly dependable, she worked conscientiously and faithfully. The ADC applauds her contribution to the ministry of the Voice of Prophecy and wishes her and Michael Taylor a peaceful and happy retirement.

To Becky De Oliveira

As graphics designer and lesson marker Becky served the ADC from 1 November 2001 to 6 February 2005 with distinction. Resigning for personal reasons, Becky is wished every success both in her professional career and as a devoted mother to her children. Thank you Becky for services rendered. It was and is appreciated.

To our Volunteers

Thank you to our volunteers who have spent time assisting with marking lessons and corresponding with students. Your assistance has been both invaluable and helpful to the ADC staff.

To the ‘Silent Army’

Finally the ADC/VOP extends deep and heartfelt thanks to the magnificent but often unheard of and unsung supporters of the Bible Correspondence School. Thousands of members, the ‘silent army’, distribute cards, run Discovery Bible Schools, visit VOP students and generously give liberally to the ministry of the ADC/VOP. Without you the Adventist Discovery Centre would be finished. Your prayers and support inspire the ADC team. We owe you, the ‘silent army’, much and we know that continuing as Britain’s longest serving evangelist depends absolutely on your continued support. Thank you for sharing our dream of reaching the world for Jesus.

To God

Finally we praise and thank our glorious God for his blessings and empowerment during the quinquennium. We stand in awe of his mighty leadings, acknowledging our successes are but his. We thank God for the 140 baptisms arising from the ministry of the ADC in co-operation with the churches. We praise God for the wonderful privilege of working to lead people to accept Jesus as their personal saviour. Thanks be to God for all he has done.
Adventist Discovery Centre


INCOME

Donations & Legacies
- Donations - Church Members: 21,233.39
- Donations - Churches: 18,400.62
- Donations - Students: 3,057.78
- Legacies: 12,100.00
- Interest Income: 130.03
- Other Operating Income: 2,819.48

Grants
- BUC Operating Grant: 80,000.00
- Conference Advertising Grant: 3,000.00

EXPENDITURE

Salaries & Expenses: 86,623.42
Advertising: 14,157.05
Office Equipment: 3,237.64
Office Expenses: 16,579.44
Student Supplies: 8,997.73
Services - Phone/Fax: 1,284.56

Adventist Discovery Centre

Combined Balance Sheet

Year 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 Totals

Assets

Current Assets
- Cash & Bank: 39,921.88
- Accounts Receivable: 4,861.20
- Inventories: 44,495.11
- Property & Equipment: 11,456.39

Total Assets: 100,734.58

Liabilities

Current Liabilities: 615.53

Total Liabilities: 615.53

Fund Balances

Restricted Funds: 4,297.12
Allocated Funds: 15,796.05
Involved in Property Fund: 10,578.47
General Reserve: 69,447.41

Total Fund Balances: 100,119.05

Total Liabilities & Fund Balances: 100,734.58

EXPENDITURE

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Total Fund Balances: 100,119.05

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Adventist Discovery Centre

Table 1: Applications / Enrolment / Student / Graduate Statistics

Course Applications

VOP Correspondence Courses: 1385
Discover Bible School: 295
Sub Total: 1680
Health Education Courses: 1647
Totals: 3327

Course Enrolments

VOP Correspondence Courses: 877
Discover Bible School: 250
Sub Total: 1127
Health Education Courses: 455
Totals: 1582

Active Students

VOP Correspondence Courses: 1167
Discover Bible School: 280
Sub Total: 1447
Health Education Courses: 573
Totals: 2020

Graduates

VOP Correspondence Courses: 352
Discover Bible School: 85
Sub Total: 437
Health Education Courses: 240
Totals: 677

Individual Student Count

All courses including HMP & HMYOI: 3680
Success rate percentages

Graduates: Applicants 20% 19% 18% 17% 6%
Graduates: Enrolments 43% 54% 38% 48% 31%
### Table 2: VOP/Total Faith Correspondence Bible Courses

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<tr>
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<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
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<td>37</td>
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<td>139</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>52</td>
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<tr>
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<td>230</td>
<td>271</td>
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<td>152</td>
<td>112</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Great Teachings 1</td>
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<td>335</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>48</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start Into Life</td>
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<td>99</td>
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<td>57</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Try Jesus 2</td>
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<td>31</td>
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<td>20</td>
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<td>1938</td>
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### Table 3: Baptisms in Cooperation with Churches

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<th>2003</th>
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<td>South England</td>
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<td>Scottish Mission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Baptisms 2001 - 2005</td>
<td>140</td>
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### Adventist Discovery Centre

#### Table 4a: Discover Bible Schools

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<th>YEAR:</th>
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<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
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<td>Coping With Stress</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>Digging Deeper</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Discover</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>35</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>God Came - Daniel</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>22</td>
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<td>Taking Charge of Your Life</td>
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<td>Try Jesus 1</td>
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<td>Try Jesus 2</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>Ten Questions for God</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
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<td>201</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>196</td>
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| | | | | | |
| **Yearly** | | | | | |
| **Applications** | | | | | |
| Coping With Stress | 12 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 5 |
| Digging Deeper | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Discover | 84 | 93 | 88 | 48 | 73 |
| Digging Up the Past | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Digging Up the Past | 4 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 0 |
| Family Life | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Piece on Prophecy | 26 | 28 | 9 | 14 | 20 |
| God Came - Daniel | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Great Teachings 1 | 9 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 3 |
| Great Teachings 2 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Health | 35 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| Let’s Imagine | 8 | 11 | 28 | 15 | 17 |
| Start into Life | 18 | 20 | 12 | 10 | 18 |
| Taking Charge of Your Life | 5 | 6 | 10 | 4 | 5 |
| Try Jesus 1 | 45 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| Try Jesus 2 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Ten Questions for God | 8 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| World of Good Food | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| **Totals** | 280 | 209 | 127 | 111 | 145 |

#### Table 4b: Discover Bible Schools

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<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
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<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Discover</td>
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Introduction

“Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime.”

Operating under this principle, ADRA-UK uses the majority of its resources for development. ADRA-UK has been actively involved around the world to help make a difference in the lives of people.

As the new ADRA-UK executive-director it is a privilege to report on significant progression and activity that ADRA-UK has been involved with during this quinquennium. It is also with due respect that I have to acknowledge the impressive leadership of my immediate predecessor, Raafat Kamal, during this formative period.

New beginnings

The start of the quinquennium coincided with a major change that has opened up new opportunities to the work of ADRA in the British Isles. The BUC Executive committee voted on 17th of June 1999 to apply to conduct the annual house-to-house collection under the name of the charity ADRA-UK.

This was a historical move, prompted in part by the Charity Commission’s demand for transparency and accountability of the collected funds. After decades of Ingathering under the title World Wide Adventist Mission, the British Union thus initiated steps to transfer the permission to work from door-to-door from WWAM to ADRA-UK. This application was finally approved by the Home Office on the 3rd of May 2001.

Perhaps it was the new vision or the new promotional materials that inspired our membership to better their support for the Annual Appeal. Thanks to the ongoing support for the ‘ingathering’ by the constituency the total amount raised during this quinquennium was £2,671,743 (see Appendix 1).

These funds have helped ADRA-UK to make a significant difference in the lives of many. ADRA-UK channelled £10,000,000 for relief and development work around the world – a record amount! During this period ADRA-UK continued its established partnerships with DFID (Department for International Development) and with the European Union resulting in a number of large new co-financed projects. ADRA-UK was able to be involved with 80 large projects and many smaller ones, affecting the lives of millions around the globe.


Special mention needs to be made of the humanitarian aid transportation which is spearheaded by David Balderstone, a lay business man. Together with great support from volunteers ADRA-UK has transported many tons of aid across the globe.

This quinquennium, as seen in the media, the earth was shaken by major disasters. When the Tsunami hit on Boxing Day 2004, it left behind devastation that the world had not experienced
before. Through its network connections ADRA-UK was in a position to make a significant impact in the lives of the affected.

When the mega earthquake hit the Kashmir mountainous region of India and Pakistan in October 2005 it destroyed the lives and livelihood of millions. ADRA-UK again could represent the British Union Conference in showing our compassion and care by reaching out to bring restoration.

Time and again the support from the local church members proved vital in enabling ADRA-UK to act promptly.

Staff

Raafat Kamal was appointed ADRA-UK director in December 2000 after the departure of Paul Tompkins. Chantal Alen was replaced by Karen Plaatjes as secretary in 2004. Mark Castellino joined ADRA-UK as Programmes Director in February of 2004. With increased governmental funding and new projects in planning Michelle Lewis came to strengthen the charity in April 2005. During the summer of 2005 Raafat Kamal was elected to the position of ADRA Trans-European Division director. In his absence Mark Castellino performed duties as acting executive-director until the end of 2005. During this quinquennium valuable project writing assistance was provided by Conrad Vine. (In January 2006 I joined ADRA-UK as executive-director and Valerie Austin came in February as office manager) Many other volunteers and contributors have helped to make the work ADRA-UK a success.

The future

We see ourselves as an integral part of the work of the Adventist church in the British Isles, representing the faith-based humanitarian work of the organisation. ADRA-UK can show the true character of the church in its work to improve the lives of people who suffer hardships. ADRA-UK will continue and strengthen its trend of project-oriented programming, strengthening its governmental funding. ADRA-UK needs to become the ‘true charity of choice’ for all our membership. Next to improving the Annual Appeal income generation, ADRA-UK needs to strengthen its direct donations programme. An integrated communication approach will help to create a better awareness of the work done and increase involvement of the constituency. This could also lead to a greater interaction between local churches and projects and indeed make ADRA-UK and its mission more relevant within the local church.

Appendix 1

Annual Appeal Totals 2001-2005

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Table completes
There have been some significant changes in the operation of the Association and the Trust Company during the past 5 years. But the major changes regarding the way our financial reports were to be made are now a thing of the past.

Financial Reports

When I reported at the 2001 Session, the amount of tax recovered during the five year period was £47,066. There has been a steady decrease in the amount of tax recovered in succeeding years, so that the total for this quinquennium is down to £4,284. The good news is that the Union, Conferences and Missions are reclaiming their tax directly.

Bank Loans

During the quinquennium, SDAA has been able to assist in the building or purchase of a number of churches via Bank loans. Among those who have benefited are: Balham, Clapton, Hounslow, Lewisham, Pendeford, Stanborough Park, Stratford, Wembley, Wood Green and Yardley. Some of these have completed the repayment of their loans – others are just starting. Without exception, the repayments are being made on time.

Legacies

One thing that has not changed is the important role that legacies have in assisting the church in its operations. As you will see from the Statement of Activity, legacies over the five-year period have totalled some £222,912.

Staff and Directors/Trustees

Much of the work of the Trust Company is built on that done by the Trust Services Department. It has been a pleasure to work with that department. In addition Malcolm Ferguson, the Probate Manager of Sydney Mitchell, has been a tower of strength.

I would thank, too, those who have served so willingly and faithfully on the respective boards during the 5-year period. I have valued their counsel and assistance during my tenure as secretary of these boards.

TSPI

The Trust Services Personal Investment scheme ceased to function in 2005. The number of account holders decreased steadily during this quinquennium until it reached the place where the scheme was no longer viable. Having said that, the church at large owes a debt of gratitude to those who were investors in the scheme over the years and whose generosity helped the church at a time of financial stringency.

Finally

It has been a privilege to serve as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Association and Trust Company, but the time finally came to retire. My successor Donovan Cleary took over the reins in March 2006. I wish him every blessing as he takes up these new responsibilities. May the Association and the Trust Company continue to be a blessing to the church in its work of hastening the day of the Lord’s return.
The philosophy of Trust Services takes into consideration the principles of stewardship found in the Bible and other inspired writings, and the purposes of the department are outlined in the following statement:

"A recognition of the sovereignty of God, by right of creation and redemption, enables every Seventh-day Adventist Christian to enjoy a sense of security and a relationship with his heavenly Father that surpass all other considerations. A contemplation of Calvary prompts him to dedicate himself and all that he has to God. To do less would mean the loss of spiritual and temporal blessings that come only to those who recognize that God is the owner of all things and that everyone is His steward. This concept of stewardship is recognized by the Christian community; therefore, unique approaches should be taken to achieve the goal of securing to the Lord the material blessings bestowed upon the members of His church."

The ministry of Trust Services has been established to assist members in making a will and is a free and confidential service. With a network of Trust Services directors and sponsors in the Conferences and Missions this personal service is available to every member. The benefits include peace of mind for the person making the will, a minimum of distress for those grieving from the loss of a loved one and an opportunity for members to consider the continued support of God's work.

The statistics for the department over the past five years are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No of Wills Filed</th>
<th>Value of Bequests</th>
<th>Value of Legacies</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>88,300</td>
<td>59,159</td>
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Appreciation is expressed to Malcolm Ferguson of Sydney Mitchell, Solicitors, to Sharon Godman, Faye Weekes, the Trust Services directors and sponsors in the Conferences and Missions, for the contribution they have made to the department and the Church, and for the members who have faithfully continued to support the work of God's Church.
Good Health Association (Scotland) Ltd

G Martin Bell

Good Health Association (Scotland) Limited has been responsible for institutions owned by the Seventh-day Adventist Church, which provide nursing care, residential care, self-contained retirement flats and health and fitness outreach. These include Roundelwood Health Spa in Crieff, Scotland, The Dell Care Home in Lowestoft, East Anglia, and retirement flats in Oulton Broad, Watford, Dorset and Devon.

Roundelwood Health Spa

Roundelwood operated very successfully for a number of years as Roundelwood Nursing Home and Health Centre. However, in 1993 the British Government introduced new legislation under the title, “Care in the Community”. The emphasis of the legislation was to avoid, as far as possible, placing elderly people in nursing or retirement accommodation, while providing them with the level of care that they need in their own homes. As a result, many people who would have wished to enter Roundelwood as nursing clients were unable to obtain public funding. Within a year the management at Roundelwood, and the Board of Directors were concerned about the drop in the number of nursing clients, and by the beginning of the quinquennium under review, the number of nursing clients had dropped from an average of over 50 per week to 20+ per week. This represented a loss of income to the institution in the region of £400,000 per year.

The Board of Directors addressed these issues and it was decided to de-register Akaroa, which was a separate house providing nursing care in the grounds of Roundelwood, and concentrate the nursing home on three floors of the main house. Akaroa was subsequently re-developed to provide 16 additional beds for clients attending health and lifestyle programmes.

With the decrease in nursing, the management and Board of Directors agreed to make every effort to build up the health improvement programmes at Roundelwood, which include:

- Physiotherapy and hydrotherapy for conditions such as arthritis, back pain, MS., ME. sciatica, etc.
- Stop smoking therapy
- Weight loss and weight control programmes
- Stress management
- Health and Fitness Improvement
- Health Emphasis Holidays

As the number of nursing clients continued to fall, it was agreed in 2002, to de-register the lower ground floor of Roundelwood and convert it into private treatment rooms for physiotherapy, massage, etc. and to provide five additional bedrooms. Gradually the number of clients attending health programmes overtook the nursing clientele.

In November of 2003, the British Union Conference appointed an evaluation committee to visit Roundelwood and assess its potential. The recommendations from this group, and other independent surveys, included a complete re-launch of the institution, its mission, values and image, a re-branding of the product and closure of the nursing home. As a result, the nursing home was closed in July 2004.

The Health Spa activities at Roundelwood were re-launched with greater emphasis on the lifestyle benefits, improved treatments and health education facilities at Roundelwood. Marketing included mailshots to the 35,000 on the Roundelwood database, improvement to the website and Internet facilities, additional advertising, seasonal offers, themed weeks, church-based programmes, a loyalty scheme, and new brochures.

Roundelwood has learned to adjust its programme to the needs and expectations of its clients. Originally Roundelwood only offered a five-day programme with treatments in the mornings and walks in the afternoons. With the growing numbers, groups are reversed so that those taking their walks in the mornings receive treatments in the afternoons and vice versa. Also, there are a number of people who cannot afford the time or money to take a five-day programme, so a two or three-day programme has been introduced and also Day Packages. Day Packages have proved to be very popular, and include use of the pool and gym facilities, prescribed treatments and lunch. These are also themed on a lifestyle improvement basis with a relaxation day, a detox day, a fitness day, a mother-to-be day, etc.

An analysis of business for the year 2005 indicates that 2,274 people visited Roundelwood on a residential programme during the year, taking 6,850 guest nights. The resulting income was £637,419.

After serious illness in May and June, 2005, the Administrator, Martin Bell, requested release from his position at Roundelwood which he had held for 22 years. However, he continues to care on a part-time basis for the retirement properties of the Church. Martin Bell was replaced in October 2005 by the new Administrator of Roundelwood, Malcolm Hayles.

The Dell Residential Care Home

The Dell followed a similar pattern to Roundelwood following the introduction of Care in the Community by the Government in 1993.

In November, 2001, the BUC set up a review committee to study the viability of The Dell and this was followed by an independent review in 2002 by Tony and Christine King, who had previously owned and operated a Retirement Home. Their conclusion was that although the Home was well managed and very comfortable, it required considerable work and expense to meet the demands of modern legislation, and that with the small number of residents it was not financially viable as a paid management rather than a Home-owner operated business.

In 2003 the Administrator presented a report to the Board of Directors outlining concerns with the continued difficulties to operate the Home and stem financial losses. Because of legislation regarding room sizes, room access, and shared accommodation, the occupancy had reduced from 27 to 22 with a resulting loss of income in the year of approximately £75,000. The effects of the minimum wage, which had an effect on room access, and shared accommodation, the occupancy had reduced from 27 to 22 with a resulting loss of income in the year of approximately £75,000. The effects of the minimum wage, which had an effect on the whole staff in order to maintain differentials, resulted in additional expense of £6,000 per year. There were problems with health and safety issues including wheelchair access, corridor widths, lifting aids, etc.

A further report was presented to the Board of Directors in September 2004 which resulted in an extra-ordinary meeting of the GHA Board regarding The Dell, when it was considered that only four of the ten available flats were occupied by church members, and whereas at one time all of the residents of the Retirement Home were Adventists there were now only 5 out of 22 who were members of the Church. Reluctantly, considering the considerable investment required to improve the facility, and the ongoing losses from reduced income, it was voted to recommend the sale of The Dell to the BUC Executive Committee. Subsequently, the property was placed on the market for sale in early 2005, and was sold as an ongoing business in March, 2006.

The Retirement Properties

The retirement properties at Sheepcot Villas in Watford, and Coniston House in Devon continue to provide self-contained accommodation for retired church members. Properties are “sold” on a Life Tenancy at 80%
The Stanborough Press Ltd

Paul Hammond

The Stanborough Press is the Publishing House for the British Union and is wholly owned by the British Union Conference. During this quinquennium the Marketing Agreement with the Review and Herald has enabled the Stanborough Press to continue to market Review and Herald products throughout Africa, Asia and Europe. The Review and Herald, in turn, has marketed Stanborough Press products throughout North America.

Changes at Stanborough Press

In 2001 the Board of The Stanborough Press recommended that the printing facility at Grantham be closed and that the Stanborough Press become a Publishing House only. This was indeed a traumatic process to take. However, if the Board had not taken that decision, then I fear I would not have had the opportunity of presenting this report to you today. The escalating costs of production meant that we were unable to operate on a sound financial basis and that alternative ways had to be found to ensure that the Publishing work continued on a solid basis.

Since that time we have expanded the publishing programme at The Stanborough Press, producing new books and magazines. We print in different countries of the world wherever we can obtain the best quality and price. This has made a significant difference to the financial standing of your Publishing House.

Adventist Book Centre

The Adventist Book Centre has continued to operate as a department of The Stanborough Press to serve the church members throughout the British Union. Book Sales have continued to be held on a regular basis on Sundays and at Camp Meetings, Conference Sessions and special events. Book Sales have also been held on an annual basis in The Netherlands.

The Personal Ministries Secretaries of the individual churches have played a significant role in the distribution of books to the individual churches. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to them for the work they do on behalf of Stanborough Press.

The first Sunday in September has continued to be Open Day at Stanborough Press. Authors from the United States and the British Union have had the opportunity of presenting their latest publications at this time.

The Adventist Book Centre has continued to be operated at the British Union Conference office.
FOCUS magazine, edited by Dr David Marshall, has continued to be the main message magazine published by The Stanborough Press. We are encouraged that the circulation of this magazine is increasing and that our church members are making good use of it.

**LIFE.info**

The Stanborough Press in co-operation with the British Union launched LIFE.info in 2002. This magazine is specifically a sharing magazine - something which can be used as a first approach. The print run of the magazine has been between 50,000 and 90,000 copies per issue. Lee Galleher is the Editor and, in addition to editing it, he also illustrates and designs it.

Vibrant Life and Message magazines are distributed on a monthly basis along with the Messenger to the churches throughout the British Union.

**New books**

During the period under review, more than sixty new books have been published by The Stanborough Press. Ten or more of these have been produced as full colour, hardback books. Others have been published as full colour maga-books. The remainder have been produced as paperback books.

The Stanborough Press also publishes books in local languages for Publishing Houses in Africa. It produces these in the name of the relevant Publishing House in the country in which they are distributed. This has helped to contain our printing costs and, at the same time, to make literature available at a reasonable price to the countries which we serve.

The Stanborough Press has entered into agreements with other Publishers to co-publish a number of children’s books which are proving to be very successful.

The small gift books which we now publish have proved to be very popular. Our normal first print run on books of this type has been 20,000 copies with a reprint normally taking place within twelve months.

In addition to the new books which we publish, we have continued to re-publish books from previous years, some of them in revised and updated editions.

New editions of Spirit of Prophecy books have been published during the quinquennium, including Adventist Home, Messages to Young People, and Child Guidance. This is in addition to the many reprints which we have of Steps to Christ, Desire of Ages and Great Controversy, etc.

**Exports**

The vast majority of books published by The Stanborough Press are exported, mainly to the African continent. The agreement with The Review and Herald has also enabled us to consolidate our shipments and continue to supply books at reasonable prices to our customers.

The closing down of the printing facility gave us the opportunity of holding our prices and, in some cases of reducing them at the same time as improving our margins.

The Review and Herald has continued to print Spirit of Prophecy books on our behalf in paperback editions, which we have been able to supply at a much lower price than previously.

The Stanborough Press has had the opportunity of presenting and promoting our publications at Division-wide Literature-evangelist Institutes in East and West Africa and also to promote our products at Literature-evangelist Institutes held in various countries.

The Stanborough Press has co-operated with our Publishing House in South Africa to produce the Sabbath School Study Guide in both English and in Afrikaans on their behalf.

At the present time a number of new books are being co-published and will be available in a number of languages during 2006.

**The Review and Herald and Stanborough Press have co-hosted Seminars for the Adventist Book Centres and Publishing Directors from all of the African Divisions. A number of Publishing workers from different African countries have visited The Stanborough Press and helped at Camp Meetings, giving them an insight into the work which we undertake here in the British Union and giving them some ideas to take back home. The Adventist Book Centres in Africa have expanded. The majority of the books sold in these outlets are supplied by The Stanborough Press and Review and Herald.**

**Literature-evangelists**

The literature-evangelist programme has been through troublesome times. I am happy to say under the leadership of Pastor Curtiss Murphy, who became the British Union Conference Publishing Director in September 2005, we are seeing an increase in the worker force and in the amount of literature which is distributed by the valiant few.

New books have been produced specifically for door-to-door selling, both for the UK and for overseas.

**Challenges**

As you are all aware, The Stanborough Press has faced many challenges during this quinquennium. The transition from a printing-and-publishing house to a publishing house was a difficult one. As we look back we can see it was the right decision to make.

It has improved the financial standing of the Publishing House and enabled us to continue on a sold basis as the Publishing House of the British Union Conference.

**Appreciation**

I would like to say a personal word of thanks to the dedicated staff of The Stanborough Press. Individuals undertake many tasks beyond the call of duty which are not specifically outlined in their job descriptions. Many hours of work are undertaken.

I would like to express appreciation:

- To the British Union for their continued support in all aspects of our work
- To the Review and Herald Publishing Association for the way in which they have worked with us.
- To the members of the Board of The Stanborough Press, both past and present, who have taken time to take difficult decisions and to guide The Stanborough Press in its future.

The Lord has blessed The Stanborough Press during this quinquennium. We give thanks to Him for His leading and pray for His guidance in the future.

A comprehensive list of books published by The Stanborough Press Ltd 2001 - 2006

- Surviving the Loss of a Loved One
- Tragedy to Triumph: God Still Heals
- Another World: Home from the Sea
- Salt of the Earth
- Seeking God
- Seeking Courage
- Seeking Understanding
- Cracking the Stress Problem
- God’s Little Book of Grace
- Back to the Present: An Introduction to Genesis
- Early Bird Reflections
- The Compassion of the Christ
- Discovering God
- The Family Book
- Islam in the Post - 9/11 World
- Dreams and Meditations
- Choice Words on Prayer
- The Voice He Gave Me
- Little Book of Promises
- Little Book of Prayers for Parents
- Little Book of Praise for Women
- Desk-top Flip-over
- Prayer Quotes
- Woven in the Loom of Heaven
So often we look back and wonder what life might have been like years ago. What was it like to be a part of the early publishing work? How did it begin? What motivated its conception and birth? Yes, what was it like back then? The mid-1800s seem to have been a time of great energy. In 1841 Mohammed Ali was appointed hereditary ruler of Egypt and Sudan and is considered the founder of modern Egypt. Napoleon III returned to France after the 1848 revolution, to be elected President. Following a failed invasion of Savoy, Giuseppe Mazzini went into exile in London, returning to Italy in 1848. That year was a particularly violent one in all of Europe with rebellions in Italy, Germany and Austria. France removed its monarch and became a republic, hopes that the Irish revolt would be concluded amicably were quashed, and in Britain the Chartists were defeated in their mass march to parliament. Canada was awarded independence from Britain non-violently. Cholera was linked to water supplies like common hand pumps, and in North America Wisconsin became the thirtieth state to join the United States of America.

It was on November 18, 1848 that Ellen White was shown in vision that her husband, James, should start a little paper. Like “streams of light,” it would eventually go “clear round the world.” That was quite a challenge considering he had no money, and that there were fewer than 200 Sabbath keepers. But in faith this valiant few, this band of brethren, took God at His word and posted the paper to those who might be interested in receiving it. Beginning with the words of the Apostle Peter James quoted 2 Peter 1:12 “Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth”. The next year, 1849, despite such unpromising conditions, James White determined to begin publishing that little paper. To raise money, he decided to find work such as farm labour, which he had done successfully in the recent past. And so from this small beginning, the mighty ‘sword of the Spirit’ began its work of conquest. The publishing work which had such a humble beginning now encompasses 56 publishing houses around the globe, printing and distributing Bible-based literature in more than 300 languages.

But that was of yesteryear. Today the world has continued its chaotic journey. We have a plethora of wars, famines, diseases and a hopelessness that seems unprecedented in our history. We seem to be as far from God as were the antediluvians prior to the Flood. Surely this is the time for a literature revival. Over the past years the work of the literature-evangelist has diminished. Literature-evangelism seems to have journeyed through a wilderness of woe, but, thank God, we can see a blossoming in the desert.

The British Union Conference, under the leadership of its president, Cecil Perry, recognised the challenge to the Colporteur ministry, but still felt that the literature-evangelist was not a spent force. They still had the potential for playing their part in meeting the Union’s objective of reaching every community within its territory. And so a decision was made to raise the profile of the literature work.

In September 2005 a new Departmental Director was appointed. Efforts are being made to visit churches throughout the Union promoting the work of literature-evangelism. So far lots of interest has been shown. Most Sabbaths as the Department is profiled some interest is generated and application forms are requested and processed.
Our numbers are still very low, but the target for the next year is to increase this team to 100 literature-evangelists with the view of developing a worker force to meet the demands of the 21st Century.

In an effort to realise this goal, promotions will continue in our Churches, representations will be made at area meetings, camp meetings and any other available avenues. Our best advertisement, however, will be seen in baptisms and sales. I deliberately use this order because our primary role is to be like Andrew, to bring others to Christ, with that done, the sales will be made.

