

Monday, June 9

the big hope

daily newsletter of the World Youth Congress



HISTORIC VISIT...A number of Big Hope delegates took the opportunity to go on one of the many visits planned during the congress. They visited the Slavery Museum at the Albert Dock
PICTURE: THOMAS O'MALLEY

LISTENING UP

BY CHARLENE RODRIGUES
BIG HOPE DELEGATE

MOVING INTO THE FIFTH DAY of the Big Hope Global Youth Congress, yet another exciting line up of speakers as we hear more on insightful topics with respect to living in a Christian world of oppression, ethics and best practices in the life of a corporate.

After a week of captivating speeches ranging from creating a more global humane society to the privilege of making a difference, delegates can now look forward to three distinctive personalities all who have made an exceptional mark in their field of expertise.

Starting with our first key note speaker John Sentamu, Archbishop of York. By virtue of this position also the first black Archbishop in the Church of England he will address the young audience on *Christian Opposition to Oppression* at Liverpool Hope. For more details on his background, refer to page three.

This will be followed by a session on *Value of Values* by Stephen Green, Group Chairman of

More speakers stress our need for values

HSBC Holdings plc. With his extensive experience in the field of banking and having worked in different countries, Green will impart his ideas and beliefs on practising corporate ethics in the world of finance. Elected as Chairman of the British Bankers' Association in November 2006, he is also a member of the Prime Minister's Business Council for Britain, since its inception in July 2007 and a trustee of the British Museum.

And who better to represent the world of media and communications at Big Hope? We are delighted to welcome Stephen Wall, chairman at one of the world's top three PR agencies, Hill and Knowlton Public Affairs (EMEA) who will speak on *Europe at 50; What value in a changed world?* Until last year, he was foreign policy adviser to ex-British Prime Minister Tony Blair.



OPPOSITION...John Sentamu

JOHN SENTAMU'S ADDRESS
@ SPORTS HALL @ 9AM

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TRIALS TO BE AT CONGRESS

How one delegate overcame hardship to be here

IT ALL STARTED TO GO WRONG 10 DAYS prior to the Global Youth Congress for Alison Jildeh.

She approached the British Embassy in Jerusalem, and to her disappointment was told a visa will be issued in two weeks. By then the Global Youth Congress would be over.

A delegate of the Focolare Movement, 21-year old Alison, from Palestine shares with us her struggle on overcoming her ordeals in her journey to The Big Hope, at Liverpool Hope University.

On receiving the invitation for the Big Hope, Alison already knew in her mind, this was something she wanted to attend but was unsure as to how she would go about the procedures for visa formalities.

After her frustration with the British Embassy in Palestine in spite of the much required effort, her only saving grace was when an employee at the Embassy premises suggested she travel to Amman. Alison contemplated the idea for several days and discussed the same with her friends and family, wondering is it worth all the risk.

One fine day at 10 pm, she made up her mind to leave. "I was feeling a strong voice inside of me, as if god was inviting me and I was not making any effort, that's when I decided I had to work out something," she said.

She was prepared for the odds ahead of her.

PROFILE by **BY CHARLENE RODRIGUES**

Several thoughts ran through her mind, the three hour journey to Amman, non reimbursement of the visa fees if the visa got rejected and the unpleasant financial situation at home.

"I set out early morning to Amman by bus, not quite sure as to what was in store for me. With immense Faith and Hope, I felt God reassuring me, like he was telling me he has brought me this far, and was not going to leave me behind."

"After the submission of all the required documents at the British Consulate in Amman, I was told by evening I would be given the status as to whether I could travel," she said. Several hours of anxiety and waiting, Alison returned to the embassy only to hear the good news that she got the visa and was able to travel to The Big Hope.

Many other applicants were rejected earlier. But her story does not end here.

Speaking with fellow participants over intervals at the Big Hope she realised some participants didn't have it any less. One particular one which she relates to us was about a member from Uganda who arrived to the wrong destination in London and didn't have a place to rest.

Since it was late at night he slept at the railway station, and the next morning to his regret was robbed.