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The past quinquennium has seen Stanborough School grow, change and achieve exceptional goals. As in the past, the school’s Christian standards combined with a strong commitment from staff, has created a rich and holistic experience for all students. After many challenges in the past, Stanborough has grown in strength. Always striving to achieve educational excellence, along with its family-like atmosphere which sets it apart from other independent schools, Stanborough continues to be recognised as a School of substance.

**Enrolment**

Stanborough School began 2005 with an enrolment of 164 pupils. By 5 January 2005, 170 pupils had enrolled which was the highest enrolment in 18 years! This came as a result of direct marketing by Year 6 Days and church visits. We are now offering two planned Year 6 Days per annum, as well as arranging promotional days at the special requests of schools. Stephen Rivers the school head has continued to market Stanborough by attending Parents’ Evenings and other school events throughout the greater London area up to and including Luton. All SDA churches have been sent details, including posters which they have been requested to display along with prospectuses to be handed out to those showing interest. Due to the increase in applications, Stanborough continues to offer double form entry with total available spaces of 40. With the continued efforts of the marketing department the enrolment continues to rise steadily, as it has done since 1999.

**Staff changes**

Stanborough School has been blessed with many committed teachers who strive to meet the high expectations that Adventist Education demands. The school has seen new staff join our ‘family’ and many others move on.

A liberal measure of appreciation must be expressed to Kathleen (Kay) Best for her very long and distinguished service to the school. She served the school with distinction for nearly thirty years. She retired last year, due to ill health. Kay, we thank you for your help in shaping the school to be what it is today. Others who have left have included Mrs Jean Hinks, who dedicated countless hours of service to our school, and retired in April 2005. Sadly too, Judy Fox, who served the school for five years, and most respected as the Senior Mistress, has moved on to new challenges. In November 2002 we saw Patricia Alexander replaced by Keith Allen who currently serves the school in the capacity of Bursar. Kevin & Deborah St Cyr, who devoted great effort and time to the school, both having served Stanborough as Alumni, have moved on to new careers. Their work continues to be appreciated by the present administration and staff with whom they worked.
Notable appointments at the school during the period include Peter Martin (Senior Master), Gabrielle Leonce (Senior Mistress) and Roger Murphy (Deputy Head). Other new staff members who have joined the school during this quinquennium include Judy McKie (Receptionist), Melanie Mercer (PA to Headteacher), J-Eun Ahn (Music), Alicea Anderson (Chemistry), Anthea Davis (History),Virginie Gautran (French), Raphael Luz (Dean of Boarding), Angelette Muller (H.E.), William Nall (Physics) and Ricardo Wright (Maths). Staff joining due to the increase in curriculum include: Anna Papaioannou (ESL), Mahlon Rhamie (Music), Natasha Taylor (ESL) and Begona Ciudad (Spanish).

School image/Marketing

As Stanborough moves into a time of enhancement and change, many aspects have been improved to steer the School towards creating a prestigious image that will distinguish Stanborough from other schools. In January of 2001 the School planned to undertake direct marketing, with the start of a new prospectus that was developed and completed. It features an Alumni section which demonstrates the history of the school. The prospectus also includes a DVD of the school, produced in 2003. Within one week of distributing the new prospectus, three applications were received by the school!!

Other initiatives of the marketing department have included a professionally photographed year book which celebrates the school each year, promotional visits which market the school nationally and more press coverage for Stanborough bringing the school to people we would not normally reach. In a recent article in the Watford Observer, the school was noted for its Adventist roots. Adverts have been inserted in the El Gazette and other magazines as we continually strive to market the school both nationally and internationally. Articles for the BUC Newsletter and Messenger magazine will continue to be submitted on a regular basis. An updated school poster has been printed and sent out to all churches in Watford and surrounding areas as well as other schools across the country.

IT

The electronic world is a tremendous marketing tool. Many of the school’s applications and alumni enquiries are sent via our website. We have updated the look of our website with the help of a staff member from one of our sister schools in Brazil. Lisandro Staut has worked on many websites in Brazil and maintains the Adventist University websites there. Many parents have found the new site helpful, as they are able to view their children’s homework on a daily basis and obtain updated information on events that are taking place and browse articles regarding school events and visits. Further information on boarding life, next year’s IB programme and Summer school is also included. The website is now available in seven different languages namely: English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese, German, French and Portuguese.

Other IT improvements over the past quinquennium included the installation of a network system with its own domain, mail and Internet server. Wireless access for students in the boarding school has been provided, and is set up in such a way that the school is able to filter all contents. Network printers, printers in each department, 3 photocopiers machines and one duplicator have been invested in, to increase the productivity of teachers and admin staff. Computers have been installed in the Library, allowing students to access information during break times and lessons. In addition to all of this, the sound system in the Margerison Hall has been upgraded.

Curriculum

The school has sought to increase the academic performance of the pupils. An Honour Roll was implemented to recognise the academic achievements of pupils with a Grade point average of 6 or higher. The success of the Honour Roll was immediate, with over 30% of the pupils achieving the desired level. In 2005 Stanborough saw an entire class achieve the Honour Roll status (Mr. Edward’s Form 9X all achieved a GPA above 6.0!) Pupils were given a recreational trip as a reward. All teachers continue to encourage their pupils to achieve well academically, physically, emotionally and spiritually.

Major changes to the curriculum have been in the area of the Modern Foreign Languages department, where Spanish was added to the curriculum, offering students the opportunity to learn both French and Spanish as a second language. The Music department offers Music to GCSE level along with Music Technology. Choir and Ensembles were added as extras. Stanborough also offers PSHE (Physical, Social, Health and Education) and Citizenship programmes in an attempt to give our students a well-rounded education.

First Aid is taught to all students, who receive ‘basic’ first aid training. Drama and LAMDA programmes have continued to prove a huge success with the school’s more creative students. A major addition to the curriculum is the International Programme, which offers international students the chance to study English as a Second Language, giving the school an edge over other schools in the area.

International Baccalaureate Diploma

Stanborough School has been approved to commence the prestigious International Baccalaureate Diploma, a two-year pre-university school programme, after undergoing a rigorous inspection in October 2005. Therefore in September 2006, Stanborough will have its first 6th Form class since 2000 and will be the sole SDA institution offering the International Baccalaureate worldwide. Students taking the IB will study core subjects in English Literature, Foreign Languages, Science and Mathematics, with options available in Business, History, Art and Technology. The IB is an internationally accepted and often preferred pre-university qualification, being viewed as more challenging than A-levels. Stanborough School last offered A-levels in 2000 when its results were among the top 50 schools in London and the South East.

Extra-Curricular

In its time honoured tradition, Stanborough School endeavours to involve pupils, parents and staff in humanitarian projects, sponsored by the school. During the past quinquennium one such project has been organised. During the October 2005 half-term a group of 23 travelled to Albania in order to spend a week renovating a community centre for children in an underprivileged area. Following this success another project is being organised for an Orphanage in India. These trips continue to enrich the outlook of our students and enable them to develop a more caring attitude towards the less fortunate of this world.

In February 2005, Year 11 Business Studies pupils travelled to New York to experience the financial capital of the world.

Other educational visits have included a Spanish trip to Madrid in 2003 and to Sagunto in May 2005. A skiing trip to Aprica in Italy during February 2005 half-term proved to be a huge success with students attending from all age and year groups. Paris was visited by the French students, in 2005, which included a visit to Disneyland for a day of their stay.

Spiritual life

The spiritual life of our students has been a matter of pride and joy for those who teach in our Adventist environment. With many students coming from different faith communities it is always heartening to see many enjoy, grow and gain from the inspirational Adventist visiting speakers who attend our school assemblies. With such themes as ‘be real’ and ‘dream on’, students are encouraged to build their relationship with God on a personal level.

Robert Hines dedicated many hours to helping organise events, worship, weeks of prayer and Youth Retreats, while he was serving as a Voluntary Chaplain for Stanborough School. Stanborough now has a serving Chaplain who is provided through the AVS programme each year. The school is a wonderful evangelical opportunity with many young people who have not heard the Adventist message. Having a live-in chaplain is most beneficial to our 5/7 day boarders who are able to seek advice from someone who puts God first in their lives. In a letter from a parent who has boarding school students visit their home on a regular basis she stated: ‘I commend the influence that the school and boarding school have on
these students and on the lives of all the students including my son”.

Each academic year a weekly programme is organised for the pupils with a spiritual emphasis. This provides the opportunity for pupils to demonstrate initiative and to meet the spiritual interests of peers and to meet other visitors who demonstrate their faith in God.

Over the past five years Stanborough has seen many students make a commitment to God through baptism. This is both a joy to the staff and a fine example to fellow students.

The Boarding school has a daily programme of worship and all students are encouraged to bring praise to God through song, Bible study and attending church.

In an attempt to be instrumental in helping our students turn to God, staff members have joined together to form a monthly ‘Reen Church with the theme ‘Come as you are’ (CAYA). The purpose of this monthly meeting is to reach pupils in a dynamic and interactive way, bringing God closer to them in a way that they can relate too. This event is proving to be effective and enjoyable for all those who attend.

### International Stanborough School

During the past academic year Stanborough saw the opening of its long awaited sister school, ‘The International Stanborough School’, which was instituted to provide a more specialised environment for our International students who come to England to learn English as a Second Language. By combining this venture with our day school, pupils from many different countries are able to enjoy the benefits of our already existing facilities, excellent teaching and exciting student life. The established boarding school provides a home away from home.

In a recent Ofsted inspection the school was praised for ‘providing a caring family atmosphere throughout the school’. Many new pupils are being referred by some of the top schools in our area and new bonds of association are linking Stanborough with the community.

An International prospectus and an International DVD have been produced in order to reach more International partner schools.

As referred to earlier in this report the marketing department has been instrumental in promoting Stanborough School internationally and nationally, which has resulted in the International School growing in three major areas. The school has increased the number of partner schools, forging links with new schools and countries to increase enrolment. These include Germany, Finland, France, Korea, Hong Kong, Brazil, Poland, Taiwan, to name just a few. Due to this significant increase it was recognised that there was a need to increase the number of summer school so in 2002 the number of summer schools offered rose from one to two and in 2004 from two to three. We also offer frequent language tours throughout the year, where schools can send students for 1, 2 or 3 weeks to take classes and go on cultural tours. This aspect of the International School has proved hugely successful. Due to the expansion of the International School in terms of new contacts and extra sessions, there has been a remarkable increase in the number of students choosing to study EFL at Stanborough. This has enabled the school to expand the variety of activities and outings on offer to the students, enhancing the attraction of the Summer Camps programme. The students enjoy the cultural mix and the ability to meet and learn from other cultures.

### Gratitude

Gratitude goes to the very people Stanborough School is here to serve – our students. Without them we would not exist. To all those who have supported and encouraged Stanborough, even when goals were set that seemed impossible, Stanborough owes a huge thank you! Our thanks go to those who look to Stanborough as a beacon of hope to shine for our young people who are in a darkened world, that they should never doubt and always hope.

To the amazing teachers who give up their evenings to prepare lessons and attend events. To the staff that would rather help at the boarding school in the evenings than rush home; to these people our gratitude is given.

The Board of Governors of the School are appreciated for the direction they provide for the school. The British Union Conference and the South England Conference must also be thanked for their continued support of Stanborough. Nor can we forget the constituency, former and present pupils and their parents, who deserve thanks for the many contributions given over the years.

Ultimately all the glory goes to God, for the great things we as a School achieve for our students.

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### Analysis of GCSE results by Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>A*-C</th>
<th>A*-B</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>A*-C</th>
<th>A*-B</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 2001</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2002</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2003</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 2004</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2005</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Girls**: Girls outperform boys nationally by around 10%
- **Boys**: Boys perform close to the national average
- **Overall**: Stanborough school achieving approx 20% above the national average
Stanborough Primary School - Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide, with God’s help, a learning, caring, serving and responsible community where all people are valued for who they are and for who they may become as children of Jesus Christ.

The past five years have been mile-posted with many wonderful episodes which should come as no surprise as we have a winning combination of:
- Interesting children
- Committed and talented teachers
- An evolving and improving learning programme
- Support and encouragement from the parents
- Committed support from the School Board

There is much one could write about, but I have chosen to focus on academic standards, progress on the points of action from the last Independent Schools Inspection, and our shared vision for the school.

### Academic Standards

The past five years have been marked with standards in English, Maths and Science exceeding government targets year on year. This is the outcome of monitoring our curriculum provision along with learning and teaching in our school, and reflective practice.

### Action Points from the Independent Schools Inspection

In 2001 the Independent Schools Inspectorate made a few recommendations which we took on board and have developed since then. The three areas directed at the Primary School were to:
- Improve staff-pupil ratio in the Nursery in the early part of the afternoon session
- Improve learning provision of ICT
- Improve planning for the delivery of PSHE and Citizenship

### Improved Staff-Pupil ratio

When the inspectors visited the school, it was noted that there was only one member of staff during the 'rest' period in the nursery when one of the teachers taught French in the Primary School. The issue was addressed immediately by extending the duty time of the lunch-time supervisor.
Improved Learning Provision of ICT

Our dream was to have a purpose built room to house a suite of computers and despite plans being
drawn, we were frustrated when there was very little movement on the project predictably due to the small
budget at our disposal. Mercifully, the second plan of action produced results quickly. We now boast a
class set of twenty wireless networked laptops which are stored in a trolley and can be operated anywhere
in the school. Kevin St Cyr was responsible for the entire project and we are enormously grateful to him for
helping us to become a school equipped for the 21st Century.

Our dream of installing interactive white boards in every classroom was seized by our Home and School
Association. Much fundraising and ingenuity made it possible for us to realise our dream in less than a year.
The boards have been a great asset. As a teaching tool, they improve the pace of lessons and appeal to all
learning styles.

We have received training in their use and are grateful to the two members of staff who offer help whenever
it is needed. Our next objective will be to ensure that every board has a dedicated lap-top. Presently
some teachers use their personal computers for this purpose.

The curriculum provision of ICT has improved enormously since the last inspection report and we expect
the next report will reflect this.

Improved Planning for the delivery of PSHE and Citizenship

The inspectors were satisfied that PSHE and Citizenship was taught in the school as they had seen evi-
dence of it in a variety of contexts. It was recommended that we devise a scheme of work with greater
structure, coherence and progression. The provision of PSHE and Citizenship has been evolving and
improving year on year since that time.

It was at the Division-organised Education Convention in Slovenia in 2002 that we really started an exci-
ting journey of improvement to the programme to the point that it is now the nerve-centre of our teaching
and learning programme. We focus on a given value for two weeks in every assembly then link it with the
rest of the curriculum and the reward system. The whole school focus has been a positive force on the
children’s understanding and the reward system recognises the internalising of those values. Ask any of
our nursery children what ‘determination’ means and they will tell you that it means ‘to keep going to the
end even when it is tough’.

As a little aside, it must be said that the power and value of the Education Convention cannot be under-
estimated. Generally, teachers in Adventist schools do not have all the resources to inspire, challenge and
motivate that others have. Much of their inspiration comes from their own professional drive and inquiry,
along with the rare training day which is inevitably linked to the government agenda. Whilst these training
days are enlightening and empowering, they will always lack the spiritual dimension which is the life-blood
of everything we do. In Slovenia, our teachers were motivated by and immensely appreciative of the oppor-
tunity to be inspired, energised and to focus by ‘cutting-edge specialists’ in education from Adventist insti-
tutions. Visit our school and you will have evidence of the outcome.

An additional exciting improvement in the provision of the PSHE and Citizenship curriculum was to regis-
ter with the primary division of the Young Enterprise Scheme. Excellent materials from America have been
adapted to link with the British curriculum to cover all the citizenship topics. The programme begins with
responsibility at home, to my community, to my country and then the world. Children are taught about world
trade and its inequalities in a practical and effective way. Children complete the programme with a greater
sense of personal responsibility regarding world issues, confident that they can make choices to effect
fairness and justice.

...and Finally...

As a learning community we believe that Adventist Education is our future. We believe that it empowers
every member and benefits the entire community. We have a vision of high quality, spiritually cohesive,
The Irish Mission

New Day Dawns

David Neal

The Irish Mission

The island of Ireland, comprising both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, has a total population of approximately 5.6 million people. Of those 5.6 million people, 398 are members of the Irish Mission as of December 2005. Since reporting to the British Union constituency in 2001, Ireland has continued to open its doors to people from all over the world, changing the church from an ethnically homogenous group, to the place where now almost every church is diverse. When we worship we find ourselves with people from India, Romania, Brazil, Moldova, Poland, Ghana and South Africa, to name but a few of the places our members and friends originate from.

With a new Ireland, growing fast and furious economically, the same spirit is reflected in our mission. The challenges of violent conflict in Northern Ireland are seemingly over; bringing material prosperity for most. With that prosperity, comes the expectation of happiness and a fulfilled life. However, in reality, some of our cities have great social, economic and spiritual problems.

Church Growth

From the perspective of Irish Mission members, the church has exploded in size and vibrancy. 398 worshippers may be recorded as members, but it is estimated that between 600 - 650 people worship each Sabbath. Many meet in our established church groups, some of which have doubled in size, but a new trend of “house churches” is developing. In towns where an Adventist presence was unheard of five years ago, there are new groups of between five and twenty people.

One typical example is the group which meets in Ballinasloe, twenty miles east of Galway. Huddled into a small terraced house on most Saturday nights are 15 worshippers who originate from Brazil. They sing, pray and read scripture in their own language. Andrew (aged 13) translates the sermon from English into Portuguese. Some in attendance are Adventists, others are not. Their meeting together is a model example of how faithful Adventists will not let their faith go even when they move continents, and whatever circumstances they find themselves in.

The persistence of the Banbridge church leadership of “going to the community” rather than waiting for the “community to come to us” has resulted in a significant number of people considering themselves as “friends of the church”. Led by Kim Papaioannou and Frances Moody, there is a consistent programme of home visitation in the town and surrounding district with Discovery Bible School cards, invitations to church programmes and friendship chats with citizens on the doorstep. In a couple of instances they have discovered former Adventists. Their labours are rewarded when it’s time to invite the community to evangelistic programmes - people turn up.

As will be seen from the report from the BUC Secretariat, most of the growth is demographic. We admit to the Lord and the constituency that we have still not “connected” with our community sufficiently to help them with the power of the Holy Spirit to cross the line from death to life.

Finance

Tithe return is a spiritual litmus test of the church. The test results are resoundingly positive with a 140% increase since 2000. Our only response can be to thank God for His working and for the faithfulness of our members. Mission Treasurer Victor Pilmoor gives greater detail of this trend in his report.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tithe returned (£)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>£157,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>£377,891</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Most of the operating expense is used in pastoral ministry. We have a strong and committed worker force. The worker force as of December 2005 consisted of the following personnel:

Pastors:  
Anton Kapusi, Adam Keough, Ashley Kongari, Mike Logan, Douglas McComac, David Neal, Kim Papaioannou, Stephen Wilson.
Marcie Neal (Secretary)

Youth Ministries

During the last five years, overall youth ministry was led first by Nathan Stickland and then by Adam Keough. From witness programmes to summer camps, to fellowship retreats - all have ensured that youth in the Mission have a mission. One of the most successful events over the last few years has been the “Three Missions Retreat” where youth from the Irish Mission join up with those of Scotland and Wales.

Adam Keough, the present Youth Sponsor, has as his job description to visit churches around the Mission to network and minister to youth where they are. This responsibility has been carried out in addition to his local church responsibilities.

Once or twice a year there have usually been fellowship weekends at a retreat centre. Youth and Pathfinder / Adventurer clubs exist in Belfast, Banbridge and Dublin. Youth have participated in wider BUC and TED Youth Ministry events such as Youth Congress and Pathfinder Camporees.

It would be remiss in these brief paragraphs to forget to thank Youth and Pathfinder Club leaders along with numerous other volunteers for their commitment to the salvation of our youth. While those in the Belfast and Dublin areas experience the joy of a critical mass for Youth and Pathfinder groups, we are ever mindful of the one or two children who may worship in church without the benefit of a positive peer group. Our ministry to them is as critical as it is to the larger groups.

No youth ministry programme can exist without the traditional summer camp programme. All that needs to be said is that it is run annually with great success with attendance by children and teens from all over the Mission.

Women’s Ministries

Perhaps one of the most encouraging success stories in the Mission is the Women’s Ministries days of Fellowship and retreat weekends. Directed by Betty Sisson and Ruth Hamblin the following events took place:

- Family Weekends in Avoca
- “African Women”, a musical appreciation of African culture
• Women’s retreat Weekends Avoca, Armagh, and Trim: “Women for Christ” and “What do Women Want?”
• Valentine’s Special Programme: God’s Love for Us – Our Love for each other.
• Sunday morning brunches in the homes of different members – Christmas specials, Reminiscence meetings, Spring sowing and Women’s medical matters.
• Caring for Our Prodigals.

Working in consultation with Heather Haworth (BUC Women’s Ministries Director) the ability to fulfill many of the needs presented to the leadership team was accomplished.

The Emerald Health and Education Foundation (USA)

Without the support of the Emerald Foundation for the last 25 years, the work of the mission would not be as advanced as it is. They have faithfully supported the mission, financing small and big projects in a number of churches. They are responsible for the funding of Grianach House School in Galway. At the time of writing they own and co-own with the Irish Mission a number of properties intended to support our work.

Currently, the strategic use of these properties is under review.

Our relationship with the Emerald Foundation has matured over the past five years. Significantly, their donor constituency is getting smaller by the year. New donors are not taking their place. The general feeling of current board members is to encourage the Irish Mission leadership to take a greater responsibility and ownership of their assets. The significance of this trend cannot be underestimated. I would like to pay tribute to Tom Miller for his leadership of the Foundation. His personal enthusiasm and interest in what takes place in the “Emerald Isle” encourages us greatly.

Grianach House School

Owned by the Emerald Foundation (USA) the school is operated by the Irish Mission. Over the last five years enrolment has declined significantly. As of December 2005 the number of pupils was 31. The largest source of income for the school is an annual grant from the Emerald Foundation. With its donor base in decline, the funds are declining. The other major source of income is through tuition fees. Fewer children mean lower tuition income. The Irish Mission has taken a consistent view that it does not have the financial resources to run the school and so does not fund the school in any significant way.

At the time of writing, the future of the school is under strategic review. The school has raised the profile of our church in Galway. I would like to pay tribute to Mary Óh-Óici (Acting Head), and Nora Mulvene (Bursar/Teacher), for their commitment to the school along with other teaching staff and board members.

The questions we are currently asking under the strategic review with the Emerald Foundation are: is the school financially sustainable in the short, medium and long term? Even if it is, how can its value to the overall mission of our church in Ireland be enhanced? Do we have the ability to operate a school which is mission driven and operates according to best practise as one would expect of a Seventh-day Adventist School? Can we find the competent, committed and compatible personnel to lead the school?

This report is not the place to answer those questions, your prayers are requested as we consider its future.

ADRA-Ireland

Having undergone a strategic review by the end of 2005, ADRA-Ireland is on its way to recovery after having to review its internal procedures for securing development aid from the Irish Government. While supporting a number of small projects, it has been unable to gain significant government financial support for projects it would like to help in the last five years. With the appointment of a new administrative team, Douglas McCommac (Director), Stephen Wilson (Secretary), George Sisson (Treasurer) and David Neal (Chairman), the hope and dream is that in the next five years, money from the Irish government will flow through this organisation to help those most in need. Recognition and thanks must be given to those who collect and give to the work of ADRA-Ireland.

Discovery Bible School

At the end of 2005 the BUC Discovery Bible School Board under the leadership of Dalbert Elias voted funds toward the setting up of an Irish Discovery Bible School based in Dublin. The purpose being to create a localised DBS centre which serves as a national centre for Bible students in Ireland, including a national postal address, culturally appropriate lessons, and a volunteer Bible worker to follow up on students by mail and visitation where possible.

Adventist Frontier Missions

We have been helped in our work by the presence of Adventist Frontier Missions. Based in Berrien Springs, Michigan, the philosophy of this supporting ministry is to send volunteer workers to places where there is no Adventist presence on a long term basis. In the case of the Irish Mission, two couples were sent to Waterford. The work in this city has been intentionally slow as the couples sought to make friends with the community. At the time of writing, plans are underway to distribute Discovery Bible cards to every home in the city. In addition Sabbath worship now takes place in the home of the Frontier Mission workers. Were it not for the Wiley and Bushby families and their commitment, we would not have a presence in this major city.

Thanks

I would like to express my thanks to all the members of the Irish Mission for their faithfulness to God over the past five years as well as:

Curtis Murphy (President) 2000 – 2005
Victor Pilmoor (Secretary / Treasurer)
The Executive Committee
Cecil Perry and Eric Lowe
Pastors and Elders
Mission Departmental Sponsors
BUC Departmental Directors

The Future

Our work in the greater Dublin area is growing rapidly. It is likely that they will present plans soon for a new church building to accommodate their expanding congregations. We will need to find funding for this project. Every one of our worker force has and continues to look out with his members for lost people in our Mission. We will always be unsettled until they are found. We want to encourage our Elders to take greater leadership responsibility in church life to free ministerial workers up for greater witness and evangelism.

With new groups forming in towns and cities of our Mission where once we could only dream that this would happen, we are working out a strategy to not only give pastoral care to new groups but to disciple them for witness.

This report has briefly summarised the progress of the work in the Irish Mission over the past five years. Space does not permit to tell the victories, the challenges, the joys and the solid faithfulness of our members as they sought to be faithful to God in rapidly changing societies that often in their pursuit of progress left God out. A recent report about the Irish Mission recently appeared in “Adventist World” and concluded with the following:
1 January 2001 – 31 December 2005

I recall some years ago ministering in a church where we had a number of non-member visitors attending from evangelistic work we had done. That Sabbath I specifically asked God to move upon the hearts of these people that at least one of them would make a decision to join our church family. I took the sermon and included a general call to decide for the Lord Jesus. I felt sure my prayer would be answered and waited eagerly to greet people as they came out of the service to see which person would speak to me about joining the church family. None did. Disappointed, I was about to walk away from the front door when a stranger came off the footpath and spoke to me. He said he had been looking for a church that kept Saturday Sabbath and, walking past, noticed people coming out of the church and he wondered, did we? We set up some studies and some time later he and his wife joined the church. My prayer had been answered but not in the way I had expected!

This last term has been somewhat like that. All have worked hard and prayed long for fruit for our labours. We continued to build on the work of the years before. But the Lord added not where we had laboured but as He chose. The future of some of our churches, which looked bleak, has changed. Some have doubled in attendance during this time. People have come from all over the world and added new energy and life to our churches. Has that been easy? No it hasn’t. With so many different cultures – a survey we took at the end of 2005 found over 35 different nationalities represented – it has meant change. Change is never easy, particularly so when you have kept the flame of worship going for so long against the tide of declining membership. In 2005 the Mission sponsored a ‘Multicultural Church Exchange’ led by Annette Hutchinson, of the SEC HR department. This was a positive experience and the Mission plans to host events in the term ahead that will celebrate our diversity.

The solution is to draw heart and courage from the parallels of our times with the New Testament church of the book of Acts [see Acts 2]. The early church was also in a hostile culture but they sought to be a learning, fellowshipping, and praying people [v. 42]; they were a people of faith who expected things to happen [v.43]; they were a sharing and caring church [v.44, 45]; they were a let’s-get-together-lots church [v.46]; they were a praising, positive, church [v.47a]; and they were a life-lived-well church that gained the favour of others [v.47b]. Result = God added to their number. And did He! – 3000 in one day and note how many different cultures they came from, in v9, 10. There is our challenge – to be gracious Christian communities led by the Spirit of God.

Pastoral Placements
The term began with the following pastoral placements:
President and Crieff pastor – Arthur Robert Rodd
Aberdeen –Brian McCormac
Dundee & Perth district – Gordon Smith
Edinburgh & Dunfermline district – Claude Lombart
Glasgow, East Kilbride & Irvine district – Russell Bryan with intern Marcel Ghioalda

In 2001, for personal reasons, Gordon Smith and Claude Lombart left the employment of the Scottish Mission and replacements were sought.

At the Union Session in York 2001 Llewellyn Edwards was elected as the President to the Mission and he moved to Scotland in November 2001. We are indebted to Bob & Moyna Rodd for patiently caring for the Mission until Llewellyn & Karin Edwards were able to complete their move.

To replace the pastors who left, the Mission employed Andrew Willis in October 2001 and Clifford Herman in January 2002. Andrew Willis had recently completed his M.A. in theology from Newbold College. Clifford Herman transferred from ministry in South Africa to Scotland. Andrew Willis and his wife Ela moved to locate and serve in the Glasgow, East Kilbride and Irvine district under the supervision of Russell Bryan. Clifford Herman and his wife Ophelia and son Matthew located in the Edinburgh and Dunfermline district.

During the term the pastoral changes took place as follows:

President and Crieff pastor – Llewellyn Edwards took over from Bob Rodd.
Abdeen – has remained in the care of Brian McCommac.
Dundee & Perth district – came under the care of Marcel Ghioalda. The small group at Perth amalgamated with Crieff and Dundee and in 2005 Marcel Ghioalda was ordained.
Edinburgh & Dunfermline district – In 2002 Clifford Herman took these under his care until he was asked to move to care for the Glasgow, East Kilbride and Irvine churches in 2004 and Andrew Willis moved to care for the Edinburgh & Dunfermline district. In 2005 Clifford Herman was also ordained.
Glasgow, East Kilbride & Irvine district – were under the care of Russell Bryan until he with his family accepted an invitation to ministry in Australia in 2004. Russell Bryan had as his intern Andrew Willis. With his departure to Australia and Clifford Herman moving to the Glasgow district Andrew Willis completed his internship and began his first charge as a licensed minister in the Edinburgh Dunfermline district. In 2004 David Hatch was invited to an intern position working with Clifford Herman.

During the term Marcel Ghioalda ably led as the Mission Youth and Pathfinder Sponsor; Clifford Herman took over, from Russell Bryan, as Communications Sponsor; Brian McCommac as Prayer Sponsor; Martin Bell as Health Sponsor; Andrew Willis took over from Russell Bryan as Church Growth Sponsor; and Judith Martin as Woman’s Ministries Sponsor.

2001 also saw the move of the Secretary Treasurer Dean Papaioannou away from the Mission to a post at the TED. Victor Pilmoor, the BUC Treasurer, accepted the responsibility as Mission Treasurer. The Secretariat duties for the Mission are dealt with at the BUC. I refer the reader to the Union Treasurer’s report.

The Churches

Our most northerly church is the church family in Aberdeen. They have a very pleasant building located near the centre of the city. The pastor, Brian McCommac, reports of their interest in evangelism evidenced by their participation in the recent satellite outreaches; the establishment of a Discovery Bible School and the distribution of thousands of cards from Aberdeen to Inverness, Keith, Elgin, Nairn, and Lossiemouth. The church is proud of its Pathfinder Club under the leadership of people like Leon Crossan and lately Josephine Ekum. In 2002 the church also set up some small study groups, one in the Keith/Elgin area and also in the city of Inverness. Brian McCommac describes the church too as a praying church.

Moving south we come to the Dundee Church which has experienced much rapid changeover of pastoral leadership but during this term welcomed its new pastor Marcel Ghioalda. His infectious enthusiasm is a rich blessing to the church and there is an active outreach to children not only in the church family but in the community. Visit Dundee if you want to enjoy an inspirational worship team and lively worship. As mentioned above Marcel was ordained in 2005.

Unfortunately the Perth Company has for some time not been viable and in 2002 it was disbanded and the area pastor and the Mission are committed to ministering to the few who live in Perth while considering God’s leading for the future for this city.

The Crieff Church with its central location is in many ways central also to the work in Scotland – hosting events such as fellowship days. It also hosts the Mission office, Mission Executive committees and Mission Training and event days. The church is pleased to be a host to meet the needs of its sister churches. It is also active in sharing its facilities with the community. It is well known in the community for its floral displays and enjoys a good number of visitors from the community to many of its programmes. The church has two small groups both eager to grow and share. The Muthill one ran an Alpha course in 2005 and as a result has a new local family as part of their group and beginning to attend church services. On 9 November 2001 it commemorated its 25th anniversary, being built 25 years ago in eleven days by the Maranatha organisation.

The faithful company in Dunfermline continue to keep their candle shining brightly. Besides meetings and home Bible studies, as well as training programmes like the Contagious Christianity course, they run coffee mornings and stalls to raise funds for ADRA. In recent times they too have received an influx of members who are blessing their fellowship.

The Edinburgh Church had a difficult term, not only with the change of pastors from Claude Lombart to Clifford Herman in January 2002, but also the decision to sell the building at 3 Bristo Place - the final service was on Sabbath 15th September 2001. After a short time at the Augustine Church near Bristo Place the church in now located at the United Reformed Church building in Granton, north Edinburgh which they purchased for themselves in 2004. The church has exciting and extensive plans for its renovation. Tenders for this work were received at the end of 2005 and they look forward to 2006 being the year of building completion. In 2004 with Clifford Herman’s move to the Glasgow district, Andrew Willis took charge as the pastor. There is a positive spirit at this church and they have plans to reach out into the community through the facilities of their new home. The members continue to witness by way of the distribution of literature door to door; reaching out to help others in need and the distribution of information packs to University students.

In the west of Scotland the Glasgow, East Kilbride and Irvine district of churches and companies has had leadership changes with the move of Russell Bryan to Australia and Andrew Willis to Edinburgh. They welcomed Clifford Herman in 2004 and shortly after David Hatch, as an intern. Clifford Herman was ordained in 2005. East Kilbride and Irvine are always an active witness and a number of outreach programmes have been held; there is an extensive leafleting programme at present. Glasgow church has the challenge of the recent arrivals of a substantial number of brothers and sisters from other lands. It is not unusual now to have some 80 to 100 people at church on a Sabbath. In 2005 the church organised 4 small groups to meet in various parts of the city with the intention of working toward planting new churches.

Youth events

Building on the foundation laid by Gordon Smith, Marcel Ghioalda has enthusiastically taken on the work of this department. Marcel and his wife Claudette’s tireless commitment and love of youth is evidenced in the encouragement and equipping of Pathfinder clubs, youth retreats, witness events, sports days, fun events, and church youth days. The Mission is sponsoring Marcel Ghioalda toward his M.A. in Youth Ministries. An outstanding achievement has been the creation of what we know as ‘Project Romania’. In 2003 and 2005 Marcel Ghioalda organised teams of youth, around 25+ each time, to aid poorer people in Romania. The 2003 project undertook the building of two houses. The group also ran children’s programmes while there. The 2005 project helped in the building of two houses and the refurbishment of the town crèche, as well as the children’s programme.

Prayer Ministries

We made a conscious effort to incorporate prayer into the life of our mission. Each church has been asked to nominate a Prayer Leader and we are encouraged to hear reports of ‘Prayer Warriors’, ‘Prayer Seasons’
and ‘Prayer Conferences’. Pastor Brian McCormac leads in this area.

**Women's Ministries**

Our annual women’s ministry retreat is powerful – speak to any who went and months later they are still drawing strength from this event. We are grateful to the contribution of Judith Martin, from the Glasgow church, our sponsor. Judith has exciting plans for the next term in building upon this ministry so far.

**Small groups**

Following a number of visits and workshops by David Cox two small groups were initially set up in the Glasgow and Comrie areas. Russell Bryan led out as sponsor and then latterly Andrew Willis. At the end of the term there are now four groups in Glasgow; two in the Crieff area and others under the care of the Aberdeen and Dundee ministers. In 2005 with the arrival of a handful of students and others in Stirling a small group now worships every Sabbath under the care of David Hatch. As I have had the opportunity to observe small groups I see four values or benefits of holistic small groups. First that the members of the group are able to reach a breadth and depth of community unlikely to be reached without the small group; secondly the sense of community creates a responsibility for ministry to each other; thirdly the group can create a mutually supported commitment to reaching out to others outside the group; and fourthly the commitment of the group to the larger church is strengthening. These are values that cause me to commend the establishment of holistic small groups in the Mission.

**Communication**

Besides the beloved Messenger the Mission’s main channel of communication has been the monthly Scottish Mission News Letter [SMNL]. Over the term Clifford Herman took over the responsibility for the SMNL from Russell Bryan and we have now changed from a hardcopy SMNL to one sent out by email to all who have internet access and to the Communication officers of each church for posting on their notice boards. The SMNL also now includes a section from the Mission President.

**Equipping & Training**

It is an objective of the Mission administration to foster a sense of community and team-wisdom that begins with the Executive Committee and the pastoral team and cascades to the church leaders and then throughout the churches. Thus we hold regular pastors meetings, retreat study events, elders meetings, training days, and events that encourage accountability, the input of cultural wisdom, of male and female wisdom, of working together to keep our churches safe, and of encouraging all members to take responsibility for the vision of their churches. The aim being that ‘God’s people be prepared for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up’. [Eph 4:12]

The ‘Keeping Our Church Family Safe’ policy is being implemented under the care of Carole Peacock. Carole is the Scottish Mission signatory. She has organised a number of training days and diligently pursues the leaders of the churches to make sure disclosures are done and good practice is implemented. This work has taken up large amounts of her time, particularly as she has had to make the Union policy compliant with Scottish law.

**Membership and Finances**

At the beginning of the term, 1 January 2001, the membership of the Mission stood at 272 and as at 31 December 2005 the membership is recorded as 332. The finances of the Mission reveal a healthy annual trend with Tithe at 1 January 2001 being £203,813 and at 31 December 2005 it was £292,904. The Mission is deeply grateful to the faithful stewardship of our people and, I am certain each of us is grateful to the kindness and blessings of our gracious God. I am also indebted to the support, encouragement and work of our treasurer – Victor Pilmoor. Please refer to his report.

**The term before us**

The past term has seen some of the greatest tragedies ever known – the conflict in Iraq; the Christmas 2004 tsunami; the New Orleans storms and the Pakistani earthquakes which have reminded us of the signs and the necessity of the coming of the Lord and that we must press the gospel to the people where we live before Jesus comes. Beyond these signs we see, in our own communities, the continual breakdown and decay of our societies into dysfunctional families and individuals. We also see evidences of spirituality without religion and a longing for peace and love matched only by despair and hopelessness. It is very easy to see that what the world needs is the good news we hold dear, but communicating that gospel is blocked by the negative image that organised religion has. Two images and passages come to my mind as I consider the situation.

Firstly the world needs to see the integrity of the church of God if it is to believe its gospel. Jesus’ words come to mind (NLT) John 13:35 “Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.” The same thought is expressed in (NTL) John 17:21 “My prayer for all of them is that they will be one, just as you and I are one, Father – that just as you are in me and I am in you, so they will be in us, and the world will believe you sent me.” I believe that every effort needs to be made to encourage our churches to be places of strong community where every member is accountable to, and for the love of Christ to each other.

The second image is from Acts 13 where a fledging church in Antioch is so empowered by committed local leaders that they are strong enough to co-operate with the Spirit of God and commission their best leaders to go and “preach the gospel…and make disciples” as the Lord commanded in Matt 28.

I am convinced that the combination of accountable love in our churches and a renewed commitment to evangelism is what the Mission must strive for in the term ahead. We are grateful to the BUC for leading in the LIFE development strategy.

**Thanks**

Our sincere thanks go to the individual members for their commitment to the Lord Jesus and their willingness to serve each other. He has called us to service and commitment no matter how hard and no matter the personal cost. It is a joy to witness the commitment of those who see this challenging vision of the church that Jesus died for.

The Mission is deeply grateful also to the service of those who sat on the Executive Committee over the term and to the leaders, Cecil Perry and Eric Lowe, and Victor Pilmoor as well as the directors at the British Union Office for their unstinting support and encouragement. Thanks without qualification also go to the wonderful pastoral team of the Mission during this term – Pastors Bryan, Ghioalda, Hatch, Herman, McCormac, and Willis for their personal commitment to the call of the gospel ministry. We do not forget their spouses and families for their sacrifice and acceptance of the demands of ministry. I am also grateful to the diligence and expertise of our Mission Office secretary, Carole Peacock.

Special thanks goes to my ever encouraging, cheerful, and ‘nothing-is-too-much-trouble’ wife Karin.

Finally, unspoken thanks go to our God and Father, and to the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit for their endless commitment to a people, ‘prone to wander’, yet loved beyond our understanding. Has not His grace poured upon us “eternal encouragement and good hope” (2 Thess 2:16). It is this hope which we travall and journey – the journey of hope.
There was much to celebrate in the Welsh Mission during the past five years, not only in the church but in the religious life of the community.

Many will bring to mind the story of Mary Jones, a young girl who walked from her home to Bala and inspired the formation of the British and Foreign Bible Society, the mother of all the World’s Bible Societies. What an inspiration to see so many representatives from every nation of the world come to Wales to celebrate the two hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the Bible Society and to note that a large number of Adventists are in charge of the promotion of the Bible in their part of the world. At a Mission-wide gathering in the Grand Pavilion, Llandrindod Wells, Berr Beach re-emphasised the legacy we have from the present mass distribution of Bibles.

For Wales there was also the one hundredth anniversary of the 04/05 Revival, celebrated in our Swansea Church with a Cymraeg Ganu (singing festival) and an account of the Revival by Pastor Kevin Adams, of Ammanford. The anniversary of the 04/05 Revival was the highlight of the Revival that Adventist colporteurs sold thousands of books and magazines and enabled so many who filled churches and chapels to catch a glimpse of the Advent message. During those dramatic years the foundation was laid for the establishment of work in the southern part of our Mission. Not until 1909 was work established in North Wales by W. E. Read at Wrexham. It was because of the difficulty of travelling from South to North Wales, which is still a problem, that the English Board, counties of Hereford and Shropshire were added to the Welsh Mission in 1911.

The Welsh language poses a challenge to the Church both now and in the future because around 21% of the people speak it. During the past five years a large number of Welsh Language Primary, Junior and Secondary Schools have sprung up in all parts of Wales, including some of those areas previously thought of as being Anglicised. It is through the ten-day gathering at National Esteddfod venue that we are able to display the world work of the church each year and we are able to distribute to a large audience significant quantities of our literature. Although we have published tracts and books from time to time in the Welsh language we will need to produce appropriate materials in the future.

I would like at the beginning of this report to thank all of the membership for their support, both in the encouragement they have given to me and in their faithfulness to the Lord. During the quinquennium we have laid to rest many of our faithful witnesses to the Message and long for the day when Jesus will come again. However, the last five years saw an increase in those attending church in many areas of the Mission. The ongoing problem we are trying to address is the transfer of membership by all those worshipping with us. This is not easy, as many have come into Wales having moved from one place to another. Others have moved to become active members in some of our churches.

For several years the Mission did not have any meetings that brought together people from all of our churches, companies and the large number on our isolated list (50+). So in November 2001 the first of the yearly meetings began at Llandrindod Wells. Each year the youth of our church have given reports on their overseas missions. Last year at a meeting in the County Hall, Cwmbran near Newport, members from all over Wales met for the ordination of Edward Sammons who grew up in South Wales. We were pleased that Bertil Wiklander, Trans-European Division President and Cecil Perry, President of the British Union Conference were there to speak at this thrilling occasion.

We thank the Lord for the leadership of Ed Sammons in the youth work of our church in the Mission. Each year youth from Wales, Scotland and Ireland have met at the Easter weekend, each mission taking it in turn to host the other two. Not only have our youth the opportunity to reach out from youths of Britain but they have journeyed to Eastern Europe to meet youth from the Euro-African Division.

In 2002, 27 young people went via Berlin to the Pathfinder Camporee in Poland and 25 went to the Youth Congress in Poland in 2004. Following the congress, in partnership with the Irish Mission, the young people went to Lithuania and were involved in such activities as a school of English, community refurbishment in association with the local government, charity work, musical concerts and cultural presentations. They were seen on several occasions on national television and were mentioned in the local newspapers. Again in 2005, 23 young people from Wales with a comparable number of local youth accomplished four mission projects across Lithuania attracting significant media attention. It was with joy that we saw a number of our youth baptised as well as seeing many lasting friendships made over the last quinquennium. This could also be said of the tremendous influence of the Family Camps held each year in Brecon.

This year we have the fortieth anniversary of the Brecon Camp programme. Led by Richard Vine and Peggy Mason, in recent years the spiritual influence of the camp has become deeply rooted in the hearts of those who attend from all parts of the UK. Each year sees a small but significant increase in the number of campers who enjoy a spiritual time in the Brecon Beacons National Park. This year sees the retirement of Richard Vine and we would like to express the gratitude of all the membership of the Welsh Mission.

Churches for his selfless ministry, his example and commitment to all the offices in which he has been asked to serve. We have indeed been blessed in so many areas of our work in the Mission.

Among our lay workers we have some exceptional individuals. Lil and Irving Saunders are both health professionals and each year visit our churches in the Mission with exciting programmes to encourage members to check their health. Often a Health Fair is held for people in the community. Each year a large group of health conscious members meet with them at the Potters House, Hebron Hall, Dinas Powis near Cardiff, for a restful and health promoting weekend. All our churches have given a welcome and have benefited from the ministry of the BUC Health Ministries Director, Richard Willis.

In the past five years the British Union produced a document entitled, ‘Keeping the Church Family Safe’. This document met with the BUC Director, Heather Haworth, and set up a committee to respond to any crises that could happen to any child that comes within the sphere of church activities. With myself as chairman, together with Richard Vine, Family Life Sponsor, Anette Moore, Children’s Ministries Sponsor, Jane Wells, Women’s Ministries Sponsor as well as Wendy Sammons and Brother J. Williams, both advisors from the Social Services, the committee was formed in 2003.

Peggy Mason, wife of our minister at Cardiff and Barry, is the Children’s Ministries Sponsor. She has a wide knowledge of the training of children and is an able developer of materials. Every year she has led out in a Holiday Bible school at Barry in the summer, as well as a HBS at Christmas. This stretches the facilities at our small church when around 30 children attend. Throughout the year there are programmes held in different parts of the Mission to encourage the promotion of the Children’s Sabbath Schools and Kidz clubs.

Our Women’s Ministries Sponsor, Jane Wells, encouraged a number of our ladies to spend some time on weekend retreats. These have encouraged many to take part in special prayer for the work of the church. A number of special services have been held in our churches to encourage missionary outreach and gain an understanding of matters relating to women. Jane Wells leads a small group and holds services at home for neighbours and friends.

Both in 2002 and 2003, Rex Edwards, who was for many years the co-ordinator for further education among denominational workers, visited the Welsh Mission to conduct seminars for ministers and members.

In 2002 he conducted seminars on preaching at Cardiff and Swansea and in 2003 he conducted seminars at four places in the Mission for Elders, and reminded members that they belonged to the ‘Priesthood of all believers’. His enthusiasm was an encouragement as was his interest in those who are home-schooling their children.

One of the steps forward that we have made in the Mission is provision of Satellite Broadcasting Receivers. We thank God for the ministry of Jack Rayne who has installed satellite dishes in every area of the Mission (also in a number in other parts of Britain and Ireland) for members to receive and share our...
message. We have endeavoured to place receivers in as many homes as possible. It has been of benefit to a large number of our isolated members who have been unable to attend church. We hope that every Adventist home in the Mission will be able to receive the broadcasts and if possible share their recordings with relatives and friends.

**North, South, East and West in the Mission**

One of the most encouraging reports we can give of work in the Welsh Mission is the steady increase in the number of people attending our churches and the interest that is shown as we reach out to the communities.

To replace the steady number of those we have laid to rest there has been a trickle of men and women and particularly young people joining the church. North Wales is a particularly difficult area but the message has gone forward and we praise God for the work of Theunnis du Buisson in bringing into the fold several people after working hard to win them for Christ. Following a campaign in Wrexham in 2002 we again established worship services in this, the largest town in North Wales. At Rhyl and Llandudno Junction the lay leaders Malcolm Turner and Sheilla Johnstone did an excellent work during the time that they were without a minister. Geoff Dennis was appointed in 2005 and church attendance at Rhyl is rising gradually. At the end of 2005 there was a baptismal service at Rhyl and the church was filled to capacity.

Work in the South East continues to thrive and the attendance at our Newport church has risen by almost fifty per cent in the past two years, due to the leadership of Jan McKenzie. Following renovation of our church building with the addition of a new kitchen and facilities for disabled access, two non-Adventist groups use the community room and this has contributed to an increase of Sabbath visitors and spiritual growth, and brought to the attention of the local authorities our outreach programmes. A visitation team brings spiritual comfort and practical help to the membership both in Newport and Cwmbran.

Tribute must be given to Clyde Moore and his wife Anette who have done such an energetic work in the Cardiff-Barry area. Every summer for the last four years they have seen around thirty children attend the HBS programme at Barry. Although great efforts have been made to gain the attention of adults with several mini-campaigns, the work has been hard and it is only now that light can be seen as five people are preparing for baptism. However, Cardiff Community Seventh-day Adventist church in the heart of our capital city has seen a steady stream of baptisms throughout the quinquennium. The youth department of the church has grown exponentially and 34 youth and children attend each week. A number of outreach projects are run in Cardiff over the year which include health checks, prison ministry and a puppet ministry team.

Just north of Cardiff is the Ystrad Mynach church pastored by Richard Vine. He is our longest-serving minister in the Mission and retires this year after forty years in the ministry. Again the attendance has increased and there are four small groups meeting regularly in members’ homes. For the past four years a group of dedicated parents have led out in a weekly programme entitled Club Creation. In addition they have run an annual Holiday Bible School at Ystrad Mynach College of Further Education as well as three camping weekends. Children and parents take part in church services, especially at Easter, Harvest Festival and Christmas. An invitation is extended to the community on Christmas Eve to attend a carol service. People from all over the town respond and fill the box pews in the church!

Many of our members in the Mission are scattered throughout South West Wales, in churches at Port Talbot, Swansea and Carmarthen, together with a group of around thirty who worship in a village hall each week. Many travel long distances to attend church, while for others living in the country will not allow them to attend church and they are therefore members of our isolated church. For the past five years Ed Sammons and Jeremy Tremeer have ministered to this scattered constituency. Much work has been done among the young people of our churches and it is with praise to God that we record that these two young ministers have led so many other young people to Christ. A large number have committed their lives to Christ and the baptisms were memorable, particularly the baptism in the sea at Oxwich.

Right in the heart of Wales we have the Llandrindod Wells Company. Llandrindod has a population of about 5,500 and is the administrative centre for the largest county in Wales. Around seventeen years ago a group of Adventists who had moved into the area began services and became a Company just before the beginning of the quinquennium. Programmes in the community by Rosemary Lethbridge have drawn attention to the work of the church. Kidz Club and small group work has broadened the acceptance of the church in the town. We have always found difficulty in growing the church at Hereford which is located in an area of strong traditional forms of worship. Transit Adventist members make attendance at services something of a problem. However, each week a number of meetings take place under the dedicated direction of Rosemary Lethbridge.

Our other two churches in the Border County of Shropshire, at Shrewsbury and Telford, have very differing characteristics. Shrewsbury has one of the best Sabbath Schools in the Mission and attracts the attention of several Methodist lay leaders who attend regularly each Sabbath. During the quinquennium Ian Cheeseman and Juha Mikkonen served in the district to be followed by the present pastor, Roger Neal. At Telford there have been many changes in persons attending and in the leadership of the congregation. However, we have seen several baptisms following a great deal of hard work by the ministers combining with the talented lay people in this district.

Church buildings, we are told, need serious attention after fifty years and we have tried to rise to the challenge posed by our churches. Some we have needed to re-roof and others required extensive repair. At Rhyl we renovated the whole of the outside of the building and the grounds are now in excellent condition. The car park only remains to be surfaced. At Newport both the outside and inside of the building has had a new lease of life due to the hard work of the Pastor and the members. Swansea Church will be rebuilt in the future as and when funds become available. It has been the policy of the Executive Committee to help each church as far as possible so that the local churches will be free of debt. We have been able to do this because of the generous gifts given by the members, and at least one overseas sponsor, who have supported the Mission with their gifts.

Over the past five years, and before, my wife Joyce has supported the work in the Mission as an unpaid worker in my office. She has been responsible for the compilation of month-end reports, the payment of travel expenses to a number of lay preachers, and has given encouragement to our members. As Stewardship Sponsor and Trust Services Advisor, she travelled to many parts of the Mission. The greatest tribute I can give her is that her generosity has enriched the work of our Lord in the Welsh Mission.

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our people over the years and, apart from the outstanding commitment of our Tith-payers, many have given of their means to forward the work in the Welsh Mission. Still, after many years, our people are among the highest per capita givers to the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the world. We thank God for His blessings and the response of our people.
This report prepared for the British Union Conference Sixth Quinquennial Session covers the five-year period 1 January 2001 to 31 December 2005. This period, however, bridges two North England Conference administrative terms, (1999 -2003 and 2004-2007). I have drawn on the relevant periods of the two administrative terms and have made a summary report of activities based on the structure of the North England Conference’s 1999-2003 strategic plans. Due to the limited space many details have had to be omitted.

Report: 1 January 2001 to 31 December 2005

Into the Future with Christ was the motto for the new term. The rationale that inspired the motto was that we proposed not to stand still but to be on the advance for Christ and with Christ. We are constantly moving into the future and we propose to do so with Christ’s empowerment.

10 Objectives
The strategic plan consisted of 10 core objectives as outlined below with the respective accomplishments:

Objective 1 - Membership growth

Membership Increase
We began the quinquennium, 1 January 2001, with a membership of 5,992 and saw the close of the term, 31 December 2005, with a membership of 7,111. This shows a net increase of 1,119, which represents a net growth of 18.67%.

Objective 2 - Evangelism, training & ministry support

Build a Strong, Growing Evangelistic Church in our Conference.
Evangelism in its various forms can aptly be described as the lifeblood of the church. Where a congregation ceases to evangelise, stagnation, membership decline and ultimately the disappearance of that congregation naturally ensues.

During the term various types of evangelistic activities have taken place throughout the Conference. These include tent campaigns, Revelation seminars, house to house initiatives, and house meetings which were run by members as well as by ministers. There were programmes in Preston, Liverpool, in churches in North Secretary, Huddersfield, Sheffield, churches in Nottingham, Barnsley and Doncaster, Leamington Spa, Coventry, Leicester and the West Midlands. Over all, some 250 evangelistic efforts took place over the five years.

In 1999 (a period outside of the BUC term) a tent campaign in the West Midlands resulted in the forming of a new congregation of 36 members. Again in 2003 another tent campaign in the West Midlands resulted with the baptism of 63 new members and the establishing of another congregation; this time with 16 of the newly baptised members. This new congregation has now been organised as a company.

Evangelistic Subsidy
Each year the Conference makes available a subsidy for evangelism and invites and encourages churches to apply for it. Over the five years approximately £376,000 was made available and many churches took up the offer.

Lay Evangelism
The Personal Ministries department sponsors an annual door to door programme entitled “1000 Doors,” in June of each year. During the term our members have visited over 25,500 homes to share the Good News. The department also holds a Lay Evangelists’ Training Seminar each year, which is well supported by the churches.

Other Departments
The various departments of the conference have been actively supporting the churches around the field as well as conducting programmes in local communities. It is true to say, however that all the departments have been engaged in lay evangelism, in that through the various community-oriented programmes, they have been reaching out to the wider audience with the gospel. Due to limited space it is impossible to give specific examples of the departmental activities.

Life Development
In 2001 the BUC developed and launched the ‘LifeDevelopment.info’ initiative. The NEC is a partner with the BUC in this initiative and had contributed £150,000 towards the programme by the end of 2005. The NEC is committed to supporting the programme financially and otherwise. As well as the evangelistic success of the Life programme our members reap the benefits of having two SDA satellite channels available to them, from which they can access (SDA) religious, health, education and other programmes in their homes. This provides an element of nurture for the membership.