Alison says, "When I heard of his story, I thought mine was

MONDAY FORUMS ROUND-UP (09.00-11.00)

ETHICAL BUSINESS LEADERSHIP

Sponsored by Key Travel

VENUE: LTCA

CHAIR: John Brinkman, Dean of Business and Barry Clavin, Ethical Policy Manager, Co-Operative Bank ; Sumeet Jereet; Ajay Sodha, Chief Executive, Key Travel

Widening Participation in Higher Education

VENUE: LTC005

CHAIR: Tessa Owens, Centre for Learning and Teaching, Liverpool Hope; Patrick Davey; Mountains of The Moon University, Uganda; David Dennison, Director of Centre for Widening Participation, Liverpool Hope; Silvia Florea, Lucian Blaga University, Sibiu, Romania; Ian Scott, Director, Centre for Higher Education Development, University of Cape Town, South Africa; Dianne Willcocks, Vice Chancellor of York St John University

INTERCULTURAL CAPITAL

Sponsored by the Liverpool Culture Company

VENUE: SPORTS HALL

CHAIR: Sir Bob Scott

Mary Beaumont, Skills and Learning Manager, Liverpool Culture Company; Cllr Flo Clucas, Member Executive Board Liverpool City Council; Ruth Gould, Creative Director of the North West Disability Arts Forum; Claire McColgan, 2008 Executive Producer; Neil Peterson, Head of Liverpool Welcome, Liverpool Culture Company

Integrity in Public Life

Venue: LTCB

CHAIR: Justin Welby, Dean of Liverpool Cathedral
John Hume, Nobel Peace Prize Winner;
Patrick Kelly, Archbishop of Liverpool;
Alfred Ndahiro, Advisor to the President of Rwanda on Communication and Public Relations; Alejandro Rodriguez, Director, Youth With a Mission, Argentina; Stephen Wall, British Ambassador to Portugal from 1993-95 Head of the European Secretariat in the Cabinet Office and EU adviser to the

Tony Blair from 2000-04; and Principal Adviser to the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster from June 2004-June 2005.

HOW ART CAN SAVE THE WORLD

Sponsored by Milap Festival Trust

VENUE: LTCI

Chair: Howard Raynor, Northwest Regional Arts Council; Abdul Kalam, President, Republic of India, 2002-2007; Nirupama Rajendra, Famous Indian Dancer

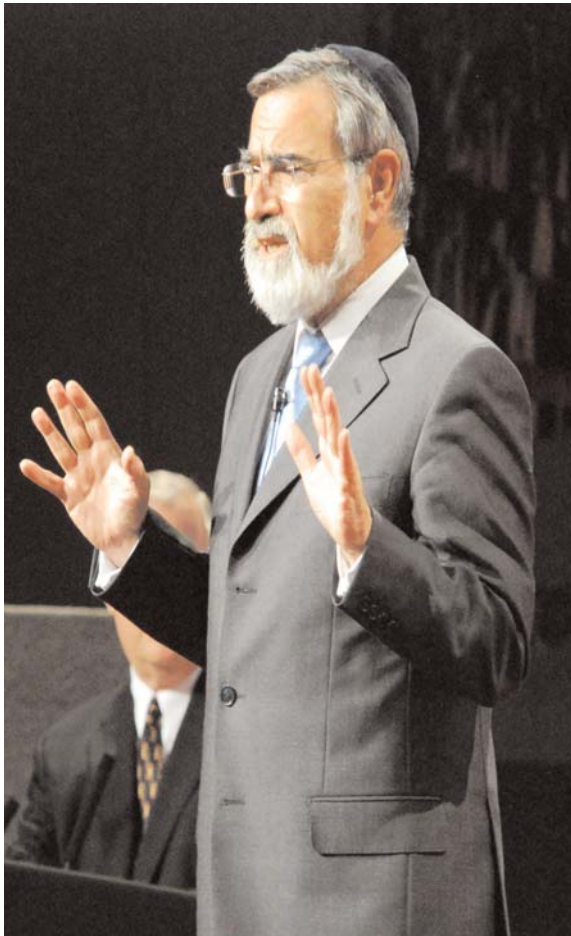
Eugene Skeef, a South African percussionist, composer, poet, educationalist and animator. Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and member of the board of directors of the London Philharmonic Orchestra.; Sarah Champion; CEO, Chinese Arts Centre, Manchester



NOBEL WINNER... John Hume

www.hope.ac.uk/thebighope

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VISION...Rabbi Sir Jonathan Sacks delivers his address PICTURE: THOMAS O'MALLEY

Rabbi's call for change

BY RAYYAN SABET-PARRY

CAN AN INCREASINGLY RELIGIOUS WORLD achieve world peace' was the main theme of Rabbi Sir Jonathan Sacks address on Thursday's main stage.