Conference Evangelist
In 2000 the Conference Executive Committee appointed a Conference Evangelist for our field. During the period from 2001 to the end of the 2003 the Conference Evangelist was invited by churches in different parts of the Conference to run evangelistic campaigns. The effort has been one of success, resulting in many individuals accepting Jesus Christ as Saviour and joining the church.

Global Mission
The NEC continues to work with the TED and the BUC in the support of Global Mission projects. Projects on the Isle of Man, Louth and Scunthorpe in Lincolnshire, and Bury in Lancashire, were assisted by Global Mission funding of approximately £18,000. Except for the Louth project the other projects have succeeded and are making progress.

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Church Growth
At the 58th Session a decision was made to appoint a Church Growth Co-ordinator, to provide nurture, particularly for the small and struggling churches. With support from the British Union the Co-ordinator has held seminars on church growth and small group ministry and has assisted a number of churches with evangelistic outreach programmes. As a result we have seen positive activities in a number of churches where hitherto very little had been happening. There were approximately 28 small groups operating around the Conference at the end of 2005.

Asian Evangelism
At its 58th Session, the constituency approved a recommendation for the appointment of a sponsor to co-ordinator outreach activities directed to minority groups. At the commencement of the term the Executive Committee appointed a Co-ordinator for Asian Evangelism, to address the need for evangelism among the Asian people in our Conference. The Co-ordinator proceeded to reach out to the wider community with the gospel through radio, television and local community projects. To date 3 new Asian congregations have been planted and a fourth is already on the horizon.

Ministry Support
We believe that when the ministers are motivated and committed to the preaching of the gospel and in caring for the churches, their influence on their congregations will be positive and will in turn generate positive attitudes and action towards spiritual development and active evangelism among the members. Working with the Ministerial Association we proposed to encourage and support the ministry.

An average of 3 pastoral team meetings and a residential ministry retreat has been held each year. The ministry retreat is sponsored by the BUC and the NEC respectively, in alternate years. In the NEC the final ministry meeting of each year is specifically planned for the ministerial staff and their families. The meeting includes a communion service.

Personal and Professional Development
Opportunities are given to ministerial staff to take courses which will enable them to develop professionally. A number of the ministerial staff have availed themselves of these opportunities.

Sabbatical for ministers
The British Union Conference now has a Sabbatical policy. Subsequently two ministers in the North England Conference have benefitted from this policy during the term.

Objective 3 - Nurturing the membership
Nurture the Membership, giving Special Attention to:
• Cultural and Family Enrichment needs in the Church
• The needs of the Youth of the Church

During the term the administration took a number of measures to ensure the nurture and support of the membership.

Annually the administration plans and runs a Camp Meeting programme, which is well supported by the membership. An average of 3 Bible Conferences per year provide spiritual nurture for the membership. The programme, which is hosted jointly by the BUC and NEC officers, sometimes supported by Newbold College, has been held in different locations throughout the Conference. It is a great delight to see the members of the church participating in and enjoying the study of God's Word.

Objective 4 - Nurture and church growth
Build up and Strengthen Small and Vulnerable Congregations
Throughout the Conference we have a number of small congregations with membership of 30 or fewer. Careful attention needs to be given to these congregations to enable them to progress, develop and grow.

Through the term efforts have been made by the Personal Ministries Department to provide training and evangelism support through its LETS programme to support the small churches. The Church Growth department had training programmes for the development of small group ministry in a number of these churches.

Each year a sum of money has been set aside specifically for the support of evangelistic activities in small churches. A number of small congregations have availed themselves of the offer.

Objective 5 - Education
Continue to Support and Build up the Education Programme in Our Conference
The education programme in our Conference is centred on our two primary schools, Dudley House School in Grantham and Harper Bell School in Birmingham, and on the Conference’s support for students from the NEC attending Newbold College. Both schools have made remarkable strides in pupil enrolment, academically and financially. Both schools have been commended in their respective OFSTED reports. At the close of 2005 the pupil registration at Harper Bell School stood at 125, and 58 at Dudley House. During the term the Conference has given financial support to approximately 13 students studying at Newbold College, by way of grants and sponsorship. Overall the Conference has given approximately £600,000 in financial support to the education programme during the term.

Objective 6 - Church planting
Establish 10 new sustainable congregations
During the five-year period 17 new congregations were established in different locations throughout the Conference, some of these were new church plants and some were Branch Sabbath Schools attached to their parent congregations. Eleven of these were planted over the last two years.

New Churches Organised and Church Dedication
During the term four congregations were organised as churches and three church buildings were dedicated to the service of the Lord.

Objective 7 - Conference finance
Improve and Strengthen the Financial Position of the Conference
As a progressive institution the church needs finance to operate efficiently and effectively in our modern world. The fact that our church is not financed by the State means that we are wholly dependent on the faithfulness and generosity of our members. This, however, is an area that requires careful stewardship to
ensure that the work of the church is properly resourced and managed.

During the term we have had a steady tithe income totalling £16,092,280 and have claimed £2,193,072 from the Inland Revenue as Gift Aid returns over the same period. We are truly grateful to our members for their committed and liberal giving in supporting the church and to God for blessing his people and his church financially.

Objective 8 - Reclamation evangelism

Reclaim Former Seventh-day Adventists who are living in our communities

During the term deliberate efforts have been made, particularly through the Sabbath School and Personal Ministries departments, to reach out and find individuals who were once members of the church. The Sabbath School department has encouraged the hosting of special events such as Sabbath School Visitors’ days and Sabbath School Home-coming days to which they invite friends and relatives from the local communities. Special emphasis was placed on the invitation of former Seventh-day Adventists to these events. Over the five years many former members have been reclaimed.

Objective 9 - Care for the elderly

Continue to Address the Question of Care and Accommodation for Our Senior Citizens

This is a subject that is dear to our hearts and to the hearts of many of our senior citizens. During the term consideration has been given to the subject of a care home for our senior citizens. Careful investigation indicated that we were not in a position to establish and successfully operate a home for the elderly. We accept however that this is a matter that the church should continue to consider.

Objective 10 - Building and development

Set up a Building and Development Programme to Address the Development and Maintenance of Conference-owned Properties

There are three properties that fall directly within the remit of this objective: The Aberdaron Camp Site at North Wales, the Conference office at 20 & 22 Zulla Road, Nottingham, and the Harper Bell School and adjoining properties at 29-31 Ravenhurst Street, Birmingham.

A Building and Development Advisory Committee was set up in 2001 to advise the administration in matters relating to building projects. During 2001 and 2002 refurbishment programmes were carried out on the properties at 22 Zulla Road, Nottingham and the Aberdaron camp site in North Wales.

Church Building and other Projects

During the term the Conference assisted a total of eight congregations with projects relating to property development. One was assisted in the purchase of land, one to build a new place of worship, four to purchase places of worship, and three to extend their places of worship.

Administration

Staffing

Over the years staffing in the field as well as in the administrative office has been a challenge. In 2001 we lost two of the three NEC officers, Llewellyn R Edwards, the Executive Secretary, called to be President of the Scottish Mission, and William D Beamish, the Treasurer, went into retirement. These officers were succeeded by Paul S Lockham as Executive Secretary and Marcus R Dove as Treasurer.

In addition to those mentioned above, we have lost 12 other members of the ministerial and departmental staff during the term.

New Staff

During the term we employed
- 10 Ministerial interns
- 3 Licensed Ministers
- 5 Bible Instructors and
- 4 Ordained Ministers

At the end of the term our ministerial staff, including ordained and licensed ministers, ministerial interns, Bible instructors and two volunteer missionaries, stood at 60. At the conference there is also the treasurer and 9 office support staff.

Annual Ministerial Audits

We continue to conduct an annual evaluation of our ministers and Bible instructors.

Annual ADRA Appeal

Our members and ministry continue to support the annual ADRA Appeal for the support of humanitarian aid. Over the five-year period our members collected £943,087.19. We thank them for their commitment and dedication to this very worthy cause and thank the Personal Ministries director for the leadership he provides in this area.

Child Protection Policy

The British Union Conference currently has a Child Protection policy, “Keeping the Church Family Safe”, in place. This policy has been adopted and has been implemented by the North England Conference. The North England Conference has also been registered with the Criminal Record Bureau, thus making it possible for individuals who are working with children in church sponsored programmes, to be CRB checked.

Inter-Sessions Meetings

At the 58th Session the administration undertook, as part of its strategy, to provide periodic reports to the Executive Committee and to the constituency. Thus far we have provided annual reports to the Executive Committee and an annual report to the constituency, in the intervening years between Sessions.

Conclusion

‘Into the future with Christ’ was the motto for the last administrative term of our Conference. We have now moved five years into the future from the commencement of the term. We have set our objectives and have worked diligently together towards accomplishing them. We have attempted many things and have accomplished most. For these we give thanks to God. We should learn from past experience how we may successfully face the challenges of the future and make the best of it while we continue to move forward together and with Christ.

Appreciation

Thanks to all the directors and sponsors of departments and the support staff at the NEC office. Thanks to the staff in our schools, the staff at Aberdaron and to all our ministerial workers and to the membership of the churches in our Conference. Thanks to the officers and directors at the BUC and at the TED for their support to the North England Conference over the past five years. Thanks be to God.
It was my privilege to visit the Dead Sea area in Israel earlier this year. As I gazed on the brown and seemingly barren hills surrounding the Dead Sea I stood in awe at their magnificence. I recalled in reverence some of the Psalms that David wrote while looking at those very hills. “I will lift up my eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help”, invaded my mind and for the rest of the day a sense of God’s greatness and majesty overwhelmed me. Looking back over the last five years at what God has wrought in the SEC I am filled with that same sense of God’s greatness. In nearly every aspect of the life of the Conference I have seen his power at work.

2001 – 2005 was a period of comparatively large growth in the SEC. This was seen in membership, accessions, new congregations and finance. Wherever there is great growth there are also great challenges. These also marked the life of the Conference during the five years.

Evangelism

Over the years the approach to evangelism in the SEC has changed significantly. Small church-based evangelistic programmes have replaced the big evangelistic campaigns of the eighties and the nineties. Experience has shown that the cumulative effect of individual church projects is generally greater than that of the big regional programmes. While not able to list the specific number of evangelistic series conducted during the five years, our records suggest that between 110 and 120 on average were held each year. These were for the most part local church evangelistic programmes, but also include big regional campaigns as well as small initiatives. Whatever the size or approach, each evangelistic effort contributed to the general spiritual health of the Conference and its growth.

The majority of evangelistic programmes conducted during the five years were led by SEC personnel. However, in a limited number of cases overseas speakers were called upon as preachers. We are indebted to them and all who gave time, energy and talent in furthering the cause of our Lord.

LIFEdevelopment

The quinquennium under review will be remembered as that in which LIFEdevelopment was launched. This was an initiative of the BUC, which involved all its fields. The SEC was pleased to be a part of this exciting new way of preaching the gospel in a postmodern world. Approximately £400,000 was given by the SEC over four years for this endeavour. While we may not be able to quantify the number of baptisms from this programme, its effect on our churches in general can be seen in various parts of the Conference. Churches and members have become more sensitised to the fact that if they are to influence people to give their lives to Jesus it is essential that they mingle with them. LIFEdevelopment has also helped our members recognise that people must be reached where they are and that the Holy Spirit must be allowed to lead them at His own pace. Churches have also been made more aware that it is important to provide quality service to our members and all who choose to worship with us.

The amount of money that the SEC spent on LIFEdevelopment may be considered by some to be too much but when placed alongside the approximately £2.5 million spent on various other forms of evangelism during the same period, it takes on a different proportion.

Church Planting

The planting of new churches was one of the evangelistic emphases during the last quinquennium. Some were planted intentionally and others “sprouted overnight.” New churches contributed in no small way to the growth in accessions and membership.

During the five years the following new congregations were established:

- Ashford
- Beckingham
- Becton
- Bletchley
- Bracknell
- East London Portuguese-speaking
- Edmonton Central
- Elephant and Castle
- Filipino East London
- Filipino International – London
- Hackbridge
- Kingston
- London Bulgarian
- London Romanian
- London Russian-speaking
- Luton North
- North Bristol
- Northolt
- Oxford Swahili-speaking
- Reading Ghanian
- Reading Russian-speaking
- Slough Ghana
- Sureway
- Welwyn Garden City
- West London-Portuguese-speaking
- Wokingham Swahili-speaking
- Yeovil

Lights Across London

London was chosen by the GC/TED as one of 13 large cities in the world to be targeted for accelerated church planting. This was as part of the church’s “Hope for the Big Cities” evangelistic initiative. The SEC, with the leadership given by its Church Growth director, Humphrey Walters, localised the programme by calling it “Lights Across London.” The aim of “Lights Across London” was to plant a minimum of 20 new churches in London between 2005 and 2010. Three categories of new churches were decided on in this programme. They were Afro-Caribbean, Language-specific and Indigenous-oriented. By the end of 2005 six churches were established in the first two categories. The third category is the most challenging, and requires substantial resources. Twenty new churches in London between 2005 and 2010 seemed ambitious when the plan was initially made. However, subsequent developments indicate that the figure that is eventually realised could be well in excess of 20.

Membership and accessions

At the commencement of the five-year period the membership of the Conference stood at 13,581 and at its end membership had risen to 17,220, an increase of 3,639 which is by far the highest in any five-year period in the Conference’s history.

Membership and accessions
Quinquennial Membership
Percentage Increase, 1961 - 2005:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Membership Percentage Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001-2005</td>
<td>26.79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-2000</td>
<td>13.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991-1995</td>
<td>10.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986-1990</td>
<td>12.78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981-1985</td>
<td>16.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976-1980</td>
<td>12.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971-1975</td>
<td>5.98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966-1970</td>
<td>18.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961-1965</td>
<td>14.74%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The foregoing statistics show that the net growth of the Conference from 2001 to 2005 was unprecedented. This rapid expansion of the Conference in the last five years has been due largely to new members arriving from different parts of the world, particularly from Eastern Europe, Southern Africa and South America. Provision for this large influx of new members is reflected in the many new congregations that have been established.

The membership increase in the Conference over the last five years represents a major social shift. The traditional composition of the Conference, usually described as indigenous and Caribbean, is in the past. Over a relatively short period the Conference has become very international in its make-up. This can only be a positive development as the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the United Kingdom endeavours to reach an increasingly multicultural and disparate population with the gospel.

Accessions
Another important factor that led to the unprecedented growth in the past five years is accessions through baptism and profession of faith. Total accessions for the five years amounted to 2,842.

The corresponding figure for the previous quinquennium was 2,412. Annual accessions during the period were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Accessions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>2,842</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 711 accessions for 2005 surpassed the Conference’s previous highest in 2000 by 61.

Finance
The amazing growth in membership was matched by an equally amazing growth in the finances of the Conference. This has been seen in tithe, Gift Aid and Mission offerings.

Tithe
Tithe for the five-year period amounted to £39,620,076. This was 56% up on the previous quinquennium when tithe amounted to £25,291,262. The year 2005 was particularly remarkable with an 11% increase on the total for the previous year. The Conference is grateful to its members for their faithfulness to God and their generosity to His cause. There is no doubt that God will fulfill His promise in blessing them in such a marvellous manner that they will not have sufficient room to receive His blessings.
At a time when giving to missions is declining in many parts of the world we are pleased to report that an encouraging increase was seen in mission offerings during the quinquennium.

Mission Offering

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Mission Offering</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>£337,397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>£348,526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>£358,435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>£372,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>£398,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>£1,714,618</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Church building

The challenge in ensuring that all congregations in the Conference have their own place of worship grows bigger with every passing year. Church building is one area of operation in which there has been a general slow down. As indicated earlier, the number of congregations in the Conference has grown rapidly during the five-year period. However the prohibitive cost of property in certain areas made building acquisition very difficult. Despite that fact we are happy to report that during the quinquennium the Newbold Church was completed. Clapton procured a redundant Church of England building. Cambridge undertook and completed a major renovation programme. London Ghana embarked on a £3 Million project in Canning Town. Stanborough Park completed its extension. Plumstead was able to occupy a property following extensive renovations, which they had bought in the previous quinquennium. Work continued on the Balham building, which is nearing completion. The Conference played a major role in helping to finance all these projects. The Conference also assisted several other churches with repairs and renovations.

During the quinquennium the Conference embarked on a major shift in the funding of church building projects. In the mid-nineties the Conference decided that it would draw up a list of churches that were seriously working towards acquiring their own properties for worship and set aside funds on an annual basis for each of them. This arrangement worked well for several years. However, the high cost of suitable properties for worship drove the Conference to change its arrangement of assisting several churches each year to supporting just one or two projects. This means that churches without their own properties might have to wait longer for financial assistance from the Conference. As the number of new churches in the Conference continues to grow, building acquisition will become an even bigger challenge. Members might need to realise that it is not essential to own a property in order to be able to worship and provide a service for the community.

Worker force

The Conference is indebted to its worker force for the leadership provided in their various spheres of work. Their sacrificial spirit, commitment and understanding of the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church were a major factor in the achievements of the SEC during the five years.

Pastoral Workers

Our pastors and Bible Instructors were active in nurturing members and providing leadership in evangelism. Most pastors ensured that there was at least one major evangelistic programme in his or her church district each year. Providing spiritual leadership is a particularly challenging responsibility. Moses, Joshua and others during Bible times found it that way and it has not changed since then. Often the demands made of pastoral workers are not necessarily reasonable. However, the pastoral team of the SEC must be commended for adhering to their task and for fulfilling God’s call to service. No doubt their joy was made full as they saw the growth of God’s kingdom in their local churches.

Other Pastor Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>31 December 2000</th>
<th>31 December 2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ordained Pastors</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commissioned Teachers</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credential Missionaries</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Ministers</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Teachers</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Missionaries</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>17*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credential/Licensed Lt Evan.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other regular workers</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
provided strong support for our schools during the five years, especially for the John Loughborough School. For part of the quinquennium he served as School Improvement Partner at John Loughborough in order to help that institution drive up academic standards. Cheryl Blake was appointed Associate Education Director on a part time basis during the quinquennium. Her undoubted skills and experience in educational matters, alongside those of Keith Davidson, served the SEC well.

**Family Ministries/Children Ministries**
Bernie Holford and as of September 2003, Karen Holford, served as the leaders of this department. The special weekends for married couples, courting couples and others became a regular feature in the Conference during the five years. Ministerial workers also appreciated the special weekends that were organised for them by the department. Bernie was also instrumental in providing departmental supervision for the Conference’s counselling service, based at the Advent Centre. The issues affecting families today are many and complex. While the department can provide support and some resources, it is not able to address all such issues adequately.

**Human Resources**
At the SEC Session in 2003 a decision was made to establish a Human Resources department in the Conference. This department was set up soon after the Session and was served initially by Michael Sparrow. He was succeeded by Annette Hutchinson, who proved helpful in addressing a number of routine, complicated or sensitive personnel matters. She also helped the Conference to strengthen a number of its policies and put into place some new and helpful procedures. Her involvement with the Conference was particularly helpful to its officers.

**Personal Ministries/Sabbath School**
Personal Ministries, under its director, Aristotle Vontzalidis, continued the “Small Group” emphasis of the previous quinquennium. A large number of weekend training programmes on various forms of witnessing, some traditional, some contemporary, were conducted by the department. Reaction by members who attended those programmes suggested that they shared the vision of the Conference in diversifying its evangelistic approach and increasing the effectiveness of Sabbath School. The department has endeavoured to combine the work of Personal Ministries and Sabbath School.

**Stewardship**
During the first part of the quinquennium Brighton Kavaloh served as Stewardship Director of the Conference. He was succeeded by Dalbert Elias and subsequently by Catherine Boldeau. The department worked with the officers of the Conference in promoting good stewardship practice and in encouraging members to be faithful in supporting the work of God.

**Strategic Development/Church Growth**
A decision was made at the 2003 SEC Session to establish a Strategic Development and Church Growth department. Led by Humphrey Walters, this department has worked with the officers in further developing the Conference Strategic Plan. This department also spearheaded the GC initiated church planting programme for London, which the SEC decided to call “Lights Across London.” The department was also instrumental in working with pastors and members outside London in establishing church planting projects.

**Women’s Ministries**
At the 2003 SEC Session Women’s Ministries was given the status of a department in the Conference. Prior to that it was a special ministry. In whatever form it existed during the quinquennium the impact of Women’s Ministries grew extensively. Julia Smith, who served as co-ordinator of Women’s Ministries on a voluntary basis prior to September 2003, was appointed director of the department. Under her visionary leadership the department addressed a number of important issues, such as abuse and HIV/AIDS. The department was also instrumental in conducting two evangelistic series (symposiums) during the five years. The annual conference for women conducted by the department has become a major seasonal event.

*The Secretary’s report shows that licensed ministers in the employment of the SEC at 31 December 2005 were 5 and licensed missionaries 22. Five of the 22 licensed missionaries were new ministerial workers, who for the sake of clarity in this report, are listed as licensed ministers.*

**Departments**

**Communication**
At its Session in 2003 the SEC decided to upgrade the position of Communication Co-ordinator to that of Communication Director. Catherine Boldeau, who served up to the Session as Co-ordinator, was elected Director. Under her leadership the department has been seeking to upgrade the communication profile of the Conference by increasing use of the electronic media, establishing meaningful contacts with external organisations and providing on-going training. The department has also led the Church’s involvement in the Christian Resources Exhibition in Esher in 2004 and 2005.

**Community Ministries/Health Ministries**
Following the 2003 SEC Session Elsie Staple was appointed Community Services and Health Ministries Director of the Conference. One of her first decisions was to have the name of Community Services changed to Community Ministries, in order to distinguish it from the community service prescribed by our legal system. The department continues to prospect for a suitable and affordable option for caring for the Conference’s elderly members. On the health side numerous health fairs were held, some in venues as prestigious as the Earl’s Court Exhibition Centre.

**Education**
The SEC was served by the Education department of the BUC. Keith Davidson, BUC Education Director,
Youth
The Youth department, at whatever level it exists, is one of the most challenging in the church. Leaders must be resourceful and be able to operate at, what some describe as, the ‘cutting edge’ in order to retain the interest of young people. With this in mind I wish to pay tribute to Sam Davis, Eglan Brooks and Bernie Hofford, who were the Conference Youth leaders for the first part of the quinquennium. They were succeeded by Japhet D’Oliveira, Robert Hines, Nathan Stickland and Paul Boldeau. During the five years Pathfindering expanded significantly. We also saw a number of young people become involved in overseas mission projects. The department introduced the HUB magazine, which is said by some to be one of the best publications of the church in Britain with respect to quality. The regeneration of the Church in Cornwall, an ongoing project, was undertaken by the department during the quinquennium.

Specials

Prison Ministries
Roy Chisholm continued to serve with passion in this area of work. His pastoral load was lightened to allow him to spend more time on this ministry that is so close to his heart. Several local churches became involved in Prison Ministries by taking special worship programmes to various prisons in the Conference.

Music
Ron Edwards and Paul Lee co-ordinated music for Conference events during the quinquennium. This was a labour of love on their part, in that it was done on a voluntary basis. We are grateful to them for the time and interest that they put into running training programmes and preparing for Camp Meetings, Conference Session and Days of Fellowship.

Publishing
The SEC was served by the BUC Publishing department. Sadly, as revealed by the ‘Worker Statistics’ earlier in this report, there were no credentialed colporteurs in the SEC at the end of the five-year period. We thank David Ahwan, retired literature-evangelist leader, for providing support for the part-time literature-evangelists in the Conference.

Schools
Our schools in general maintained high standards during the five years. In most cases our schools, though fee paying, were first choice for parents in the areas where they are located.

J ohn Loughborough
John Loughborough Secondary in London continued to develop in its new status as a Voluntary Aided institution. During the five years there was a determined effort to drive up standards. It was gratifying to see the results of this in 2003 and 2005, when GCSE passes exceeded the targets set by the school. On both occasions the school was commended by the Local Education Authority for its performance. The Local Education Authority also placed John Loughborough on a list of schools whose buildings are to be upgraded over the next few years. The Conference is indebted to Edwena McFarquhar, who led the school from 2000 to 2003, Anne Phillip who served as acting head from 2003 to 2005 and June Alexis who became the new head-teacher in September 2005.

Fletewood Primary
Under the able leadership of John Martin Fletewood Primary School in Plymouth continued to serve its community proudly, often achieving a 100% success rate in the Eleven Plus examinations. Fletewood has been classified by the Conference as a Mission School, in that over 90% of its students are from non-Adventist homes. Fletewood School is housed in the building of the Plymouth Seventh-day Adventist Church. Both the school and the church are to be commended for the positive relationship that they have maintained.

Hyland House Primary
During the five years Hyland House, located in East London, operated at maximum capacity and at the same time had a long waiting list. Led by the energetic and visionary Gina Abbequaye, this school maintained its reputation for high academic standards. During the quinquennium the Conference set aside funds and identified other sources for the procurement of a new building for Hyland House. Unfortunately up to the end of the five years a suitable property had not been found. The school is to be commended for the success it has achieved with limited resources.

Newbold Primary
Newbold Primary is widely known in the Bracknell area for its positive ethos and high standards. Those standards were maintained during the period under review. As stated earlier in this report, its principal of 17 years, Maurice Brooks passed away just beyond the close of the quinquennium. Before his untimely death he was able to supervise the construction of an extension to the school building, which now serves as the library and computer room. Victoria Chilvers, who had served as a teacher at the school for several years, was appointed its new head, effective September 2005.

Theodore McLeary
The Conference succeeded in finding a home for Theodore McLeary in South London. With the help of a number of local churches in the Conference a property was bought in the Dulwich area at a cost of approximately £700,000 for Theodore McLeary. Joyce Thompson who served as the school’s head-teacher for 12 years retired in 2004.

Conclusion
We praise God for all that has been achieved during the past five years. We take comfort from the many evidences of His hand in the affairs of the Conference and in the lives of His people. At the same time we seek forgiveness for the mistakes made, the opportunities missed and for our lack of faith when confronted with major challenges. We face the future with the knowledge that we serve a powerful God. One who is able by His Spirit to transform sin-ridden lives into His sons and daughters and who can use His children, as insufficient and limited as they are, as instruments of grace. We look forward with joyous anticipation to the day of our Lord’s return. It is for that event that we live and work. May His coming be soon.
Article 1 - Name

The name of this organisation shall be known as the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists hereinafter referred to as “this Union Conference”. This Union Conference is a member and constituent unit of the Trans-European Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists hereinafter referred to as “Trans-European Division”.

Article 2 - Territory

The territory of this Union Conference shall comprise England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, and all adjacent British Islands.

Article 3 - Purpose

a. The purpose of this Union Conference (hereafter referred to as “the Purpose”) is to proclaim the everlasting Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, to teach the commandments of God as the supreme rule of life and to persuade people to become His disciples and responsible members of the church and to support charitable work which is in harmony with the doctrines and principles of Seventh-day Adventists.

b. In furtherance of the Purpose but not further or otherwise this Union Conference shall have the following powers:

1. to employ and remunerate such ministers, officers, teachers and other employees and to engage such volunteers as may be necessary;
2. to provide or assist in the provision of housing accommodation for such employees and volunteers to enable them to carry out their duties, and in cases of need for retired employees and their families;
3. to provide or assist (by means of grants, loans or otherwise) in the provision or improvement of churches and other buildings for use for the work of local congregations of Seventh-day Adventists;
4. to establish, conduct and provide financial assistance for schools for the education of children in which religious instruction according to the doctrines and principles of the Seventh-day Adventists is given and to provide financial assistance to students pursuing education according to those doctrines and principles;
5. to publish or assist the publication of religious literature;
6. to carry out the social mission of the Gospel by the provision of humanitarian aid to those in need in any part of the world;
7. to establish, operate and provide financial assistance for convalescent, retirement and nursing homes, conducted in accordance with the doctrines and principles of Seventh-day Adventists.
8. to provide or assist in the provision of services and facilities (including buildings) for health education and medical treatments in harmony with the doctrines and principles of Seventh-day Adventists.
9. to establish, assist or administer other charities having objects similar to the Purpose;
10. to acquire and dispose of property of any description and whenever situated (subject to such consents as may be required by law);
11. to borrow money with or without giving security (subject to such consents as aforesaid);
12. to raise money by any lawful means other than by permanent trading and to accept gifts either for furtherance of the work of this Union Conference or for any specific object within or connected with the Purpose;
13. to invest funds in any manner permitted by law, other than by means of loans to individuals, firms or private companies, and for that purpose to obtain and consider professional advice from a person or firm of good repute having the requisite knowledge and experience;
14. otherwise to further the religious mission and other charitable work of Seventh-day Adventists in the territory.

Article 4 - Membership of Union Conference

a. The membership of this Union Conference shall consist of such local conferences and missions as have been or shall be organised in any part of the geographic territory under its jurisdiction and formally approved for membership by vote of the delegates at any regular session.

b. Local Conferences shall be associations of local churches within defined geographical regions within the territory and shall be responsible for their own decisions save for the requirement to operate in harmony with the Purpose and policy of this Union Conference.

c. Missions shall be organisations of local churches within defined geographical regions within the territory and shall be subject to the directions of this Union Conference on all matters including their management arrangements, the application of their funds, and the form and content of their constitutions and of any amendments thereto, and this Union Conference shall account for the application of their funds.

d. This Union Conference in session shall be entitled to dissolve any Mission and to take control of the assets thereof.

Article 5 - Sessions

a. This Union Conference shall hold a regular session at an interval of five (5) years at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall determine. A notice of such session shall be published at least four (4) weeks before the time appointed in the Union Conference official paper.

b. At least fifty-one percent (51%) of the authorised delegates must be present at any regular or extraordinary session to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

c. In the event of conditions arising which would make it advisable to postpone the calling of a regular session, the Executive Committee may postpone such session for a period not exceeding two (2) years. In such a case this shall require the consent of at least two-thirds of the members of the Executive Committee expressed by personal vote or by signature to a resolution in writing submitted to the members of the Executive Committee. Separate copies of the resolution may be signed for this purpose.

d. The Executive Committee may call an extraordinary session of this Union Conference at such a place as it deems proper by a like notice as for regular sessions when:

1. it is deemed necessary by the Executive Committee, or
2. it is voted by the delegates at any regular session, or
3. it is requested by the Trans-European Division executive committee.

The transactions of such extraordinary sessions shall have the same authority as those of the regular sessions.

e. An extraordinary session may elect any such officers or other persons or committees and transact any such business and do any such other act as under this constitution a regular session or the Executive
Article 6 - Delegates to session

Each member organisation shall be represented at the sessions of this Union Conference by duly accredited delegates as follows:

a. Each local conference/mission shall be entitled to one (1) delegate without regard to membership and one (1) additional delegate for each fifty (50) church members or major fraction thereof.

b. Such delegates shall be chosen by the respective local conference/mission executive committees and shall be members of the churches within their respective territories.

c. In addition, delegates at large shall participate in this Union Conference sessions as follows:

1. The individual members of the executive committee of this Union Conference.

2. Members of the executive committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists hereinafter referenced to as “General Conference”, who may be present at any session of this Union Conference. The number of such delegates representing the General Conference shall not exceed two percent (2%) of the total number of delegates provided for hereinabove in Section (a) (i).

3. Such other persons from this Union Conference staff, church institutions owned and operated by this Union Conference, and local conferences/missions, as may be recommended by this Union Conference Executive Committee and accepted by the delegates in session; the total number of delegates from this category not to exceed fifteen percent (15%) of the total number of regular delegates provided for hereinabove in Section (a) (ii).

4. All delegates appointed to represent the members of this Union Conference at any session shall be members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Article 7 - Voting

a. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote on any question. The chairman of the session shall in case of a tie cast the deciding vote. Voting shall be by ballot when determined by vote of session.

b. All delegates must be present in person at any session in order to be eligible to vote. There shall be no voting by proxy.

Article 8 - Authority of session

a. This Union Conference in regular session shall be authorised to determine all matters and things for the order and good administration of this Union Conference and the regulation of its affairs, including the management and disposal of or dealing with all real and personal property and revenues held or possessed to be acquired for or on behalf or for the use, benefit or purposes of this Union Conference, subject, however, to any specific trusts relating thereto and for such purposes to give to the legal corporation of this Union Conference or to any company corporation or person to whom any such real and personal property and revenues shall be vested such directions with reference thereto and as to the management and disposal thereof as this Union Conference shall deem expedient in harmony with Article 20. This Union Conference in regular session may make rules to govern its own procedure.

b. This Union Conference in regular session shall be authorised to make adjustments in the boundaries of the local conferences and missions under its jurisdiction and to accept into membership such new conferences and missions as may be proposed by the Executive Committee of this Union Conference. The acceptance in boundaries and the acceptance into membership of conferences and missions shall require a two-thirds majority vote.

c. The Union Conference in extraordinary session shall be authorised to modify or revise any rules and regulations provided for hereinabove in Section (a) (i).

Article 9 - Session committees

a. A Recommendations Committee shall be appointed for each regular session and where required for extraordinary session. It shall consist of thirteen (13) representatives from the South England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, seven (7) representatives from the North England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and two (2) representatives from each Mission. The president of the Trans-European Division or his designee shall serve as chairman.

b. The members of the Recommendations Committee shall be appointed by their respective conference/mission delegates during the first business session.

c. The Recommendations Committee shall nominate and the session shall elect where required: 1. A Nominating Committee which shall consist of not less than seventeen (17) and not more than twenty-one (21) members, including the president of the Trans-European Division or his designee serving as chairman; 2. A Constitution Committee which shall consist of nine to fifteen (9-15) members; 3. A Credentials and Licences Committee which shall consist of nine to fifteen (9-15) members; 4. A Plans Committee which shall consist of twenty-five to thirty-five (25-35) members; 5. Other committees as necessary for conducting session business.

d. The Constitution committee shall function between the regular sessions as a standing committee, and shall submit its reports and detailed recommendations to the Executive Committee for consideration by the next session.

e. This Union Conference in regular session on the recommendation of the Credentials and Licences Committee shall determine who are the approved ministers within the jurisdiction thereof, grant suitable credentials and licences to those whom it shall consider suitable to serve in this Union Conference, and recommend for ordination such persons as shall have given proof of their call to the ministry. Between sessions the Executive Committee is authorised to perform such duties.

f. Any credentials, licences, or certificates granted or issued by this Union Conference in session or by the Executive Committee shall remain in force and be valid until the next regular session unless previously terminated by this Union Conference in extraordinary session or by the Executive Committee.

Article 10 - Election

a. This Union Conference in regular session shall elect:

1. Executive Officers
2. Departmental Directors and Associates
3. Members of the Executive Committee of this Union Conference.
4. Members of the Missions within this Union Conference.

b. Persons thus elected shall hold their respective offices or appointments until the next regular session of this Union Conference unless their offices or appointments are previously terminated by this Union Conference in extraordinary session, or by the Executive Committee in counsel with the Trans-European Division officers. Mission officers shall be elected by this Union Conference at the time of its regular session and by the Executive Committee not less than two (2) years and not more than three (3) years following a regular session.

c. This Union Conference in regular session and the Executive Committee between sessions may establish such other offices, positions, and committees as may be determined, prescribe the duties and functions thereof and elect persons thereto and vary or terminate any such office, position, or committee and may remove any member of any such committee.

d. This Union Conference in regular session and the Executive Committee between sessions may elect, term, terminate, or appoint trustees of any real or personal property or revenues mentioned in Article 8. The Executive Committee of this Union Conference shall recommend to the respective boards and management of the institutions of this Union Conference the appointment of their officers, bursars, editors, as may be required, within the six (6) months that follow a regular session.
Article 11 - Officers

a. The Executive Officers of this Union Conference shall be a president, a secretary, and a treasurer, and they shall work in consultation with each other. The secretary and the treasurer may be one individual.
b. The president is the chief executive officer and shall act as chairman of sessions and the Executive Committee, and work in the general interests of this Union Conference as the Executive Committee may determine and in consultation with the other Executive Officers. In his leadership he shall adhere to the policies of the Trans-European Division and work in close counsel with its executive committee.
c. The secretary shall work under the direction of the Executive Committee and in consultation with the other Executive Officers, and shall act as vice-chairman of the Executive Committee. It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep the minutes of the sessions of this Union Conference and of the Executive Committee meetings; to furnish copies of these minutes to all members of the Executive Committee and to the Trans-European Division officers; to collect such data as may be desired by the president or by the Executive Committee; and to perform such other duties as usually pertain to the office.
d. The treasurer shall work under the direction of the Executive Committee and in consultation with the other Executive Officers. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive all funds, to disburse them in harmony with the actions of the Executive Committee, to remit all required funds to the Trans-European Division, in harmony with Trans-European Division policy, and to render such financial statements at regular intervals as may be requested by the president or as prescribed by the Executive Committee of this Union Conference. Copies of these financial statements shall be furnished to the Trans-European Division offices. Bank accounts approved by the Executive Committee shall be operated by the treasurer and/or such other individuals as may be authorised by the Executive Committee.
e. A vice-president may be elected to assist the president with specialised areas of administration in this Union Conference.
f. All officers of this Union Conference shall hold office until the next regular session of this Union Conference or until their successors are elected, unless their appointments are previously terminated by this Union Conference in extraordinary session or by the Executive Committee.

Article 12 - Departmental directors

The departmental directors and associates shall work under the direction of the Executive Committee and the supervision of the president and shall occupy an advisory relationship to the local conferences and missions.

Article 13 - Appointments

This Union Conference in regular session and the Executive Committee between sessions:
a. shall appoint such agents, ministers, missionaries, and other persons as may be necessary to fulfil the purpose of this Union Conference; and
b. may terminate or vary any such appointment.

Article 14 - Executive committee

a. The Executive Committee shall consist of up to thirty-one (31) persons who are members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church within this Union Conference. They shall comprise the Executive Officers of this Union Conference, the presidents of local conferences and missions, up to three (3) departmental directors of this Union Conference, the managers or heads of Union institutions, the Newbold College principal, the chief editor of the official church paper of this Union Conference, and at least fourteen (14) elective members. At least nine (9) of whom shall be lay persons, and four (4) field pastors as may be voted at the Union Session, subject to Article 18 (b).
b. Subject to Article 19 the Executive Committee may appoint committees of its number consisting of at least three (3) members thereof to advise it on any matter and may authorise them to co-opt non-voting members: all recommendations of such committees must be reported promptly to the Executive Committee for its consideration and decision.

Article 15 - Authority of executive committee

a. Between sessions the Executive Committee shall manage the affairs of this Union Conference and may exercise such of the authority of this Union Conference in session as under this constitution are not exclusively exercisable by this Union Conference in session, but subject to this Constitution and any directions as to policy or otherwise and any regulations given or made by this Union Conference in session.
b. In particular and without prejudice to the general authority conferred by Section (a), the Executive Committee may between sessions exercise the authority of this Union Conference in session under Article 8 with regard to the real and personal property and revenues therein referred to.
c. The Executive Committee between sessions, in counsel with the Trans-European Division officers, may remove from office, for just and adequate cause, any officer of this Union Conference or from the Executive Committee any member thereof, provided that such action has the consent of at least two-thirds of the members of the full Executive Committee by personal vote.

Article 16 - Meetings and notices

a. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called at any time by the president or in his absence by the secretary, or upon the written request of the majority of the members thereof.
b. Subject to paragraph (a), any seven (7) members of the Executive Committee including the chairman shall, after due notice to available members, constitute a quorum and shall be empowered to transact any necessary business.
c. Minority meetings of less than seven (7) but not less than three (3) members of the Executive Committee, including at least one (1) of the Executive Officers, may be held for the transaction of necessary urgent business, but all action at such meetings must be reported promptly to the other members of the Executive Committee and shall be minuted at the next regular meeting of the Executive Committee.
d. Subject to Article 19 all members of the Executive Committee who have any personal or financial interest in any matter to be discussed or determined at a meeting thereof (whether direct or indirect) must declare their interest in advance of any discussion thereon and absent themselves from the discussion, and may not vote nor be counted in the quorum for that part of the meeting.

Article 17 - Sources of funds

a. The sources of funds of this Union Conference shall be:
1. Tithe income granted by the conferences/missions in harmony with, and by virtue of their acceptance of, the policies of this Union Conference;
2. Any other grants made to this Union Conference by Seventh-day Adventist organisations;
3. Any rents arising from property owned by or on behalf of this Union Conference;
4. Any returns from investments made by this Union Conference out of its own resources;
5. Any income arising out of the day to day business operations of this Union Conference;
6. Any gifts, donations, legacies, or similar monies made or payable to this Union Conference;
7. Any other income in cash or in kind reasonably deemed to be receivable by this Union Conference;
8. It being understood that all such income should be subject to legal entitlement on the part of this Union Conference, and be given for and used in the furtherance of its charitable Purpose.
b. This Union Conference may receive, hold in trust, and forward any third party funds channelled through it to the General Conference and Trans-European Division or, within the territory of this Union Conference to the
Article 18 - Application of funds

a. All funds received by this Union Conference for its general purposes shall be applied in furtherance of the Purpose; all funds received or held in trust for another body under 17 (b) shall be transmitted to the governing body thereof; and all funds received for specific objects within or connected with the Purpose shall be applied for the specific objects for which they are respectively given.
b. Not more than one half of the Executive Committee may be employed by this Union Conference or any mission, and receive remuneration in accordance with Article 19.
c. Subject thereto, no member of the Executive Committee may receive remuneration or any other financial benefit (excepting reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses) at the cost of this Union Conference, except that the Executive Committee may have the power to provide indemnity insurance for themselves out of the income of the charity. The insurance shall not extend to:
   1. Any claim arising from any act or omission which:
      a. the members of the Executive Committee knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty; or
      b. was committed by the members of the Executive Committee in reckless disregard of whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not; and
   2. the costs of an unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the members of the Executive Committee in their capacity as trustees of the charity.”

Article 19 - Budget, remuneration & expenses

a. This Union Conference shall prepare an annual budget in harmony with the policies of the Trans-European Division.
b. The Executive Committee shall appoint such persons as it thinks fit (whether or not members thereof) as the Remuneration Audit Committee to keep under review the remuneration and expenses of all the employees of this Union Conference and the employed members of the Executive Committees of the local conferences and missions and to advise the Executive Committees on a regular basis as to the appropriate rates of remuneration to be adopted. No employee or prospective employee of this Union Conference and no person who has a personal financial interest whether direct or indirect in the outcome of that committee’s deliberations may be a member thereof.
c. In determining the remuneration to be paid to employees of this Union Conference and the employed members of the executive committees of the local conferences and missions and to advise the Executive Committees on a regular basis as to the appropriate rates of remuneration to be adopted. No employee or prospective employee of this Union Conference and no person who has a personal financial interest whether direct or indirect in the outcome of that committee’s deliberations may be a member thereof.
d. This Union Conference shall keep such accounts and financial records as are required by law, and the accounts shall be audited annually by a person eligible to be a company auditor under section 25 of the Companies Act 1989 (or any provision which re-enacts or replaces it). Statements of account shall be sent annually to the Trans-European Division and to the Charity Commissioners.

Article 20 - Trustees

a. The legal corporation, Seventh-day Adventist Association Limited, formed and controlled by this Union Conference shall be the regular trustee for this Union Conference to acquire, hold, manage, dispose of and deal with real and personal property for and on behalf of or for the use, benefit, or purposes of this Union Conference in the Republic of Ireland, but subject to any specific trusts relating to such property and generally to conform with such directions, if any, as are from time to time given to it by or on behalf of this Union Conference.
b. The World-Wide Advent Mission (Ireland), a corporation formed and controlled by this Union Conference to represent and conduct all legal matters appertaining to our denominational work in The Republic of Ireland, shall be the regular trustee for this Union Conference to acquire, hold, manage, dispose of, or deal with real and personal property for and on behalf of, or for the use, benefit, or purposes of this Union Conference, but subject to any specific trusts relating to such property and generally to conform with such directions, if any, as are from time to time given to it by or on behalf of this Union Conference.

c. The dissolution of this Union Conference may be effected by a three-fourths vote of the delegates present and voting. All proposed amendments shall be considered by the standing Constitution Committee before being approved by the Session and not less than twenty-eight (28) days notice thereof shall be given.
d. If it is proposed to amend the Constitution at any extraordinary session, notice of such proposed amendments shall be given specifically in conjunction with the notice calling such extraordinary session.
e. No amendment shall be made which would alter the Purpose as set forth in Article 3 (a) and no amendment shall be valid if its effect would be that this Union Conference ceased to be a charity according to English law.
f. The Executive Committee shall promptly provide the Charity Commissioners with a copy of any amendment made under this clause.
g. The members of the Executive Committee must obtain the prior written approval of the Commissioners to any amendment which would confer any benefit on any of the members of the Executive Committee.

Article 21 - Amendments

a. The Constitution of this Union Conference may be amended at any duly called session by two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting. All proposed amendments shall be considered by the standing Constitution Committee before being approved by the Session and not less than twenty-eight (28) days notice thereof shall be given.
b. If it is proposed to amend the Constitution at any extraordinary session, notice of such proposed amendments shall be given specifically in conjunction with the notice calling such extraordinary session.
c. No amendment shall be made which would alter the Purpose as set forth in Article 3 (a) and no amendment shall be valid if its effect would be that this Union Conference ceased to be a charity according to English law.
d. The Executive Committee shall promptly provide the Charity Commissioners with a copy of any amendment made under this clause.
e. The members of the Executive Committee must obtain the prior written approval of the Commissioners to any amendment which would confer any benefit on any of the members of the Executive Committee.

Article 22 - Dissolution

a. The dissolution of this Union Conference may be effected by a three-fourths vote of the delegates present and voting at any regular or extraordinary session of this Union Conference, provided that if it is proposed to dissolve the Union Conference at an extraordinary session, notice of the proposal to dissolve shall be given in the call for that session.
b. After all claims against this Union Conference have been satisfied including claims made by any former employees or members of their families arising out of previous employment, any remaining funds shall be transferred to the Trans-European Division for application for its religious and other charitable work or, failing this, shall be applied in furtherance of the Purpose.
**Article 1 - Name**

This organisation, within the territory of the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, hereinafter referred to as “British Union Conference” shall be known as the ___________ England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, hereinafter referred to as “this Conference”.

**Article 2 - Territory**

The territory of this Conference shall comprise the counties of ________________

**Article 3 - Purpose**

a. The purpose of this Conference (hereafter referred to as “the Purpose”) is to proclaim and teach the everlasting gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in harmony with the Purpose and policy of the British Union Conference.

b. In furtherance of the Purpose but not further or otherwise this Conference shall have the following powers:
   1. to employ and remunerate such ministers, officers, teachers and other employees and to engage such volunteers as may be necessary;
   2. to provide or assist in the provision of housing accommodation for such employees and volunteers to enable them to carry out their duties, and in cases of need for retired employees and their families;
   3. to provide or assist (by means of grants, loans or otherwise) in the provision or improvement of churches and other buildings for use for the work of local congregations of Seventh-day Adventists;
   4. to establish, conduct and provide financial assistance for schools for the education of children in which religious instruction according to the doctrines and principles of the Seventh-day Adventists is given and to provide financial assistance to students pursuing education according to those doctrines and principles;
   5. to publish or assist the publication of religious literature;
   6. to carry out the social mission of the Gospel by the provision of humanitarian aid to those in need in any part of the world;
   7. to establish, operate and provide financial assistance for convalescent, retirement and nursing homes, conducted in accordance with the doctrines and principles of Seventh-day Adventists.
   8. to provide or assist in the provision of services and facilities (including buildings) for health education and medical treatments in harmony with the doctrines and principles of Seventh-day Adventists.
   9. to establish, assist or administer other charities having objects similar to the Purpose;
   10. to acquire and dispose of property of any description and wherever situated (subject to such consents as may be required by law);
   11. to borrow money with or without giving security (subject to such consents as aforesaid);
   12. to raise money by any lawful means other than by permanent trading and to accept gifts either for furtherance of the work of this Conference or for any specific purpose within or connected with the Purpose;
   13. to invest funds in any manner permitted by law otherwise than by means of loans to individuals, firms or private companies, and for that purpose to obtain and consider professional advice from a person or firm of good repute having the requisite knowledge and experience;
   14. otherwise to further the religious mission and other charitable work of Seventh-day Adventists in the territory.

**Article 4 - Membership of this Conference**

The membership of this Conference shall consist of such Seventh-day Adventist Churches within its territory as have been, or shall be properly organised and accepted by vote of this Conference in session.

**Article 5 - Sessions**

a. This Conference shall hold regular sessions at intervals of four (4) years at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall designate and announce by a notice to be published in the British Union Conference official paper at least four (4) weeks before the appointed time.

b. In the event of special conditions arising which make it advisable to postpone the calling of a regular session, the Executive Committee may postpone such session for a period not exceeding one (1) year, provided that such action has the consent of at least two-thirds of the members of the Executive Committee.

c. The Executive Committee may call an extraordinary session of this Conference at such time and place as it deems proper by a like notice as for regular sessions, and the transaction of such extraordinary sessions shall have the same force as those of the regular sessions. An extraordinary session may elect any officers or other persons or committees and transact any business and do any other acts as under this constitution regular session or the Executive Committee between sessions may elect, transact or do, provided that the business transacted at an extraordinary session shall be only as provided for in the agenda issued with the publication of the notice of such session.

d. At least fifty-one percent (51%) of the authorised delegates must be present at any regular or extraordinary session to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

**Article 6 - Delegates at sessions**

The delegates to a session of this Conference shall be designated as follows:

- **Delegates at Large**
  - Regular Delegates

a. **Delegates at Large**
   1. Attending members of the Executive Committee of this Conference.
   2. Attending members of the executive committee of the British Union Conference.
   3. Attending members of the executive committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.
   4. All employees holding credentials from this Conference.
   5. Directors of departments of this Conference.
   6. Head Teachers of the secondary and primary schools operated by this Conference.

b. **Regular Delegates**
   1. Such persons as are duly accredited by the churches comprising the ___________ England Conference, including the Conference Church.
   2. Each church shall be entitled to one (1) delegate without regard to the size of its membership, and one (1) additional delegate for each thirty (30) members or major fraction thereof and who hold membership in the local church that accredits them.
   3. Such other persons as may be present and are recommended by the Executive Committee and voted by the delegates in session. The number of delegates so seated shall not exceed fifteen percent (15%) of the other delegates.
Article 7 - Session committees

a. Recommendations Committee: The Recommendations Committee to nominate standing committees at the sessions of this Conference shall be made up as follows:
   1. Each church represented in the delegation at the session shall be empowered to choose through and from its delegation, one (1) member of the Recommendations Committee.
   2. Each church with a membership of at least _____ shall be further empowered to choose through and from its delegation, one (1) additional member of the Recommendations Committee for its first _____ members and one (1) for each additional _____ of its membership or major fraction thereafter.
   3. The persons thus selected, together with the British Union Conference president or his designee, who shall act as chairman of this committee, shall be responsible for nominating all standing committees to be appointed by the session.

The Recommendations Committee shall nominate from the delegation the following standing committees at the sessions of this Conference:
- Nominating Committee
- Constitution Committee
- Plans Committee
- Credential and Licences Committee

b. Nominating Committee: The chairman of the session Nominating Committee shall be the president of the British Union Conference, or, in his absence, his designee; and further the Nominating Committee shall consist of from nine to fifteen (9-15) members, excluding the chair. This membership shall be balanced, as nearly as possible, between employees of this Conference and lay persons, representing various segments of the work and territories of this Conference. Incumbent officers and departmental directors shall not be members of the Nominating Committee. Incumbent members of the Executive Committee shall not serve as members of the Nominating Committee.

c. Constitution Committee: This committee shall consist of from nine to fifteen (9-15) members excluding the chair. The committee shall consider amendment proposals with a view to presenting such proposals to the Session. (See Article 19).

d. Plans Committee: This committee shall consist of from twenty-five to thirty-five (25-35) members, excluding the chair. Should the matters under review and study by the Plans Committee so require, the committee may divide itself into sub-sections for the purpose of drafting proposals to be approved by the full committee prior to presentation to the Session.

e. Credentials and Licences Committee: This committee shall consist of from nine to fifteen (9-15) members, excluding the chair. The committee shall recommend to the Conference in session the granting of suitable credentials and licences to such employees and lay preachers that the committee shall consider suitable to work in this Conference, and ask this Conference in session to approve the ordination of such men as shall have given proof of their calling to the ministry. The credentials or licences granted or issued by this Conference in session shall remain in force and be valid until the next regular session unless previously terminated by this Conference in extraordinary session. Between sessions the Executive Committee is authorised to perform such duties.

Article 8 - Voting

On all questions only delegates may vote and each delegate to the session shall have one vote. The chairman of the session shall have a personal vote and in case of equality of votes shall also have a casting vote.

Article 9 - Powers of session

a. This Conference in regular session shall have power to determine all matters and things for the order and good administration of this Conference and regulation of its affairs.

b. The plans and policies adopted by this Conference in session shall be in harmony with the plans and policies of the British Union Conference.

Article 10 - Elections

a. This Conference in regular session shall elect:
   1. Executive Officers
   2. Departmental directors and associates
   3. Members of the Executive Committee

a. Persons elected under this section shall hold their respective offices or appointments until the next regular session of this Conference unless their offices or appointments are previously terminated by this Conference in extraordinary session or by the Executive Committee in counsel with the British Union Conference officers.

Article 11 - Officers & departmental directors & their associates, & their duties

a. The Executive Officers of this Conference shall be:
   1. President
   2. Secretary
   3. Treasurer

They shall work in consultation with each other.

b. President - The President shall supervise the general work of this Conference, open and preside at sessions of this Conference, and also at all meetings of the Executive Committee, and work in the general interest of this Conference as the Executive Committee shall direct.

c. Secretary - The Secretary shall work under the direction of the Executive Committee and he shall keep a record of all proceedings of the sessions of this Conference and of the meetings of the Executive Committee and perform such other duties as usually pertain to this office.

d. Treasurer - The Treasurer shall receive all monies pertaining to this Conference, keep an account of same, and disburse them as the Executive Committee shall direct The treasurer shall make a full report thereof at regular sessions of this Conference and at such times as may be requested by the president or as prescribed by the Executive Committee, and perform such other duties as usually pertain to this office.

e. Departmental Directors and Associates - It shall be the duty of the director and associates in charge of a department to promote the general interests of the work entrusted to that department, to provide such statistical reports as may be required, and to perform all other duties usually pertaining to the office of such departmental director and associates. Departmental directors and associates shall work under the direction of the Executive Committee and the supervision of the president and shall occupy an advisory capacity to the field.

Article 12 - Executive committee

a. The Executive Committee shall consist of not less than fourteen (14) persons of whom the President...
(who shall be the Chairman of the Committee), the Secretary (who shall be the Secretary of the Committee) and the Treasurer shall be members by virtue of their respective offices and subject to Article 15 (a).
b. The Executive Committee may appoint committees of its number consisting of at least three (3) members thereof, to advise it on any matter and may authorise them to co-opt non-voting members; all recommendations of such committees must be reported promptly to the Executive Committee for its consideration and decision.

Article 13 - Authority of Executive Committee

a. Between sessions the Executive Committee shall manage the affairs of this Conference exercising all the powers of this Conference in session subject to the Constitution and directives of this Conference in session.
b. The Executive Committee in counsel with the British Union Conference officers may between sessions remove from office any officers of this Conference, or from the Executive committee any members thereof, provided that such action has the consent of at least two-thirds of the members of the Executive Committee by personal vote or by signature to a resolution in writing submitted to all the members of the Executive Committee. Separate copies of such resolutions may be signed for this purpose.
c. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the implementation of plans and policies made by this Conference in session, and shall report to the next session concerning the implementation of those plans. Copies of plans voted at the previous session, and minutes, shall be made available to delegates at least fourteen (14) days prior to the session. Lists of delegates to a session shall be made available to delegates at the session.

d. The Executive Committee, with at least one of the officers of the British Union Conference present, shall be responsible for the books of account of the local church treasurers to be audited at least once each calendar year.

e. Any member of the Executive Committee who has any personal or financial interest in any matter to be discussed or determined at a meeting thereof (whether direct or indirect) must declare his interest in advance of any discussion thereon and absent himself from the discussion, and may not vote nor be counted in the quorum for that part of the meeting.