Britain's Chief Rabbi dubbed as a "distinguished spiritual leader" by Prime Minister Gordon Brown, touched on three major themes: faith in modern societies, why religion has become a source of conflict and what we can do to change the world.

The intellectual and inspiring talk mixed humour with academia, effortlessly combining stories and scientific examples to back up his main points. Rabbi Sacks described each of the major world religions lust for power as 'madness'.

Sir Jonathan began his speech by condemning the blatant domination of power and wealth in today's societies, and challenged it with the need for 'spiritual goods' such as knowledge, love and trust.

He emphasised the lives of the Prophets and the hardships they endured. He said it is they whose influence lives on thousands of years later, and not the lives of monarchs and clerics who have been long forgotten.

His final point addressed what we can do as individuals to change the world.

He used the story of a black man who moved in to an all white neighbourhood instantly feeling out of place. Whilst running these thoughts through his mind a resident greets him with kindness and cookies, instantly changing his perspective and view on life.

One action can inspire a universe.

Mary's hopes for future

BY LILLIAN NALUMANSI

PRESIDENT Mary McAleese commended the choice of the word Big Hope for this congress saying it (the word) resonates indisputably.

"Hope is the great human refusal to say no. It (hope) eventually allows us to refuse to accept the worst that human beings can impose on us. Hope allows us to transcend hatred," she said.

She said with hope, the delegates will be able to overcome problems including racism, sectarianism, segregation, hatred, poverty and conflict.

Recounting the sectarian violence that rocked Ireland for several years forcing many Irish natives to migrate, McAleese said determination from young people to change for the better has contributed to the peace that Ireland enjoys today.

"Our generation grew up on differences. We ransacked history for the minutest differences. It was a winner-takes-it-all culture," she said.

"The story of the Irish immigrants is one of despairing hope where our young people left the country. Now, the situation is different. These immigrants did not want to inherit the toxins that had been passed onto them,

"Instead they sowed seeds of acceptance of one another."

As future leaders, she said young people have to work towards "loving their neighbours as they love themselves" to avoid inheriting the intolerance.

BISHOP BEATS THE RACISTS

A RCHBISHOP OF YORK DR. JOHN SENTAMU IS NO STRANGER TO MAKING BOLD, DEFIANT GESTURES.

On 9th December during a live television interview with Andrew Marr on BBC One, Dr. Sentamu ripped off his clerical collar and cut it with a pair of scissors in protest against Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe. Dr. Sentamu vowed never to replace it until Mugabe is out of office.

The Archbishop's identification with the marginalized and common person and his clear grasp of their concerns has endeared him to the hearts of the British people.

Dr. Sentamu who entered the annals of history when he was appointed the first black Archbishop in the nearly 500 year old Church of England.

The number two in the Church of England is said to be one of the most charismatic religious leaders Britain has seen for years. He is known for his trademark smile, ready laugh and down-to-earth nature. He is conspicuously absent from services, the thriving black churches and to those wanting new ways of seeking the spiritual elements of life.

Dr Sentamu remain a clear moral voice, in touch with both modern life and the church's traditional values.

The churchman is known for his heavy involvement in community affairs and has become a passionate and effective

PROFILE by LILLIAN NALUMANSI

campaigner against racism, guns and gang culture issues that particularly affect young British people.

As Bishop of Stepney and Birmingham, Dr. Sentamu is remembered for his active role in efforts to bring to justice the criminals who murdered four black teenagers.

The two inquiries labeled the Metropolitan police 'institutionally racist' and Dr. Sentamu called for fundamental changes to the criminal justice system which he said favoured defendants over their victims.

The Archbishop is known for his outspoken criticism of racism and said that the church must face up to the under representation of minority ethnic groups in its own ranks.

Dr. Sentamu fled Uganda following death threats from the ruling president dictator Idi Amin. Arriving in Britain in 1974 as an asylum seeker, he went on to study theology to Phd level and was ordained priest five years later.