Article 14 - Executive Committee meetings and notices

a. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called at any time by the president, or in his absence by the secretary or upon the written request of the majority of the Executive Committee.
b. Subject to paragraph (d), fifty percent (50%) of the Executive Committee members, including the chairman, shall, after due notice to available members, constitute a quorum, and shall be empowered to transact any necessary business.
c. Minority meetings of less than fifty percent (50%) but not less than three (3) members of the Executive Committee, including at least one (1) of the Executive Officers, may be held for the transaction of necessary urgent business but all action at such meetings must be reported promptly to the other members of the Executive Committee and shall be minuted at the next regular meeting of the Executive Committee.
d. Any member of the Executive Committee who has any personal or financial interest in any matter to be discussed or determined at a meeting thereof (whether direct or indirect) must declare his interest in advance of any discussion thereon and absent himself from the discussion, and may not vote nor be counted in the quorum for that part of the meeting.

Article 15 - Remuneration and expenses

a. Not more than half the members of the Executive Committee may be employed by this Conference.
b. The remuneration and expenses of any such members shall be determined annually, and may from time to time be adjusted, by the British Union Conference executive committee within the parameters set by its Remuneration Audit Committee.
c. Subject thereto, no member of the Executive Committee may receive remuneration or any other financial benefit (excepting reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses) at the cost of this Conference except that the Executive Committee may have the power to provide indemnity insurance for themselves out of the income of the charity. The insurance shall not extend to:
   1. Any claim arising from any act or omission which:
      a. the members of the Executive Committee knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty; or
      b. was committed by the members of the Executive Committee in reckless disregard of whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not; and
      2. the costs of an unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the members of the Executive Committee in their capacity as trustees of the charity.
d. The Executive Committee, with at least one of the officers of the British Union Conference present, shall determine annually and may from time to time adjust the remuneration and expenses of all other employees for the ensuing year within the parameters set by the British Union Conference Remuneration Audit Committee. The salaries of persons who may be temporarily employed by this Conference office, shall be fixed by the Executive Committee.

Article 16 - Sources of funds

a. The sources of funds of this Conference shall be:
   1. Tithe income from the churches, companies and isolated members within its territory.
   2. Any other grants made to this Conference by Seventh-day Adventist organisations and receivable by this Conference;
   3. Any rents arising from property owned by or on behalf of this Conference;
   4. Any returns from investments made by this Conference out of its own resources;
   5. Any income arising out of the day to day business operations of this Conference;
   6. Any gifts, donations, legacies, or similar monies made or payable to this Conference;
   7. Any other income in cash or in kind reasonably deemed to be receivable by this Conference;
   8. If it being understood that all such income should be subject to legal entitlement on the part of this Conference, and be given for and used in the furtherance of its Purpose.
   b. This Conference may receive, hold in trust, and forward any third party funds channelled through it to the British Union Conference, or the Trans-European Division of Seventh-day Adventists and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, or within the territory of the British Union Conference, to the Seventh-day Adventist Retirement Plan or to any conference, mission, or Seventh-day Adventist institution.

Article 17 - Application of funds

a. All funds by this Conference for its general purposes shall be applied in furtherance of the Purpose; all funds received or held in trust for another body under 16 (b) shall be transmitted to the governing body thereof: and all funds received for specific objects within or connected with the Purpose shall be applied for the specific objects for which they are respectively given.
b. Subject to Article 3 (b) (ii) funds shall not in any circumstances be paid or lent for the benefit of individuals, firms or private companies.
c. This Conference shall be responsible for the books of account of the local church treasurers to be audited at least once each calendar year.

Article 18 - Acquisition and disposal of church property

The legal corporation, Seventh-day Adventist Association Limited, formed and controlled by the British Union Conference shall be the regular trustee for this Conference to acquire, hold, manage, dispose of or deal with real and personal property for and on behalf of or for the use, benefit, or purposes of this Conference, but subject to any specific trusts relating to such property and generally to conform with such directions, if any, as are from time to time given to it by or on behalf of this Conference.
Article 19 - Amendments

a. This Constitution may be amended by a resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of the voters present and voting at any regular session, provided that:
1. at least twenty-eight (28) days notice of any proposed change has been given.
2. should it be necessary at any time to call an extraordinary session for the amending of this Constitution, due notice shall be given in the call for such extraordinary session of any proposal concerning any amendment or amendments.
3. no amendment shall be made which would alter the Purpose as set forth in Article 3 (a) and no amendment shall be valid if its effect would be that this Conference ceased to be a charity according to English law.
b. Notification of all amendments to this Constitution shall be given to the British Union Conference and to the Charity Commissioners, whose prior written approval must be obtained to any amendment which would confer any benefit on any of the members of the Executive Committee.

Article 20 - Dissolution of Conference

a. The dissolution of this Conference may be effected by a three-fourths vote of the delegates present and voting, at any regular or extraordinary session of this Conference, provided that, if it is proposed to dissolve the Conference at an extraordinary session, notice of the proposal to dissolve shall be given in the call for an extraordinary session.
b. After all claims against this Conference have been satisfied, including claims made by any former employees or members of their families arising out of previous employment, any remaining funds shall be transferred to the British Union Conference for application in harmony with its Purpose.

MODEL MISSION CONSTITUTION

Constitution of the
Mission of Seventh-day Adventists
(Date)

Article 1 - Name

This organisation, which is a branch of the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, hereinafter referred to as “the British Union Conference” shall be known as the Mission of Seventh-day Adventists, hereinafter referred to as “this Mission”.

Article 2 - Territory

The territory of this Mission shall comprise ________________

Article 3 - Purpose

a. The purpose of this Mission (hereafter referred to as “the Purpose”) is to further the Purpose of the British Union Conference within the territory.
b. In furtherance of the Purpose but not further or otherwise this Mission shall have the following powers, exercisable subject to the direction of the British Union Conference:
1. to employ and remunerate such ministers, officers, teachers and other employees and to engage such volunteers as may be necessary;
2. to provide or assist in the provision of housing accommodation for such employees and volunteers, to enable them to carry out their duties, and in cases of need for retired employees, and their families;
3. to provide or assist (by means of grants, loans or otherwise) in the provision or improvement of churches and other buildings for use for the work of local congregations of Seventh-day Adventists;
4. to establish, conduct and provide financial assistance for schools for the education of children in which religious instruction according to the doctrines and principles of the Seventh-day Adventists is given and to provide financial assistance to students pursuing education according to those doctrines and principles;
5. to publish or assist the publication of religious literature;
6. to carry out the social mission of the Gospel by the provision of humanitarian aid to those in need in any part of the world;
7. to establish, operate and promote financial assistance for convalescent, retirement and nursing homes, conducted in accordance with the doctrines and principles of Seventh-day Adventists.
8. to provide or assist in the provision of services and facilities (including buildings) for health education and medical treatments in harmony with the doctrines and principles of Seventh-day Adventists.
9. to acquire and dispose of property of any description and wherever situated (subject to such consents as may be required by law);
10. to borrow money with or without giving security (subject to such consents as aforesaid);
11. to raise money by any lawful means other than by permanent trading and to accept gifts either for furtherance of the work of this Mission or for any specific object within or connected with the Purpose;
12. to invest funds in any manner permitted by law otherwise than by means of loans to individuals, firms or private companies, and for that purpose to obtain and consider professional advice from a person or firm of good repute having the requisite knowledge and experience;
13. otherwise to further the religious mission and charitable work of Seventh-day Adventists in the territory.
Article 4 - Composition of Mission

This Mission shall be composed of such Seventh-day Adventist churches within its territory as have been, or shall be, properly organised and accepted by vote of this Mission in session.

Article 5 - Sessions

a. This Mission shall hold regular triennial sessions at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall determine, and a notice of such sessions shall be published at least four weeks (4) before the appointed time of any session in the British Union Conference official paper.

b. A quorum of the session shall be fifty-one percent (51%) of the appointed regular delegates and delegates at large.

c. In the event of extraordinary conditions arising which make it advisable to postpone the calling of a regular session, the Executive Committee may postpone such sessions for a period not exceeding one year, providing such action has the consent of at least two thirds of the members of the Executive Committee expressed by personal vote or by signature to a resolution in writing submitted to the members of the Executive Committee. Separate copies of such a resolution may be signed for this purpose.

d. The Executive Committee may call an extraordinary session of this Mission at such time and place as it deems proper by a like notice as for regular sessions, and the transactions of such an extraordinary session shall have the same authority as those of regular sessions provided that the business transacted at an extraordinary session shall be only as provided for in the agenda issued with the publication of the notice of such session.

Article 6 - Recommendations committee

The standing committees of any session shall be nominated by a Recommendations Committee. The Recommendations Committee to nominate standing committees at the sessions of this Mission shall be made up as follows:

a. Each church represented in the delegation at the session shall be empowered to choose through and from its delegation, one member (1) of the Recommendations Committee.

b. Each church with a membership of at least _____ shall be further empowered to choose through and from its delegation, one (1) additional member of the Recommendations Committee for its first _____ members and one (1) for each additional ____ of its membership or major fraction thereafter.

c. The persons thus selected, together with the British Union Conference president or his designee, who shall act as chairman of this committee, shall be responsible for nominating all standing committees to be appointed by the session.

The Recommendations Committee shall nominate from the delegation the following standing committees at the session of this Mission:

Nominating Committee
Plans Committee
Credential and Licenses Committee

Article 7 - Delegates to sessions

The delegates to a session of this Mission shall be:

a. Delegates at Large
   1. Attending members of the executive committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.
   2. Attending members of the British Union Conference executive committee.
   3. All members of the Executive Committee of this Mission.

b. Regular Delegates
   Such persons as are duly accredited by the churches comprising this Mission, including the Mission church. Each church shall be entitled to one (1) delegate without regard to its membership size, and one additional delegate for each seven members (7) or major fraction thereof and who hold membership in the local church that accredits them.

2. Such other persons as may be present and are recommended by the Executive Committee and voted by the delegation in session. The number of delegates so seated shall not exceed fifteen percent (15%) of the other delegates

Article 8 - Voting at sessions

a. Each delegate shall be entitled to one (1) vote on any question. The chairman of the session shall in case of equality of votes, have a casting vote. Voting shall be by ballot when determined by vote of session.

b. All delegates must be present in person at any session in order to be eligible to vote. There shall be no voting by proxy.

Article 9 - Powers of session

a. This Mission in regular session shall have power to determine all matters and things for the order and good administration of this Mission and regulation of its affairs.

b. The plans and policies adopted by this Mission in session shall be in harmony with the plans and policies of the British Union Conference.

Article 10 - Credentials and Licences

a. This Mission in regular session shall grant appropriate credentials and licences to such ministers, Bible Instructors, literature evangelists, church school teachers and lay preachers as it shall consider suitable to serve in this Mission. This Mission in regular session, or the Executive Committee between regular sessions, shall recommend to the British Union Conference executive committee for ordination such persons as shall have given proof of their call to the ministry.

b. The credentials or licences granted or issued by this Mission shall remain in force and be valid until the next regular session unless previously terminated by this Mission in extraordinary session or by the Executive Committee.

Article 11 - Elections

a. The Executive Officers of this Mission shall be:

1. President
2. Secretary
3. Treasurer
   Shall be filled by the same person
4. and shall be elected by the British Union Conference at the time of its regular session and by the British Union Conference executive committee not less than two (2) years and not more than three (3) years following a regular session.

b. This Mission in regular session shall elect
   1. Departmental Directors or Sponsors...
2. Members of the Executive Committee
c. Persons elected under (b) shall hold their respective offices or appointments until the next regular
session of this Mission unless their offices or appointments are previously terminated by this Mission
in extraordinary session or by the Executive Committee in counsel with the British Union Conference
officers.

Article 12 - Duties of officers & departmental directors/sponsors

a. President - The President shall supervise the general work of this Mission, preside at sessions of this
Mission, and meetings of the Executive Committee, and serve in the general interests of this Mission in
counsel with the Executive Committee.
b. Secretary - The Secretary shall keep a record of proceedings of the sessions of this Mission and of the
meetings of the Executive Committee and perform such other duties as usually pertain to this office.
c. Treasurer - The Treasurer shall receive all monies pertaining to this Mission, keep an account of the
same, and disburse them as the Executive Committee shall direct, and make a full report thereof at regular
sessions of this Mission and at such other times as may be requested by the president or as prescribed
by the Executive Committee and perform such other duties as usually pertain to this office.
d. The Executive Officers of this Mission shall work in consultation with each other and in counsel with the
British Union Conference officers.
e. Departmental Directors/Sponsors - It shall be the duty of the Director/Sponsor in charge of a depart-
ment to promote the general interests of the work entrusted to that department, to provide such statistical
reports as may be required, and to perform all other duties usually pertaining to the office of such depart-
mental Director/Sponsor. Departmental Directors/Sponsors shall work under the direction of the Executive
Committee and the supervision of the president, and shall occupy an advisory relationship to the field.

Article 13 - Executive committee

a. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Executive Officers of this Mission and seven (7) other
persons duly elected by this Mission in session, of whom at least four (4) shall be lay members and in
harmony with Article 16 (a).
b. The Executive Committee may appoint committees of its number consisting of at least three (3) members
thereof to advise it on any matter, and may authorise such committees to co-opt non-voting members: all
recommendations of such committees must be reported promptly to the Executive Committee for its
consideration and decision.

Article 14 - Authority of the Executive Committee

a. Between sessions the Executive Committee shall manage the affairs of this Mission exercising all the
powers of this Mission in session subject to the Constitution and directives of this Mission in session.
b. The Executive Committee in counsel with the British Union Conference officers may between sessions
remove from office any Departmental Director/Sponsor of this Mission, or from the Executive Committee
any member thereof, provided that such action has the consent of at least two-thirds of the members of the
Executive Committee by personal vote.

Article 15 - Executive committee meetings and notices

a. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called at any time by the President, or in his absence, by
the Secretary/Treasurer in consultation with the British Union Conference officers.
b. Subject to paragraph (d), any four (4) members of the Executive Committee, including the Chairman,
shall, after due notice to the available members, constitute a quorum and shall be empowered to
transact any necessary business.
c. Minority meetings of less than four (4) members of the Executive Committee, including at least one (1) of
the Executive Officers, may be held for the transaction of emergency business, but all action at such
meetings must be reported promptly to the other members of the Executive Committee and shall be
minuted at the next regular session of the Executive Committee.
d. Members of the Executive Committee who have any personal or financial interest in any matter to be
discussed or determined at a meeting thereof (whether direct or indirect) must declare their interest in
advance of any discussion thereon and absent themselves from the discussion, and may not vote nor be
counted in the quorum for that part of the meeting.

Article 16 - Remuneration and expenses

a. Not more than one half of the Executive Committee may be employed by this Mission.
b. The remuneration and expenses of any such members who are employees of the Mission shall be deter-
mined annually by the executive committee of the British Union Conference within the parameters set by
its Remuneration Audit Committee.
c. Subject thereto, no member of the Executive Committee may receive remuneration or any other financial
benefit (excepting reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses) at the cost of this Mission,
except that the Executive Committee may have the power to provide indemnity insurance for themselves
out of the income of the charity. The insurance shall not extend to:
1. Any claim arising from any act or omission which:
   a. the members of the Executive Committee knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty; or
   b. was committed by the members of the Executive Committee in reckless disregard of whether it
   was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not; and
2. the costs of an unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the members of the
Executive Committee in their capacity as trustees of the charity.
d. The Executive Committee, in consultation with the British Union Conference, shall determine annually,
and may from time to time adjust the remuneration including expenses of all other employees of the
Mission within the parameters set by the British Union Conference Remuneration Audit Committee.
e. The remuneration and expenses of persons who may be temporarily employed by the Mission, shall be
determined by the Executive Committee.

Article 17 - Sources of funds

a. The sources of funds of this Mission shall be:
1. Tithe income from the churches, companies and isolated members or other donors within its territory
   granted by virtue of their acceptance of the policies of the British Union Conference.
2. Any other grants made to this Mission;
3. Any rents arising from property owned by or on behalf of this Mission;
4. Any returns from investments made by this Mission out of its own resources;
5. Any income arising out of the day to day business operations of this Mission;
6. Any gifts, donations, legacies, or similar monies made or payable to this Mission;
7. Any other income in cash or in kind reasonably deemed to be receivable by this Mission.
   It being understood that all such income should be subject to legal entitlement on the part of this
   Mission and be given for and used in the furtherance of its Purpose.
b. This Mission may receive, hold in trust, and forward any third party funds channelled through it to the
British Union Conference, Trans-European Division of Seventh-day Adventists and the General
Conference of Seventh-day Adventists or, within the territory of this Mission to the Seventh-day Adventist
Retirement Plan or to any conference, mission or Seventh-day Adventist institution.
Article 18 - Application of funds

a. All funds received by this Mission for its general purposes shall be applied in furtherance of the Purpose; all funds received or held in trust for another body under 17 (b) shall be transmitted to the governing body thereof; and all funds received for specific objects within or connected with the Purpose shall be applied for the specific objects for which they are respectively given.

b. Subject to Article 3 (b) (ii) funds shall not in any circumstances be paid or lent for the benefit of individuals, firms or private companies.

c. This Mission shall be responsible for the books of account of the local church treasurers to be audited at least once each calendar year.

Article 19 - Amendments

a. This Constitution may be amended at the written direction of the British Union Conference;

b. All amendments must be in harmony with the Constitution of the British Union Conference.

c. No amendment shall be made which would alter the Purpose as set forth in Article 3 (a) and no amendment shall be valid if its effect would be that this Mission or the British Union Conference ceased to be a charity according to English law.

d. The Executive Committee shall promptly provide the Charity Commissioners with a copy of any amendment made under this clause, and seek prior written approval to any amendment which will confer any benefit on any of the members of the Executive Committee.

Article 20 - Dissolution of this Mission

a. This Mission may be dissolved only by action of the British Union Conference in regular or extraordinary session.

b. After all claims against this Mission have been satisfied, including claims made by any former employees or members of their families arising out of previous employment, any remaining funds shall be transferred to the British Union Conference for application for its Purpose.

At 4.00 pm proceedings commenced with introductory remarks by C R Perry, chairperson of the Session, who warmly welcomed all the delegates to the campus of the University of York for the fifth quinquennial session of the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Following the hymn "The Church's One Foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord" the opening prayer was offered by A D Hodges.

The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of York, Councillor Irene Waudby greeting the delegates and welcomed them to York. M R Dove responded on behalf of the delegation and a presentation was made to Councillor Irene Waudby.

Greetings were extended to the delegates by Margaret Silcock, Deputy Conference Officer for the University of York and a presentation was made on behalf of the delegates by E C Lowe.

Business Session
4.20 pm – 6.05 pm
Chairperson: C R Perry

In accordance with the BUC Constitution Article 5 (a) the notice of the Union Session had been published in the Messenger on 2 February and 30 March 2001.

E C Lowe reported at 4.20 pm that 325 delegates had registered out of a possible total of 452. A quorum required 230 delegates to be registered. The chair declared the Session open for business.

VOTED
to seat the following 24 individuals as additional delegates, in harmony with the provisions of Article 6 (b) (ii) of the BUC Constitution:

Departmental Directors & Mission Office
1. Heather Haworth
2. Raafat Kamal
3. Dean Papaioannou

Opening ceremony
Session Notices
Quorum
Seating of additional delegates 1
Seating of Additional Delegates 1 (continued)

| 4.  | John Surridge |
| 5.  | Michael Taylor |
| 6.  | Hamilton Williams |
| 7.  | Richard Willis |
| 8.  | Graham Barham |
| 9.  | Edward Johnson |
| 10. | Vernon Nambo |

**Stanborough Press**

| 11. | Janice Perry |

**Good Health Association**

| 12. | Anne Pilmoo |

**Stanborough Primary School**

| 13. | John Arthur |
| 14. | Paul Tompkins |
| 15. | Orville Woolford |

**Trans-European Division**

| 16. | David Ahwan |
| 17. | Martin Anthony |
| 18. | Patrick Boyle |
| 19. | Nehemiah Burton |
| 20. | Ken Clothier |
| 21. | George Harris |
| 22. | Margaret Robertson |
| 23. | Watson Southcott |
| 24. | Freton Taylor |

**Procedural Matters**

| 2.  | VOTED to accept the agenda as printed with the understanding that it may be necessary to vary the time if the flow of session business dictates. |

**Minutes 1996 Session**

| 3.  | VOTED to waive the reading of the 1996 Session minutes. |

**Plans Committee Report**

| 4.  | VOTED to waive the second reading of the Plans Committee report. |

**Rules of Order**

| 5.  | VOTED to accept the Rules of Order as printed in the Supplementary Material booklet, pages 3 – 7. |

**Voting Cards**

| 6.  | VOTED to recommend the use of the voting card by delegates when registering a vote. |

**Constitution Amendments to New Committee**

| 7.  | VOTED to refer the proposed amendments to the BUC Constitution to the new standing committee on Constitution to be elected at the Session in accordance with BUC Constitution Article 9 (b) and Article 21. |

**Speakers - Time Limit**

| 8.  | VOTED to limit delegate speeches at the microphone to a maximum of three minutes each. |

**Remembrance**

During the quinquennium 880 church members passed to their rest, 64 of whom were former workers or their spouses. Delegates were invited to stand for a minute’s silence in their honour.

| Mr William James Cross | 9 January 1996 |
| Mrs Very May Wallis | 16 January 1996 |
| Miss Greta P Nickels | 24 January 1996 |
| Pastor Arthur J Raitt | 3 February 1996 |
| Mrs M B McRae | 14 July 1996 |
| Pastor Hector E Bull | 22 July 1996 |
| Pastor A J Mustard | 24 July 1996 |
| Mr William J ohn Griffiths | 26 August 1996 |
| Pastor Don P McClure | 9 September 1996 |
| Pastor Ian MacGougan | 28 September 1996 |
| Mrs Lily Bevan | 21 October 1996 |
| Mrs Edith M Shaw | 30 October 1996 |
| Pastor G Roper | 14 January 1997 |
| Mrs Agnes Kinman | 15 January 1997 |
| Pastor A J Timothy | 28 January 1997 |
| Mr Francis Burnett Guest | 6 March 1997 |
| Mrs Olive Redecen-Dibble | 24 April 1997 |
| Pastor Leslie Shaw | 19 May 1997 |
| Miss Margaret DeAdth | 20 July 1997 |
| Mrs Rose S MIBorow | 28 July 1997 |
| Mrs Doris Benwell | 11 September 1997 |
| Mrs Margaret Brookes | 15 September 1997 |
| Mrs Nancy Seymour | 7 November 1997 |
| Mrs Audrey Logan | 14 November 1997 |
| Miss M Gwen Clarke | 27 December 1997 |
| Miss H Forster | 31 January 1998 |
| Mr J Rigby | 17 February 1998 |
| Miss Winifred Buckle | 5 April 1998 |
| Mrs Helen Emm | 18 April 1998 |
| Mrs Phyllis May Dobbs | 23 April 1998 |
| Pastor V Benefield | 26 May 1998 |
| Pastor F J Wilmshurst | 10 June 1998 |
| Mrs Hilda M L Craven | 20 June 1998 |
| Mrs M Bolton | 26 June 1998 |
| Miss J Wear | 13 October 1998 |
| Mr D C Swan | 30 October 1998 |
| Pastor J R Handysides | 18 December 1998 |
| Mrs A E Spofford | 29 December 1998 |
| Mr F Male | 3 January 1999 |
| Mr G O Foster | 4 January 1999 |
| Pastor P Cumings | 5 January 1999 |
C R Perry explained that the Strategic Plan would be presented in two parts. The first part focused on the overall strategic proposal for the British Union for the next five years. He presented the rationale behind the Strategic Plan document contained in the Supplementary booklet which the delegates had had in their possession for approximately five weeks. He reviewed the process by which the document had been drawn up and highlighted its key 16 strategic foci. E C Lowe outlined the way in which the incoming executive committee would monitor the implementation and evaluation of the Strategic Plan.

Questions were raised regarding the implications of the Plan on the number of budgets that would be available for the new quinquennium. Pastor Perry responded to these concerns and indicated that the Union treasurer would make a statement later in the evening.

VOTED to refer the Strategic Plan to the Session Plans Committee for further discussion and revision.

B Wiklander the chair of the Recommendations Committee presented a partial report through its secretary P S Lockham:

Partial report from recommendations committee - nominating committee members

Recommendations committee 10

VOTED to endorse the recommendation from each Conference/Mission that the following delegates serve as the Session Recommendations Committee:

**Irish Mission**
- Mart de Groot
- Joseph Donaldson

**North England Conference**
- Monette Burrell
- Jude J evanville
- Lorance J Johnson
- John Kent
- Robert McKenzie
- Desmond Rafferty
- Ednon Windrass

**Scottish Mission**
- Russell Bryan

**South England Conference**
- Dale Budd
- Paulette De Lisser
- Lani Edwards
- J ean Gittens
- Richard Holder
- Brian Martin
- Edwina McFarquhar
- Roger Murphy
- Emmanuel Osei
- Martin Rodney
- Brenda Sabadin

**Welsh Mission**
- Geoff Dennis
- Paul Lockham

Meeting adjourned 6.05 pm for supper.

Adjournment
Taking the theme of the Session, ‘United By the Word’, the Division president posed the question, ‘What is the purpose of the Word?’ Basing his meditation on John 21 he reminded the delegates that according to John (20:31) the purpose of the word is to enable men and women to experience ‘life in Jesus’. He suggested that this was the theme of Jesus’ teaching at His third, post-resurrection appearance to the seven disciples on the Galilean shore, where Jesus reminds them of the things He had tried to share with them at the Last Supper.

Seven men go fishing all night and catch nothing. This is a picture of our life without Jesus. Without Jesus in our life we will always return with an empty boat. Jesus is on the shore and He can see their problem. Following an acknowledgement of their need, Jesus proposes the solution. There is only one condition. They must obey His word. When the disciples follow His command the boat can hardly contain the catch.

Dr Wiklander pointed out that unfortunately we usually stop here, but Jesus does not stop there. He prepares a meal for them. He bends down, not on this occasion over dirty feet, but over a charcoal fire. He wants to give them a taste of what life in Jesus is all about. He wants them to understand that His glory is in humble service. Do we understand this?

The threefold question to Peter, ‘Do you love me?’ was designed to help Peter understand that before he can follow Jesus he must see that Jesus’ glory is self-sacrificing love. That is what life in Jesus really means. He invites us to share in this glory.

O Woolford led the delegation in a season of prayer.

**Keynote Address – B Wiklander**

### Life Development Programme 13

The second part of the Strategic Plan focused on an evangelistic programme for the next quinquennium under the title, ‘Life Development Programme’ presented by Miroslav Pujic, the TED Communication Director. He explained that the programme was designed to meet the challenge of witnessing to our postmodern secular society. Traditional evangelistic programmes have tended to be event-focused and have often sought to take individuals from the A-Z of Christian teaching and experience in one series of meetings over a number of weeks. In contrast the Life Development concept with its seven stages from ‘Get Connected’, ‘Evidence’, ‘Mind the Gap’, ‘Worship Experience’, ‘Commitment’, ‘Quality of Life’, and concluding with ‘Training and Equipping’, will seek to emphasise evangelism as a process.

Delegates were informed that the outgoing BUC executive committee had already voted to accept the programme in principle but had agreed to refer it to the forthcoming Session so that the delegates could add their endorsement.

Following the clarification of a number of issues raised by the delegates:

**VOTED**

- to accept the Life Development Programme as part of the Strategic Plan for the BUC for the next quinquennium.

### Number of Budgets 14

M R Dove explained the rationale behind the recommendation of the outgoing BUC executive committee that the number of officer/departmental director budgets at the BUC remain the same for the foreseeable future.

**VOTED**

- to accept the recommendation of the executive committee with the understanding that an additional budget be provided when the Union’s financial position make this possible.

### Theme Song

C Murphy led the delegates in singing the theme song for the Session: ‘Jesus, Name Above All Names’.

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**President’s Report 15**

**President’s Report**

Chairperson: B Wiklander

Following prayer by D W McFarlane, C R Perry presented his report in two parts. His opening powerpoint presentation used the repeated refrain of the hymn ‘Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow’ as a uniting thread for this section of his report.

He declared that this was not his report but was a brief outline of some of the achievements of the conferences and missions and institutions during the quinquennium. It was the report of pastors, teachers and lay persons. He drew attention to the membership statistics and the blessings of God reflected in the tithe, offerings, legacies and Ingathering figures for the previous quinquennium. He then highlighted some of the major achievements in the various departments, concluding with the exclamation, ‘Thanks be to God for what He has done for us.’

**VOTED**

- to accept the President’s Report.

This was followed by a video newsreel of the previous quinquennium.
Thursday 26 July 2001

Devotional
The devotional by SEC President D W McFarlane, focused on the theme 'United by the Prophetic Word'. As the theme of prophecy is a broad one the speaker chose to limit his subject to the prophetic role of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in fulfilment of the depiction in Revelation 10, 12 and 14. He stressed that although we have much in common with other denominations - and could indeed learn something from them - we are first and foremost a Church called by God for a specific task: to proclaim God's end time message to the world of today. God's prophetic word gives a sense of urgency to our mission. If we forsake our prophetic emphasis this will be a formula for decline. God's prophetic word reminds us that God stands behind His world. He has not abandoned it to Satan's control. It reminds us of a God who knows the end from the beginning and who has called the Advent people into being in order to prepare a people for the return of Jesus.

Session 2
9.40 am
Chairperson: C R Perry

Executive Secretary's Report
E C Lowe gave a summary of the quinquennium statistics as they related to the movement in church workers and church membership. While giving thanks to God for the 3,292 accessions through baptism and profession of faith achieved during the previous five years - representing an average annual growth of 1.84% - delegates were reminded of the challenge facing the church in heralding the three angel's messages to the 63.58 million inhabitants of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. While the death rate had remained fairly constant with previous quinquenniums the apostasy rate had been halved from 7.25% for the period 1990 to 1995 to 4.72% for the present period. Minister to member ratios at the close of the period were approximately 1:50 in the three Missions and 1:150 in the North England Conference and 1:176 in the South England Conference taken across the fields as a whole. During the period 41 ministerial workers had left employment within the territory of the British Union Conference and these had been replaced with 41 new workers, 26 of whom came through the graduate programmes at Newbold College.

Discussion followed during which expressions of concern were voiced on:
1. The need to learn from the growth experience of SDA churches in other countries and other Christian churches within the UK;
2. The need to be sensitive in the provision of our services to people with special needs;
3. The need to ensure that appropriate members are challenged to consider training for ministry;
4. The need to provide the church with an effective reclamation programme in the light of the level of apostasies.

VOTED to accept the Secretary's Report.

Marcus Dove presented a brief report that focused on some important features in reviewing the past, looking at the present, and taking a peek at the future. In the review of the past, he asked how well or badly had the Union's finances fared over the period. He pointed out that 70% of the Union income is tithe-based. The total tithe income for the past five years had been £38.5 million. And for the first time in the last month of the quinquennium, the monthly tithe income had exceeded £1 million. Calculations on tithe increase during the period, suggests that 56% could be attributed to inflation; 26% to membership growth; and 18% on increased participation. The largest single area of expenditure for the Union is the grants it makes to the division, conferences, missions, and institutions which absorbs just over half its income. The working capital and liquidity figures in the report were 36% in excess of the amount needed for the Union to sustain its day to day operation.

He then asked the question, 'How able was the Union to meet the identified future risks which might arise in the Missions, institutions or as a result of a drop in the tithe income? The Union had formulated a reserve policy to meet this need which indicated a shortfall of £170,000. However, this should be tempered by the fact that it was not anticipated that all the risks would materialise and certainly not all at the same time. With respect to future staffing levels at the Union office a brief review of the material given the previous evening was presented. This warned that to avoid the danger of the Union having a structure, but with little money to do anything, expansion could presently only take place if there was a reduction in existing services, reduction in Union remuneration and the need to address staff levels to meet the requirement to audit all the local church accounts in the Mission and taking a peek at the future. In the review of the past, he asked how well or badly had the Union's finances fared over the period. He pointed out that 70% of the Union income is tithe-based. The total tithe income for the past five years had been £38.5 million. And for the first time in the last month of the quinquennium, the monthly tithe income had exceeded £1 million. Calculations on tithe increase during the period, suggests that 56% could be attributed to inflation; 26% to membership growth; and 18% on increased participation. The largest single area of expenditure for the Union is the grants it makes to the division, conferences, missions, and institutions which absorbs just over half its income. The working capital and liquidity figures in the report were 36% in excess of the amount needed for the Union to sustain its day to day operation.

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Following the report the treasurer clarified a number of issues raised by delegates relating to the percentage of tithe income between the various units in the British Union Conference, the Union’s investment strategy, the breakdown of the ‘outreach’ expenditure, the percentage of tithe payers and the level of support being given to the Stanborough School.

VOTED to accept the Treasurer’s Report.

Recess Session adjourned for 15 minute recess.

Chair: W J Arthur

Publishing Report

As Vernon Nambo had only taken up his position after the end of the quinquennium his report was essentially a presentation of a blueprint for the publishing work for the next quinquennium. His vision is to move the department down to the local church and to have a publishing sponsor and a literature evangelism committee in every local congregation in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. The publishing programme must become a church programme not limited to four or five literature evangelists scattered across the Union. The present picture is of some 40 members selling 200 books a month. However, if 50% of the church membership could catch a vision of distributing just five books a month this would give a monthly total of 50,000 books finding their way into people’s homes. Vernon Nambo challenged the delegates to make every Adventist home a library, every church a training centre, and every Adventist a book distributor.

The Stanborough Press Report

Paul Hammond began his report by stating to the delegates that The Stanborough Press was ‘their Press’. All the shares are now owned by the British Union Conference. Previously they had been owned by nominees but during the past quinquennium it had been decided that the time had come for them to be transferred to the British Union Conference. During the period he confirmed that a new 10-year marketing agreement had been signed with the Review whereby The Stanborough Press will market Review products in Africa and Europe while the Review will market Stanborough Press goods throughout its distribution area. This had helped the Press to meet the challenge produced by the change in the General Conference policy that had taken place at the beginning of the quinquennium which removed the previous restrictions on publishing houses to market and distribute their goods within a restricted area.

The report included information on the Sabbath School materials, the weekend book sales, the mail order service which distributes 12,000 parcels a year, and the magazine provision. Special mention was made of the tremendous number of new books that had been produced for different markets which included 19 for literature evangelists, sold in various countries. The Press had also been able to offer training for other publishing houses in Africa.

It was acknowledged that the literature evangelist programme in the British Union Conference was facing difficult times, but thanks were expressed for the positive ministry that the new Director of Sales, Vernon Nambo, was giving to this work.

It was reported that the auditor had identified £120,000 of misappropriated funds. A former employee has been charged with the offence and has been sentenced in the Crown court. The manager assured delegates that the matter had been handled in a Christian manner, with appropriate support having been provided to the individual. Consequently there had been a small operating loss of under £20,000. However, but for this exceptional circumstance the accounts would have been showing a slight profit.

Thanks were expressed to the staff at The Stanborough Press, to the British Union Conference, to the local personal ministries secretaries and to God.

Questions from the floor included enquiries regarding the possibility of a health magazine; the procedure used in the selection of manuscripts for publication; concerns for the current status of the literature evangelism work; and suggestions relating to a wider use of the Internet and Web pages.

VOTED to accept the report of The Stanborough Press.

Session Adjourned for Lunch.

Bible Study 2.00 pm

The afternoon Bible study was taken by Laurence Turner, head of Theology at Newbold College. He told the delegates that his two studies would focus on two half-forgotten characters who questioned and disagreed with God. They disagreed with what God did and what He asked. The first character he looked at was Jonah. In his exposition he stated that Jonah is often treated as a good children’s story. However, the problem is that it is not a book designed for children but for adults who do not mind having their thinking disturbed.

He highlighted the various parallels and contrasts in the story. The pagan sailors and inhabitants of Nineveh respond to God’s word in worship and repentance while God’s messenger, Jonah, runs away and then sulks when the Ninevites receive the same gracious deliverance that he had experienced from the fish. He wanted salvation for himself but damnation for others. The book of Jonah is one of only two biblical books that concludes with a question. It is not only a question for us, “Shouldn’t I be concerned about Nineveh?” That is a question for us. Shouldn’t we be concerned for the Ninevahs of this world? We should be working and praying for the salvation of all peoples.
Session 3
2.45 pm – 5.22 pm
Chairperson: E C Lowe

Partial Report From Nominating Committee - Buc President 19
B Wiklander brought a report from the Nominating Committee with regard to the proposed name for the President of the British Union Conference. This was read by Cynthia Southcott, secretary to the Nominating Committee.

VOTED
to accept the nomination of C R Perry as British Union Conference President.

Church Growth Report 20
Hamilton Williams indicated that he would not insult the intelligence of the delegates by reading any portion of his report. He referred to the fact that this new department born at the previous session was likely to die in its infancy as a recommendation had been made to the session to revert to the Personal Ministries department and Ministerial Association Secretary. He expressed the hope that the elements of the Church Growth brief would be incorporated into the Personal Ministries and Ministerial Association Secretariat so that the initiatives that had been started would not be lost. He drew attention to the fact that until March 2000 the department had been shared by two half-time personnel, D G Elias and himself. He concluded his report by stating that research into why other churches are growing had highlighted two things: worship style and the use of media and marketing principles.

Clarity was given for the limited reference to the broadcasts on Premier Radio and the lack of reference to the Life Development Programme. The former was due to the fact that while the protracted negotiations had taken place during the quinquennium the actual broadcast programme itself had fallen outside that period. Similarly, the conception and development of the Life Development idea had taken place right at the close of 2000 and therefore lay outside the scope of the current report.

In responding to questions regarding his projected hopes for the future he highlighted two. The first was to see the percentage of church members actively involved in evangelism rise from its current average of 20% towards the 40-50% mark. His second hope was to see the church make more use of marketing principles in its evangelism.

VOTED
to accept the Church Growth Report.

Education Report 21
Keith Davidson, British Union Conference Education Director, took the stage along with the heads of the various Adventist schools in the United Kingdom. Mrs Anne Phillip, deputy head of John Loughborough; Robert Hines, chaplain at John Loughborough; Mrs Anne Pilmoor, headteacher of Stanborough Primary school; Steve Rivers, headteacher of Stanborough Secondary school; and Oscar Stewart, headteacher of Harper Bell. He began his report by stating that the purpose of Seventh-day Adventist education is evangelism. If that is not the case we should fold up and close up. In addressing some of the issues raised on the floor earlier in the day that had questioned the level of investment in Stanborough School he clarified that the grant given to the school provided for three main areas of support: church member grants, support of Bible teaching in harmony with denominational policy and the maintenance of the school plant.

He highlighted the number of baptisms that had resulted from the witness of the church schools throughout the Union – baptisms of pupils and sometimes of their parents. In addition, many local church baptisms had taken place as a result of the strong influence of Adventist schools.

He reviewed the departmental mission statement and guided the delegates through the five broad operational areas through which this mission statement had been implemented: Administration; Development; Evangelism; Raising Standards; and Services. He highlighted the outcomes in each area. These included the achievement of Voluntary Aided Status for John Loughborough School and further ongoing negotiations for a further school and the production of a curriculum for home school education.

Various queries were clarified in the ensuing discussion of the report. It was suggested that the department give consideration to a number of issues:
1. The development of a database for Adventist teachers who work in the State system.
2. The development of materials (perhaps with the collaboration of the youth and stewardship departments) that would inform the children of Adventist history, roots and stewardship principles.
3. The pursuit of VAS for more denominational schools.

VOTED
to accept the Education Report.

The arrival of General Conference President Jan Paulsen and his wife was recognised and Dr Paulsen gave a few words of greeting from the platform.

Steve Rivers and Anne Pilmoor jointly presented the report on the Stanborough Secondary and Primary schools respectively. Recognition was given to former heads Rosaleen Gill, Andrea Luxton and Kish Poddar. The report drew attention to the international composition of Stanborough pupils and informed delegates that the school inspectors had commented on the excellent cultural interaction between pupils at the school. Statistical data was given with reference to teacher and pupil numbers in both schools.

Events at the Secondary School during the period under review had included the school’s sixtieth anniversary programme, pupil humanitarian missions to Romania and India, educational
visits to France and New York and the senior chorale’s participation in a musical festival. The school had rated in the top fifty schools in London and the South East with respect to its ‘A’ level results.

Primary enrolment had increased by 60 during the period. Consequently the school had increased its teaching staff by one and had added a new classroom to its complex. Statistics from the pupils’ STAT results demonstrated the excellence being achieved by the school. The Home and School Association had raised over £10,000 towards the cost of a new IT suite that is in the planning stage. Policies and schemes had been updated and base line assessments had been introduced with standardised assessments in English and Mathematics. A weekly newsletter provided communication between parent and school.

Testimony was given to the evangelistic work of both the secondary and primary school resulting in the baptism of both pupils and their parents.

VOTED to accept the Stanborough School Report.

Harald Wollan the acting chair of the Recommendations Committee presented the following final report through its secretary P S Lockham.

Standing Committee on Constitution:
BUC Executive Secretary (chair)
TED Representative
SEC Executive Secretary
NEC Executive Secretary
Charles Bramble
Velda Cox
Keith A Davidson
Mart de Groot
Volney Ham-Ying
Alton McFarquhar
Emmanuel Osei
Brian Phillips
Beverley Stewart Henry
Vivienne Vine

VOTED to accept the report for the Standing Committee on Constitution.

Credentials & Licenses Committee
Harald Wollan (chair)
Cynthia Benz
Amos Burke
Keith Davidson
John Ferguson
Egerton Francis
Mark Laman
Eric Lowe

Brian Martin
Donald W McFarlane
Margaret Stewart

VOTED to accept the report for the composition of the Credentials & Licenses Committee.

Plans Committee
Orville Woolford & Paul Tompkins (joint chairpersons)
Barry Allen
Alan Conroy
Japhet De Oliveira
Joseph Donaldson
Richard Holder
Edmund Hypolite
Levon J ohns
Annette Johnson
Mike Logan
Claude Lombart
Edwina McFarquhar
Eileen McKenzie
Peter Nassau
Jeff Nicholson
Pauline Phillips
Kish Poddar
Gifford Rhamie
Brenda Sabaditi
Ebenezer Sackey
Lil Saunders
David Savalani
Ingrid Sharpe
Gordon Smith
Drene Somasundram

VOTED to accept the report for the composition of the Plans Committee.

Session adjourned with prayer at 5.22 p.m.

Evening Programme
Prayer: C R Perry
Chairperson: C R Perry

The name of Eric Lowe was recommended as Executive Secretary for the British Union Conference.

VOTED to accept the recommendation of the nominating committee.
The name of Victor Pilmoor was recommended as the Treasurer for the British Union Conference.

VOTED
to accept the nomination.

Dr Wiklander concluded by expressing sincere appreciation for the faithful work of Marcus Dove who had served as Treasurer for the British Union Conference for ten years in the largest Union in the Trans-European Division.

Harald Wollan chair of the recommendations committee indicated that the Plans Committee should have had 28 names but only 27 names had been presented in the first report. One name had been missed from the previous list. Paul Lockham the secretary of the committee proposed that the name of Caroline Facey be added to the original list.

VOTED
to accept the additional name of Caroline Facey.

Field Reports 29
VOTED
to record the presentation of the field reports by the Irish Mission, Scottish Mission and the South England Conference.

The morning devotion was conducted by D N Marshall, editor of The Stanborough Press. Using Romans 1:16,17 as his theme he related the story of Billy McKay who accepted Jesus after reading the book of Romans in a Bible his mother had given him many years earlier in his life. Building on this story he went on to emphasize the value of the book of Romans and its central message of justification by faith in the experience of Wesley and Luther. The second coming can only be preached through the 'lens of the cross otherwise we may be perverting the gospel' he declared. We are not to be anxious about what God and Christ thinks about us but what God thinks of Christ our substitute.

Des G Boldeau, the current BUC Youth Ministries Director introduced the delegates to the youth leadership team in the conferences and missions within the British Union Conference who were seated with him on the platform. These included Gordon Smith (Youth Sponsor for the Scottish Mission); Steve Palmer (Youth Director for the North England Conference); Eglan Brooks (Pathfinder & Teens Director for the South England Conference); Bernie Holford (Provincial Youth Director for the South England Conference); Mike Rossiter (Pathfinder Director for the North England Conference); Sam Davis (Metropolitan Youth Director for the SEC); and last but not least the former BUC Youth Ministries Director Paul Tompkins, now serving as Youth Ministries Director for the Trans-European Division.

Des Boldeau explained that the youth report would be shared by Paul Tompkins and himself since Paul Tompkins had been the BUC Youth Ministries Director until the summer of 2000. In his report Des Boldeau presented the new BUC Youth website, explaining with the aid of a video projector, the different functions and areas of the site.

Paul Tompkins highlighted some of the key events of the past quinquennium. These included the celebration of 120 years of the Advent Youth Society with a youth congress at Newbold College. Fifty years of Pathfinders had been commemorated by a Union-wide camporee at Auchengillan in Scotland attended by 800 pathfinders from around the British Isles. The London Youth Federation had continued with the successful GO-UK programme and many Impact evangelistic outreach endeavours had been run by the Youth in several cities. He expressed thanks to the Youth Pages team, the Retreats Unlimited personnel and the many local church youth and Pathfinder leaders.

Des Boldeau clarified the six arms of Youth Ministry: Senior Youth; Pathfinders; Chaplaincy; Teen Ministry; Encounter Magazine; and the Adventist Volunteer Service. He indicated the plan to reduce the target age of the Encounter magazine to minister to the teens and to build up a database of Adventist young people attending places of Further Education.

The youth team were able to inform the delegates that a number of the concerns raised during the comments which followed the presentation of the report were already in the process of being addressed. These included the following elements:
1. Enhanced chaplaincy ministry.
2. Changed focus to the Encounter magazine.
3. Relevance of Sabbath Advent Youth programmes.
4. Need to involve more women on the youth team.

VOTED
to accept the youth report.

Session adjourned for 10 minute recess.

Recess

Session 4
11.15 am
Chairperson: V Pilmoor
Prayer: V Pilmoor

G M Bell explained to the delegates that the Good Health Association (Scotland) Ltd is responsible for a number of institutions around the Union: Roundelwood Health Centre; Roundelwood Nursing Home; The Dell Retirement Home in Suffolk; Retired Workers Accommodation at Poole in Dorset; Sheepcot Villas in Watford and Coniston House in Paignton, Devon, as well as some private houses for retired ministers and their wives.
He explained that the Roundelwood complex had been doing well with its health care programme and nursing home provision until the introduction of ‘Care in the Community’ in 1994. Due to this change nursing care numbers had dropped from 50 to 25 resulting in a loss during the quinquennium of £420,000 which the organisation had met from its own reserves.

He informed the constituency that due to ‘Care in the Community’ programme Good Health Association (Scotland) Ltd had shifted its focus from retirement care to health care. Investment was made in a swimming pool complex including additional treatment rooms. The health centre is working on a structured marketing plan that includes the use of the Internet and has introduced ‘Themed Weeks’ including the following areas: Stress Management; Weight Management; Women’s Health Issues; Church Members’ Week etc. Currently 1000 people are passing through the programme per annum. This is double the figure at the commencement of the quinquennium. It was pointed out that a 10% reduction is given as an automatic discount to church members, with an enhanced discount available were there is a need and condition that Roundelwood can help with (subject to the provision of a doctor’s letter). Tribute was paid to the work and influence of the late Vince Quinn, the Health Course co-ordinator.

Research had been carried out on the possibility of establishing a retirement home in the London area. However, in consideration of the huge capital investment required and the present uncertain climate with respect to retirement homes it was deemed to be an inopportune time to move in this direction. With limited referrals from local authorities and tight budgetary margins many nursing homes are having to close down. It was explained that the location of both the Dell Retirement Home and Roundelwood was due to both properties being donated to the church by their respective owners.

In the ensuing discussion it was suggested that the ‘Theme Weeks’ could include the Newstart programme and one designed for diabetics. Given the changed climate produced by the ‘Care in the Community’ programme and the large capital expenditure in purchasing a nursing home, the Luton church project was cited as a possible way forward in the future. In Luton members had formed a charity that receives local authority funding to pay members who provide care to the elderly in their homes. Currently this body is caring for 50 clients on a weekly basis. It was further recommended that Roundelwood seeks to enhance its communication of information to local churches with reference to its programme, especially the ‘Themed Weeks.’

Questions were raised regarding fund raising that had taken place in the London area for the establishment of a nursing home. It was pointed out that these were local initiatives that had taken place outside the sphere of influence of both Roundelwood and the South England Conference.

VOTED
to accept the Good Health Association (Scotland) Ltd report.

As the delegates had received the report material well in advance and therefore had time to read it before coming to the Session, R J B Willis thanked his secretary, Dawn Tompkins, for her assistance and moved straight to a motion proposing the acceptance of the report. It was suggested that networking of health professionals provided the best way forward to support the ongoing needs for promotion of health ministries at the local church level and this was illustrated by the local health ministry initiative at the Central London church. An observation that item 10.1.4. in the strategic foci could be enlarged to include dentists, doctors and physiotherapists as well as nutritionists was noted.

In answer to a query on training programmes it was pointed out that programmers needed to know that programmes will be supported and followed up. The experience of the Nutribit Training Programme held during the quinquennium was cited to illustrate this need. Only three out of the forty-three people who attended the course had gone on to complete it and only one of the three had implemented the training they had received.

In light of the popular interest in lifestyle health, questions were asked as whether the Union could consider a NET type programme with a health theme or alternatively provide a series of professional health videos. In response to the first proposition delegates were informed that a NET programme with a health emphasis was being run from the USA but would need considerable amendment before it could be used in the UK. The difficulty with health videos is that it is a quickly changing market and very few are made in the UK. Those that are produced come with a high price tag. The department had sought to utilise the skills and expertise of visiting speakers from overseas. Unfortunately, they were generally only available during the summer vacation period which being the holiday season was not always the best time slot for the United Kingdom. However, the suggestion regarding training for lay persons in ‘Lifestyle’ living was noted.

VOTED
to accept the Health Ministries Report.

Closing Prayer G M Bell.

Session adjourned at 12.35 pm.

Adjournment

Bible Study 2.00 pm

In his second Bible study Laurence Turner focused on the message from Habakkuk, another prophet who disagreed with God, but for different reasons. Attention was drawn to the fact that the prophet’s questions in the opening chapter, where he queries why God seems to be blind and deaf to the injustices in Judah, are not the questions of a troublemaker or sceptic. Habakkuk is a man with a deep faith in God who can take up his disagreements with God. He reminded delegates that we do not have to wait until the book of Habakkuk to face such questions. The
Bible is full of Habbakuk’s questions where faith is observed searching for answers when they don’t seem to be available. This was illustrated from the book of Psalms.

In the book of Habbakuk the answer comes in two parts. In chapter two God reveals that these questions we have about Him can only be found in the relationship with Him. Who we know is more important than what we can prove. The second part of the answer takes up the whole of the final chapter where the prophet is granted a vision of God. This is an answer not in words but a vision of God’s great acts of the past that the prophet experienced as if they are happening in his own day. Habbakuk’s famous final response reiterates in colourful language the conviction that we will find our answer in our relationship with God and a vision of God’s mighty acts which are experiences as if they are now.

Session 5
2.45 pm
Chairperson: B B Beach

Communication Report 33

John Surridge began his report by thanking key individuals in the British Union Conference’s Communication strategy. These included Mary Kapon, BUC Communication department secretary, Wes Kapon, BUC Studio manager, Cathy Anthony, SEC Communication sponsor; Desmond Rafferty, NEC Communication sponsor and the communication secretaries in the local churches.

He stressed the importance of the church maintaining a corporate identity by using the official logo, providing we do so uniformly in line with the official guidelines. During the quinquennium key personnel had been provided with crisis management training to enable them to respond appropriately to the media. The department monitors all news releases that feature the church in one way or another by receiving a record of published clippings.

The BUC website had grown during the period and front door hits had averaged 80 per day over the last six months of the quinquennium. This is a useful way of communicating with a wide range of people with minimal effort. In addition the BUC email newsletter is now received by over 1000 people each Friday. Delegates were informed that the BUC office now had a successful office network.

Churches who had secured Radio Restricted Service Licenses that had enabled them to broadcast short term programmes were commended for their initiative. The challenge with this approach is the difficulty of establishing an audience base where few people are prepared to attend the training courses. For this reason the department had developed some new courses to introduce people to the basics of Christianity. The results from the NET programme were commended for their initiative. The challenge with this approach is the difficulty of establishing an audience base when the local congregation is only on the air for a number of days each year. The report concluded by highlighting the experiments that were being explored in the current year by Hamilton Williams on Premier’s digital radio and by the Communication department using advertising spots on commercial radio stations.

It was underlined that one of the great challenges facing the department given the rapid development in so many of its connected fields was to know which areas to focus on so as to maximise the efficient use of time and resources. Questions followed with reference to the appropriateness of the current church logo, the better use of the existing satellite equipment installed at the local churches and the possibility of using the department giving bursaries to Arts groups to develop scripts and publishing material. Clarification was given with respect to the cost of the Video News Review and it was pointed out that subsidies given to churches erecting signs that use the global church logo had been a local conference initiative. Because the Press and the Media have their own agenda they are not necessarily interested in the things that we are doing. Nevertheless skills can be developed at getting stories into the local press where individuals are prepared to attend the training courses offered.

Whereas we have often been somewhat behind in preparing ourselves technically for the future it was suggested that within the next five years Media Training Centres should be set up to train lay members to get involved with the media. Rather than voting a motion to this effect on the floor it was recommended that this suggestion should be referred to the BUC executive committee for consideration.

VOTED
to accept the report.

Michael Stickland indicated that what he should say in his report would be by the way of response to some of the observations and questions made by delegates during other reports. He began by paying tribute to Fretson K Taylor the former principal of the then Voice of Prophecy. He asked the delegates to include in their vote to accept the report a special vote of thanks to Fretson K Taylor.

Alluding to the Dwight Nelson observation in his video clip shown on Wednesday evening – that the people we seek to reach have less and less knowledge of the Bible – he underlined the fact that one of the reasons the ADC exists is to help people acquire a working knowledge of the scriptures. To this end the ADC has developed some new courses to introduce people to the basics of Christianity. The results from the NET programme indicated that most baptisms came from people who had been brought into contact with the church. Since the chances of bringing someone to a decision by one event are very rare, the ADC exists to bring people near to the church. Concern was expressed that inside the church fewer and fewer people have a working knowledge of witnessing. Reference was drawn to the disturbing picture that in 40 of the churches in the Union the minister is listed as the Personal Ministries leader. If fewer churches have a structured witnessing programme what does that speak for the future? Another challenge was to be seen from the fact that the health courses offered by the ADC are taken up by a large portion of Asian people. However, such students do not make the transition to Bible courses. The ADC has been speak-
Adventist Discovery Centre Report (continued) 34

ing with Asian members to see how it might assist pupils in making
that transition. The principal indicated that while the self-suffi-
ciency of the ADC was part of the BUC Strategic Plan this would
need to be married with the facts in the report that indicated that
while the BUC grant had increased year by year across the quin-
quennium to a current level of £80,000, this was balanced by the
fact that the current salary costs were in the region of £90,000.