Dr. Sentamu is married to Margaret, a Senior Selection Secretary in the Ministry Division of the Archbishop's Council and they have two grown up children Grace and Geoffrey.

His interests include music, cooking, reading, athletics, rugby and football.

www.hope.ac.uk/thebighope

Tour of city's sacred places

THE MERSEY Partnership is coordinating a coach tour of some of Liverpool's sacred spaces, the finest places of worship in the country.

The tour will highlight the rich and diverse cultures in our faith communities and their importance and contribution to our city region.

A coach tour of Liverpool's faith sites will follow a brief visit to the Al-Rahma Mosque for a talk on the Abdullah Quilliam Heritage Centre, Britain's first mosque.

Liverpool is a place where faith communities work together. It is an exciting and diverse community and we hope that delegates from the Big Hope conference will be given the chance to experience a glimpse of community cohesion and are able to return to their homes with new ideas.

Delegates are asked to get to the sports hall car park of Hope Park at 6:15pm for a 6:30 pm departure.

Call in and pray

The Chaplaincy has been transformed into an interactive prayer room, open for the Big Hope.

It has been divided into various zones, in which delegates are invited to pray in creative ways. Find it between the Derwent building and the Sports Hall.

DRAW SOME INSPIRATION

BY ALEXANDRA RAYNSFORD

STEVE GATLEY HAS BEEN FOLLOWING the Big Hope very closely using only pencil and paper to record what he sees.

Steve has sketched events from the grand opening ceremony to delegates relaxing and getting to know each other.

Steve is currently the programme leader of Fine Art and Design at Liverpool Hope University, but has not always worked directly in Fine Art and Design; in 1973 Steve was English Teacher in Iran for two years. Later in 1978 Steve started working at Warrington College for Art and Design as the Foundation tutor in textiles.

As well as teaching in 2005 Steve designed the stain glass window for the Chapel window St. Francis of Assisi, in Kensington, Liverpool.

Among the most striking of pictures that Steve has sketched from the Big Hope are a sketch of a sea of delegates. In the middle you can see a small divide where a line of delegates from different countries carry proudly their own flag.



Another great sketch shows delegates sitting and walking round the front of Gateway and relaxing next to the fountain. The sketch shows delegates arriving after long, tiring journeys and getting to know each other.

All of the sketches so far show delegates joining in, either by chatting or listening. You can feel the fun oozing out of each sketch.

● **DIANA SPATAREL**, 23, studies social work and Physical therapy at Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, Romania. She says: "I'm in the 4th year of studies, which is also the final year. In July, I will graduate both Social work and Physical therapy studies. I'm very interested in Pediatrics, Psychiatrics, Child and Youth studies and Group dynamics. These are my favorite fields of study."

● **GRZEGORZ BOBYLA**, 21, studies at Economic University in Krako, Poland. He says: "The Big Hope is an ideal opportunity to get to know new people, countries and their culture. I can also improve my English skills there. "I have always dreamed about seeing beautiful city of Liverpool, city of the fantastic band The Beatles and the home of my favorite football team Liverpool FC."

Meet the delegates

MY NAME IS JACOUB SLEIBI I'm 19 years old and I study Computer Science at Bethlehem University, my aim is to finish my four

years of studying and try to have MA degree, then finding a job in my field of study! I would like to participate in The Big Hope programme to intensify my knowledge about European Culture, because nowadays being more educated about foreign countries is very essential part for my future career. Besides that, I'm interested in football as a hobby.



● **SISTER MARTHA UGWU** is a member of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, Nigeria Province.

She says: "I have studied Public Administration and worked with the Justice, Development and Peace Commission in Ilorin Diocese, Kwara State, Nigeria. I coordinate the Micro-credit department and raise awareness about HIV/AIDS.

"I hope to gain more knowledge about different cultures and benefit from all programs The Big Hope has in stock for us."

● **KINGSTONE ZOLWERE** IS from Malawi.

He says: "I am currently working with a charity organisation known as SOS Children's Villages in Malawi "I am the Village Director at Mzuzu in the northern side of Malawi. Professionally, I am a teacher and I have taught at various secondary schools for the past fifteen years.

"I have recently been involved in the development of a National Youth Policy for the organisation."