In response to queries regarding the availability of lessons on
line, M J Stickland informed delegates that the ‘Discover’ course
is offered in the USA and the ADC simply plugs into that provi-
sion. The ‘Start into Life’ course is also available on line but at
the moment there are no plans to make the health courses avail-
able via this medium. The treasurer clarified one or two questions
relating to the financial part of the report.

VOTED

to accept the report with an additional special vote of thanks to
Fretson K Taylor its former principal.

Motion - B Webster 35

B Webster proposed a motion that the eligibility requirement to
benefit from the sabbatical policy be reduced from the current 15
years. Discussion followed as to the best way of handling the motion - whether to table it until one of the Union officers could be present or for the chair to speak to the Union president requesting the latter to make a statement on the subject.

VOTED

to request the chair to ask the Union president to make a state-
ment on the sabbatical policy.

Women’s Ministries Report 36

Heather Haworth told the delegates that Women’s Ministries had been team work, with the majority of the team members being lay people. The basis of the growth within the department had been achieved by use of cell-groups. The report highlighted the overseas projects that had been supported by women’s min-
istries. Two young women within the BUC had benefited from
scholarships provided by the General Conference from the prof-
its on the special annual devotional book. The department had
produced a Women’s Ministries manual illustrating different
methods for sharing one’s faith and a magazine for use with
those on the fringe of the church. It had also experimented with a
‘Mums and Daughters’ retreat that had proved very successful.

In the light of the percentage of female church members and
the twenty-five per cent of time that the director was allocated for
Women’s Ministries it was requested that consideration be given
to increasing her time. A motion to ask the incoming administra-
tion to request the chair to ask the Union president to make a state-
ment concerning the possibility of recovering VAT. The Union treasurer explained that except for one or two specialised areas it cannot claim the VAT back since the church is not registered for the payment of VAT. It was requested that the Union treasurer give further research to this matter and report back to the constituency in due course.

VOTED

to record the presentation of the Seventh-day Adventist
Association and Seventh-day Adventist Trust Company reports.

B Wiklander, chair of the Nominating Committee, brought its final
report which was read by the committee secretary, Cynthia
Southcott. The report was divided into five parts. The chair sug-
gested that the delegates voted to approve the report in sec-
tions.

Irish Mission President
Scottish Mission President
Welsh Mission President
Missions Secretary-Treasurer

Irish Mission President
Scottish Mission President
Welsh Mission President
Missions Secretary-Treasurer

VOTED

to accept the nominations for Missions Officers.

Buc Departmental Directors 38

Personal Ministries Director
Communications Director
Education Director
Health Ministries & Adult
Sabbath School Director
Women’s Ministries &
Children’s Ministries Director
Youth Ministries & Student
Chaplaincy Director
Ministrial Association Secretary

VOTED

to accept the nominations for BUC Departmental Directors.

C R Perry (chair)
E C Lowe (secretary)
V Pilmoor
L R Edwards
VOTED to approve the motion to refer the assignment of the above Functions to the incoming BUC executive committee.

C R Perry expressed appreciation to the Nominating Committee for its work and to B B Beach for acting as chair of the afternoon session.

Session adjourned with prayer by M L Anthony at 5.35 pm.

VOTED to record the presentation of field reports from the Welsh Mission and the North England Conference.

Harald Wollan (chair) and Eric Lowe (secretary) brought a partial report from the Credentials & Licenses Committee, designed to prepare the way for the ordination service on Sabbath afternoon.

In the light of the approval already voted by the South England Conference and the British Union Conference executive committees the Licenses & Credentials committee were recommending that the following ministerial workers be ordained to the gospel ministry.

Japhet De Oliveira
Robert Hines
Steve McKenzie
Colin Stewart
Steve Thomas

VOTED to approve the ordination of the above individuals.

The evening concluded with a vespers service conducted by Dalbert Elias. He led the congregation through an ‘Encounter with God’ which included prayer, Bible readings, silent prayer, singing, collective reading, and meditation. Robert Vine and Mary Barrett also took part in the service.

Sabbath School was conducted by R J B Willis and centred around a presentation by Andrea Luxton, principal of Newbold College, of the lesson. Using a series of 12 images projected on to the big screen she asked members of the congregation to consider which image best fitted their idea of the Sabbath.

Divine Service: Special guests from the ecumenical community included: Mrs Ruth Duck, a lay worker and lay preacher with a local Methodist church; Canon Robin Fletcher, Secretary of Churches Together in York; and Major Alan Dixon, Territorial Ecumenical Officer for the Salvation Army in the UK. These guests were welcomed by local church pastor Roger Neal and by B B Beach.

Special music was provided by the Manchester choir and before the sermon Miss Xoli Mangena conducted an interview with General Conference President J an Paulsen.
In his sermon Jan Paulsen used the theme of 'journeys', comparing the life of a Christian to that of a travelling pilgrim.

**Ordination Service**
The afternoon Ordination service commenced at 3.30 pm. Those ordained were: Robert Hines, Steven McKenzie, Colin Stewart, Steve Thomas and Japheth De Oliveira, all from the South England Conference. The main sermon was given by BUC President Cecil R Perry.

**ADRA-UK Report**
The evening programme began at 7.00 pm with a presentation by ADRA-UK director Raafat Kamal. Thanks were expressed to a number of individuals: Mrs Chantal Alen, the ADRA-UK office secretary; David Balderstone, Harry Wilby, A Welch, John Barron, all ADRA volunteers.

**Evangelism Presentation**
Hamilton Williams used the telling illustration of a bottle of Coca Cola to catch everyone’s attention and challenged them with the question, “Why are we not as well known as Coca Cola?” If the latter is little more than coloured, sweetened water should we not be more successful in distributing our product since it is so much better. He challenged delegates with the simple thought that if every member could just win one person over the next five years, then the next time we meet we would have forty thousand members in the British Union Conference.

**Newbold Report**
Prior to the report TED President Bertil Wiklander explained that the Newbold College Principal, Andrea Luxton, would shortly be leaving to take up a new position in Canada. He expressed deep appreciation for what she had accomplished for the College during her leadership. TED Education director, Orville Woolford, took up the theme and explained the process whereby her successor would be selected.

In her report Dr Luxton spoke of the advances which have been made in the area of accreditation. Newbold now has external validation in Postgraduate Biblical, Pastoral and Theological Studies. She also mentioned the new courses that had become available in Counselling, Leadership and Islamic Studies.

**Vespers**
In his address D Masih compared the BUC Session with the very first ‘session’ the council recorded in the first chapter in the book of Acts. With no budget and no department they simply relied on the Spirit of God.

**Sunday 29 July 2001**

**Devotional**
Using the experience of Gideon and the twelve spies to reflect on the session motto, ‘United by the Word’, O Woolford indicated that we often find it difficult to receive God’s word due to the influence of our surrounding circumstances. He urged delegates not to go home and allow the challenges of the local church situation to rob them of His word that they had heard at York. It is time to trust God and the power of His Spirit. Referring to H Williams’ evangelistic presentation on Sabbath evening he reminded his audience that they had been challenged to bring one person to Christ during the next quinquennium. He further reminded the delegates that they had been sent to York to be part of the decision making for the future. Using the analogy of the twelve spies he asked them what kind of report they were going to take back to their local districts. He encouraged them to be like the two faithful spies who trusted God, looking not at the difficulties but at the power of God to accomplish His purpose.

**Session 6**
**Chairperson:** C R Perry

The final report from the Licenses & Credentials Committee was presented by the secretary E C Lowe.

**VOTED**
to grant the following credentials and licenses with the proviso that any qualifying names which are missing from the list be referred to the incoming BUC executive committee.

**BRITISH UNION CONFERENCE**
**Ministerial Credential**

- G M Bell
- D G Boldeau
- A D Hodges
- E C Lowe
- D N Marshall
- V Nambo
- C R Perry
- B P Phillips
- M J Stickland
- J C Surridge
- M K Taylor
- H J Williams
- R J B Willis

**BRITISH UNION CONFERENCE**
**Missionary Credential**

- P Archer
- Mrs C Bellamy
- K A Davidson
- Mrs A Dove
- M R Dove
- Mrs S Godman
- Mrs H Haworth
- Mrs J J Johnson
- R Kamal
- Mrs M Kapon
- W N Kapon
- Mrs C J Menkens
- D G Papaioannou
- Mrs V E Pearce
- Mrs J Taylor
BRITISH UNION CONFERENCE
Missionary License
Mrs C Allen
M Garkov
C de Silva

GOOD HEALTH ASSOCIATION (SCOTLAND) LTD
Missionary Credential
P Bennett
Miss J Perry
M J Thompson

STANBOROUGH SCHOOL
Commissioned Ministry of Teaching Credential
J Butters
Mrs D Lunan
R W Menkens
R Murphy
K Poddar
Mrs S Poddar
S Rivers

STANBOROUGH SCHOOL
Commissioned Ministry of Teaching License
Mrs F Allen
D Edwards
R McKie
M Koo

STANBOROUGH SCHOOL
Missionary Credential
Mrs K Best
Mrs C Chisholm
Mrs J Hinks
D Paley

STANBOROUGH SCHOOL
Missionary License
Mrs P Alexander
Mrs V Evers
A Leonce
Mrs G Leonce

STANBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL
Commissioned Ministry of Teaching Credential
Mrs D Tompkins
Mrs J S Willis

STANBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL
Commissioned Ministry of Teaching License
Mrs C A Allen
Mrs B Clee
Mrs J Koziol
Mrs E Scott-Riddell
Mrs D A Wilson

STANBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL
Missionary License
Mrs J Ramharack singh
Mrs T Young

THE STANBOROUGH PRESS LTD
Missionary Credential
G M Barham
Mrs G Barradine
Mrs B Bell
G Cox
Mrs J Pearce
L Gallaher
Mrs M Hammond
P Hammond
S Holdens
Mrs A Howard
Miss A Johns
E Johnson
B Mallison
Mrs A Marshall
D C Pearce
P Poddar
J Sutton
Mrs D Tompkins
I Thompson

BUC Honorary Ministerial Credential
L P Anderson
M L Anthony
D R L Astleford
C D Baidham
D C Beardsell
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Adult Sabbath School Report 45

R J B Willis stated that the Adult Sabbath School report was a summation of the work that had been done at the conference and mission levels and reported at their respective sessions. Concentration had been given during the period to the training of teachers/facilitators and this area had been covered fairly well. Regrettably senior teachers/leaders had sometimes been the most difficult category to convince that they would benefit from further in-service training. Gratification was expressed with reference to the number of local churches that had taken up the use of the Mission Spotlight videos. However, clarification was given that these videos are not produced by the church but by a private family company. Hence the reason for the cost element involved. Local churches were encouraged to utilise the resources provided in the Sabbath School Leadership Journal produced by the department at the General Conference level. Finally, thanks were expressed to the secretary of the department, Dawn Tompkins.

The following observations and questions followed the presentation of the report. While the switching of the divine service and Sabbath School slots on a Sabbath morning could provide an occasional change, it was not recommended as a regular routine. There are far more valuable experiments that can be explored to give variety within the local Sabbath School programme. It was suggested that unless the General Conference takes over the production of the Mission Spotlight videos there is little likelihood of their being available at greater frequency. However, local Sabbath Schools do have the opportunity of using suitable spots in the communication videos where appropriate. It was stated that while the attendance and activity statistics were valuable at the local church and possibly at the conference level, it was stated that while the attendance and activity statistics were valuable at the local church and possibly at the conference level, these had not been kept at the Division and Union level for a number of years.

VOTED
to accept the Adult Sabbath School Report.

呈报人对 Michael Webb

A presentation was made by E Lowe to Michael Webb of Conference House for his assistance in locating York as a venue for the Session and for arranging the accommodation for the delegates.

Heather Haworth began her report by challenging churches to make the appropriate investment in the programmes for their children. She observed that while churches are often willing to set aside significant funds for evangelistic programmes they are not always willing to invest in updating the materials for the children. She suggested that great care should be taken to select the appropriate environment for the children’s programmes. They should not end up with the broom cupboard! Training sessions had been offered throughout the Union on the use of the new GraceLink materials. These had been piloted in the British Union Conference and the final section would be coming on stream in 2002. While there had been no Family Ministries department at the Union during the quinquennium due to its close ties with Children’s Ministries the latter department had carried a co-ordinating role for Family Ministries. In this connection work was currently in progress on a training programme for implementing the ‘Keeping Our Church Family Safe’ policy document. Thanks were expressed to Judith Willis and Sharon Godman who had provided secretarial support and to the team of lay personnel in the conferences/mission.

Delegates raised questions relating to the desire to see the department being represented at the conference level, the possibility of placing the GraceLink material on the BUC website and the appropriate lesson for the late teens. Positive recommendation was given to the value of the ‘Little Friend’ and ‘Primary Treasure’ papers that are produced by the General Conference department being represented at the conference level, the possibility of placing the GraceLink material on the BUC website and the appropriate lesson for the late teens. Positive recommendation was given to the value of the ‘Little Friend’ and ‘Primary Treasure’ papers that are produced by the General Conference department being represented at the conference level, the possibility of placing the GraceLink material on the BUC website and the appropriate lesson for the late teens. Positive recommendation was given to the value of the ‘Little Friend’ and ‘Primary Treasure’ papers that are produced by the General Conference.
VOTED to accept the Strategic Plan along with the amendments and additions made by the Plans Committee (copy filed with office minutes).

Whereas the Plans Committee had received additional material from delegates at the session that they had been unable to work through given the time limitations,

VOTED that this Additional Appendix of Plans received by the Plans Committee from the floor be referred to the incoming British Union Conference executive committee for study and implementation as appropriate (copy filed with office minutes).

Sunday 29 July 2001
11.52 am
Report from the Standing Committee on Constitution

E C Lowe, the chair of the Standing Committee on Constitution explained that the proposed amendments to the British Union Conference Constitution and its attached Model Conference and Mission Constitutions had been referred to the Session by the outgoing Constitution committee and the Union executive committee. They had also been sent to the Charity Commissioners who had raised no objections to their implementation. It was pointed out that the delegates had received copies of the proposed amendments more than 28 days before the Session in harmony with the requirement of Article 21 of the Constitution.

The proposed amendments fell into categories. Many changes were of a cosmetic nature including the standardisation of titles and abbreviations, the presentation of numbers, consistent use of expressions, and the additional word or phrase to help elucidate meaning or the deletion of a redundant word or phrase. In addition there were a few major changes of substance.

VOTED by a two-thirds majority that in order to expedite business the delegates take an action to accept the cosmetic changes throughout the document en bloc but that a separate action would be taken on each of the major amendments.

BUC Constitution - Cosmetic Changes 50

VOTED to approve the cosmetic changes as outlined above throughout the BUC Constitution and Model Conference and Mission constitutions by the requisite two-thirds majority.

The secretary of the Constitution Committee, H Walters, read out the following major amendments and a separate vote was taken on each:

VOTED to accept the amendment to Article 9 (a) (i) with the required two-thirds majority:
(a) (i) A Recommendations Committee shall be appointed for each regularly scheduled constituency meeting session and where required for extraordinary session. It shall consist of eleven (11) thirteen (13) representatives from the South England Conference, seven (7) representatives from the North England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and two (2) representatives from each Mission, and the president of the Trans-European Division or his designee who shall serve as chairman.

BUC Article 9 (a) (i) 51

VOTED to accept the amendment to Article 9 (b) with the required two-thirds majority:
(b) Each regularly scheduled constituency meeting of this Union Conference shall elect a standing constitution committee. The Constitution committee shall function between the regularly scheduled sessions of the constituency as a standing committee, and shall submit its reports and detailed recommendations to the Executive Committee for consideration by the constitution committee at the next session.

BUC Article 9 (b) 52

VOTED to accept the amendments to Article 16 (c) - Minority meetings of the executive committees and identical changes to the Model Conference and Missions Constitutions with the required two-thirds majority:

BUC Constitution Article 16 (c):
(c) Minority meetings of less than seven (7) but not less than three members of the Executive Committee, including at least one (1) of the Executive Officers, may be held for the transaction of necessary urgent business, but all actions at such meetings must be reported promptly to the other members of the Executive Committee and shall be minuted at the next regular session of the Executive Committee.

Model Conference Constitution Article 14 (c)
(c) Minority meetings of less than seven members, fifty percent (50%) but not less than three members of the Executive Committee, including at least one (1) of the Executive Officers, may be held for the transaction of necessary urgent business but all action at such meetings must be reported promptly to the other members of the Executive Committee and shall be minuted at the next regular session of the Executive Committee.

BUC Article 16 (C) & Model Conference Article 14 (C) & Model Mission Article 15 (C) 53
The sources of funds of this Union Conference shall be:

1. The income arising from any projects conducted through the funds of this Conference shall be as follows:
   - Donations for the work of the Union Conference
   - Any rents arising from property owned by or on behalf of the Union Conference
   - Any other grants made to this Union Conference by the Seventh-day Adventist organisations
   - Any returns from investments made by this Union Conference out of its own resources
   - Any income arising out of the day to day business operations of this Union Conference
   - Any gifts, donations, legacies, or similar monies made or payable to this Union Conference
   - Any other income in cash or in kind reasonably deemed to be receivable by this Union Conference

2. A tithe of the surplus income in every year of institutions, after deducting tithe, as may be arranged by joint counsel of the Executive Committee of this Union Conference and the Boards of Management of those institutions.

3. Such percentage of the surplus income in every year of those institutions, after deducting tithe, as may be arranged by joint counsel of the Executive Committee of this Union Conference and the Boards of Management of those institutions.

4. Such percentage of the surplus income in every year of those institutions, after deducting tithe, as may be arranged by joint counsel of the Executive Committee of this Union Conference and the Boards of Management of those institutions.

5. Such percentage of the surplus income in every year of those institutions, after deducting tithe, as may be arranged by joint counsel of the Executive Committee of this Union Conference and the Boards of Management of those institutions.

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9. Such percentage of the surplus income in every year of those institutions, after deducting tithe, as may be arranged by joint counsel of the Executive Committee of this Union Conference and the Boards of Management of those institutions.

10. Such percentage of the surplus income in every year of those institutions, after deducting tithe, as may be arranged by joint counsel of the Executive Committee of this Union Conference and the Boards of Management of those institutions.

The funds of this Union Conference shall be as follows:

- Income from investments or property and bank interest
- Receipts from appeals or collection
- Such percentage of the surplus income in every year of institutions as may be granted by the conferences/missions in harmony with, and by virtue of their acceptance of the policies of this Union Conference
- Any other income in cash or in kind reasonably deemed to be receivable by this Union Conference

The tithe income granted by the conferences/missions in harmony with, and by virtue of their acceptance of the policies of this Union Conference shall be applied in furtherance of the charitable purpose(s). It being understood that all such income should be subject to legal entitlement on the part of this Union Conference, and be given for and used in the furtherance of its charitable purpose(s).

This Union Conference may receive, hold in trust, and forward any third party funds channelled through it to the General Conference and Trans-European Division or within the territory of this Union Conference to the Seventh-day Adventist Retirement Plan or to any conference, mission, or Seventh-day Adventist institution.

The funds of this Union Conference shall be as follows:

- The tithe income granted by the conferences/missions in harmony with, and by virtue of their acceptance of the policies of this Union Conference
- Any other grants made to this Union Conference by the Seventh-day Adventist organisations
- Any returns from investments made by this Union Conference out of its own resources
- Any income arising out of the day to day business operations of this Union Conference
- Any gifts, donations, legacies, or similar monies made or payable to this Union Conference
- Any other income in cash or in kind reasonably deemed to be receivable by this Union Conference

The Union Conference shall receive and hold in trust for the operation of the Retirement Fund for the support of such dependent widows, widowers, and orphans of employees as may be voted by the Executive Committee of this Union Conference.

The Union Conference shall receive and hold in trust for the advancement of any work under its management or supervision, and for the support of such dependent widows, widowers, and orphans of employees as may be voted by the Executive Committee of this Union Conference.

The Union Conference shall receive and hold in trust for the support of such dependent widows, widowers, and orphans of employees as may be voted by the Executive Committee of this Union Conference.

The Union Conference shall receive and hold in trust for the support of such dependent widows, widowers, and orphans of employees as may be voted by the Executive Committee of this Union Conference.
The sources of funds of this Conference shall be:

(i) Income from the churches, companies and isolated members within its territory;
(ii) Any other grants made to this Conference by Seventh-day Adventist organisations and receivable by this Conference;
(iii) Any rents arising from property owned by or on behalf of this Conference;
(iv) Any returns from investments made by this Conference out of its own resources;
(v) Any income arising out of the day to day business operations of this Conference;
(vi) Any gifts, donations, legacies, or similar monies made or payable to this Conference;
(vii) Any other income in cash or in kind reasonably deemed to be receivable by this Conference; it being understood that all such income should be subject to legal entitlement on the part of this Conference, and be given for and used in the furtherance of its purpose(s).

This Conference may receive, hold in trust, and forward any third party funds channelled through it to the British Union Conference or the Trans-European Division of Seventh-day Adventists and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists or, within the territory of the British Union Conference, to the Seventh-day Adventist Retirement Plan or to any conference, mission, or Seventh-day Adventist institution.

Article 17
Finances and Funds
Sources of Funds

(a) The funds of this Mission shall be as follows:
(i) Income from the churches, companies and isolated members within its territory;
(ii) Any other grants made to this Mission by Seventh-day Adventist organisations and receivable by this Mission;
(iii) Any rents arising from property owned by or on behalf of this Mission;
(iv) Any returns from investments made by this Mission out of its own resources;
(v) Any income arising out of the day to day business operations of this Mission;
(vi) Any gifts, donations, legacies, or similar monies made or payable to this Mission;
(vii) Any other income in cash or in kind reasonably deemed to be receivable by this Mission; it being understood that all such income should be subject to legal entitlement on the part of this Mission, and be given for and used in the furtherance of its purpose(s).

This Mission may receive, hold in trust, and forward any third party funds channelled through it to the British Union Conference or the Trans-European Division of Seventh-day Adventists and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists or, within the territory of this Mission to the Seventh-day Adventist Retirement Plan or to any conference, mission or Seventh-day Adventist institution.
Constitution and any directions as to policy or otherwise and any regulations given or made by this Mission in session.

(a) Between sessions the Executive Committee shall manage the affairs of this Mission exercising all the powers of this Mission in session subject to the Constitution and directives of this Mission in session.

(b) The Executive Committee in counsel with the British Union Conference officers may recommend to the British Union Conference Committee, between sessions, the removal from office for just and adequate cause any Officer, Departmental Director/Sponsor of this Mission, or from the Executive Committee any member thereof, provided that such action has the consent of at least by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Executive Committee by personal vote. The British Union Conference Executive Committee has, by a two-thirds vote, final authority in such removal from office and may initiate such proceedings if deemed necessary.

A final vote was taken to accept all the proposed amendments (cosmetic and major) as printed in the Supplementary Book. Approved by a two-thirds majority.

Resolution Of Gratitude

VOTED to accept the following Resolution of Gratitude thanking

1. All the delegates for their participation in the business of the Session.
2. Our government that allows and encourages religious liberty so that we can worship with freedom of conscience.
3. God, who has given us a message and mission; for His unfailing mercies and what He has done for us and for His church.

Thanks C R Perry expressed thanks to the many individuals and various committees who had served the church during the quinquennium and in the planning and executive of the session and gave a final rallying call to the delegates before adjourning the session.

Closing Prayer

B Wiklander

C R Perry Chair

Eric C Lowe Secretary
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Reid Masie (NEC)  Stephenson Clyde (SEC)
Reid Leslie (SEC)  Stewart Oscar (BUC)
Reid Patricia (SEC)  Stewart Leonard (NEC)
Reider Boucha (SEC)  Stewart Colin (SEC)
Rhamie Gifford (SEC)  Stewart Margaret (SEC)
Rhodes Philip (IM)  Stewart-Henry Beverley (SEC)
Richards Millie (NEC)  Stickland Mike (BUC)
Riley William (NEC)  Stickland Nathan (IM)
Rivers Steve (BUC)  Stickland Sheila (SEC)
Roberts Steve (SEC)  Stokes Barry (NEC)
Robertson Neil (NEC)  Stoltz Eleonore (NEC)
Robertson Francis (SEC)  Stroud Donald (SEC)
Robertson Margaret (BUC)  Surridge John (BUC)
Rock Maureen (BUC)  Sweerey Cyril (NEC)
Rodd Bob (BUC)  Taffe Horace (SEC)
Rodney Martin (SEC)  Taylor Dorothy (NEC)
Rodney Deyonne (SEC)  Taylor Malcolm (SEC)
Roman Emel (SEC)  Taylor Michael (BUC)
Rossiter Michael (NEC)  Taylor Freton (BUC)
Rutapanira Jonathan (SEC)  Tennant Clinton (SEC)
Sabadin Brenda (SEC)  Thomas Kevin (SEC)
Sabadin Marc (SEC)  Thomas Mary (SEC)
Sabater Maritza (SEC)  Thomas Elizabeth (SEC)
Sabatier Jude (SEC)  Thomas Steve (SEC)
Sackey Ebenezer (SEC)  Thompson Joy (NEC)
Sammons Mike (WM)  Thompson Joyce (SEC)
Samuels Hazel (SEC)  Todd Nigel (SEC)
Saunders Julia (NEC)  Tompkins Paul (TED)
Saunders Li (WM)  Toy Michael (SEC)
Savalani David (NEC)  Tsotetsi Audrey (SEC)
Scoon George (SEC)  Turner Linda (NEC)
Sealy Selvin (SEC)  Vine Robert (SEC)
Sem-Akomah Kwadwo (NEC)  Vine Vivienne (SEC)
Senior Gloria (NEC)  Vine Richard (WM)
Sharp Angela (SEC)  Virgo Shirley (NEC)
Sharp William (SEC)  Vontzalidis Aristote (SEC)
Sharpe Ingrid (NEC)  Vontzalidis Sophia (SEC)
Shepherd Glendine (SEC)  Walker Michael (SEC)
Simon Eutella (SEC)  Walters Humphrey (SEC)
Simon Velvet (SEC)  Wastling Margaret (SEC)
Sinclair Edward (SEC)  Watson Kelvin (SEC)
Sisson George (IM)  Webster Bryan (NEC)
Slann Richard (SEC)  Wedderburn May (SEC)
Sleeman Ian (SEC)  Weekes Eddieon (SEC)
Smart Michael (SEC)  West Andrew (NEC)
Smith Geoff (NEC)  West David (SEC)
Smith Gordon (SM)  West Edbet (SEC)
Somasingh Drene (SEC)  Whitehead Winston (SEC)
Somasingh Ashwin (SEC)  Whyte Evadne (NEC)
Southcott Cynthia (SEC)  Wikander Bertil (TED)
Southcott Watson (BUC)  Williams Thelma (NEC)
Spearing David (SEC)  Williams Elliott (SEC)
Stanislaus Raymond (SEC)  Williams Audrey (SEC)

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Treasury Team
Victor Pilmoor, Donovan Cleary, Mike Garkov, Michael Taylor (retired), Maritza Sabatier, Carolyn Bellamy

ADRA Team

Manager BUC Media Services
Wes Kapon

Receptionist
Jacqui Johnson

Estate Groundsman/Maintenance
Gary Montague
Peter Archer (retired)
British Union Conference Executive Committee
16th September 2004

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Third Row: F Winder, N Todd, S Rivers, G M Bell, P Hammond, A King, A Officer, G Baxter, D Penner
Missing: G B Boleau, K A Davidson, D N Marshall, I Sherman, I Sweeney
New Appointments – September/October 2004: M Hyles, D R Noel, H G Waters

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3. Mary Barrett
4. Mike Garkov
5. Donovan Cleary
6. Dawn Tompkins
7. Mary Kapon
8. Michelle Lewis
9. Ellen Bryant
10. Judith Willis
11. Jacquei Johnson
12. Valerie Austin
13. Gary Montague
14. Carolyn Bellamy
15. Joan Taylor
16. Juan Hensens
17. Viviane Voin
18. Paula Carrillo
19. Phillip Anderson
20. Peter Archdeacon
21. Martha Sadler
22. Valerie Pearce
23. Thelma Hodges
24. Natalie Davison
25. Wes Kapon