



Newsletter No. 7

July 2008

"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles, they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40:31



Dear family and friends,

As we are writing this newsletter we are looking back on a couple of weeks housesitting in the last weeks before the semesterbreak. Just like last summer we had the opportunity to stay in the house of one of the BCV lecturers. A while ago he came and asked us to look after his house again, including chicken, geese and birds. Hard as it is to refuse an offer like this (you'll understand when you live in a small unit on campus at BCV) it didn't take long to make up our minds. We really enjoyed the place and the time we were able to spend there just with the three of us. It is amazing how God provides time after time!



We have to say that it is currently a lot colder than last summer when it was around 40 degrees Celsius compared to a fresh 10 degrees now. In itself this is not an issue, but we are not used to the fact that most Australian houses don't have good insulation or central heating. Most of the time in the house was spent close to the gasheater. Which is a common Australian thing by the way; if you see a group of people standing together in a house/building, you can be sure there is a gasheater in the vicinity! (Yes, we know this newsletter will be read by aussies too.....please don't feel offended, this is just what we call a cultural difference ☺)



We are currently enjoying our semesterbreak. We're still not used to have this break in July compared to having it in December in Europe. Our feelings indicate Santa will be arriving soon. The semesterbreak normally goes for three weeks, however due to a delay in the flighttraining caused by weather and availability of aeroplanes Arjan decided to continue flying for one more week during the holidays but he also had some good time off-work after all the hard work over the last couple of months.

**Arjan**

About 10 weeks ago Arjan passed his PPL (Private Pilot Licence) exam and he is licenced to take passengers now. To fly as a professional pilot for MAF a CPL (Commercial Pilot Licence) is required. The remaining part of the course will prepare him for this exam.

The training will be focussed on other aspects of flying: nightflying, instrumentflying (in clouds or with poor visibility) and with different types of aeroplanes (retractable gear, other engines etc). As you can imagine there still is plenty to learn and this all adds up to Arjan's flight experience.





### Safari

One of the opportunities to gain some more experience was the "Remote Area Safari", a 2 week trip throughout Australia from Melbourne to Northern Territory and back. 1 flight instructor (and his wife), 4 students and 2 aircraft left Melbourne on the 21st of July and the arrived back home on the 3rd of August. During this trip they learned how to navigate in remote areas, often without navigation aids and made a lot of flight hours. They also had chance to visit and experience the project of MAF in Arnhemland. It was a great adventure and good experience!

### Caroline

It took quite a while, but Caroline and Joshua finally had a chance to go flying with Arjan. Initially she was waiting for Arjan to receive his licence. Unfortunately after he received it the weather wasn't good enough for Caroline to join for a flight (as she gets airsick very easily unless the air is really smooth). Monday last week Arjan decided that this would be the day: perfect conditions for a short scenic flight. It was very special for us to fly together as a family with Arjan at the controls.



### Joshua

Our little big boy is developing well. Many hearts are melting when he throws his smiles around. He and Caroline are still going to mumsgroup each week where they are making good friends.

Over the last few months he didn't grow very well, reason for both the healthnurse and the GP to refer us to a pediatrician. A couple of tests down the road we now know that Joshua has a cowmilk and egg allergy that probably causes his growth issues. As Caroline is still breastfeeding she also has to stay away from any food that contains milk, egg or nuts. (so she basically lives on water and rice now). At this moment we are running a number of trials to find out if soymilk is a good alternative for him.

### Update on finances

At the end of 2006 we were in the process of making the decision to come to Australia for training at BCV. At that time we didn't have sufficient financial means to cover the costs for the training. However we did and do fully trust God that He will provide for us if that is part of his plan for our lives. And He does; we never had a moment where we had to worry about meeting our financial requirements.

At this stage we are in the most expensive part of the course as Arjan is spending a lot of time in the air. Because of this we are getting close to the bottom of our treasure chest. However it looks like we will be able to meet all the financial requirements before the end of the course. Please stay involved with us either by praying, giving or any other way you have been involved with our journey up till now!

### Praise & Prayer requests:

- **We are thankful that our study and stay in Australia has been very good so far. We really start to appreciate life here...**
- **So far we have been able to meet all our financial requirements without any trouble**
- **Praise for the uneventful Safari, both for those flying and those who stayed home**
- **We appreciate prayer for Joshua regarding his allergies!**
- **Arjan's upcoming exams**

### Our contact details:

Arjan, Caroline & Joshua Bijl  
71-81 Albert Hill Road  
Lilydale VIC 3140  
Phone: 0431 906540  
Email: [fambijl@flightplanning.nl](mailto:fambijl@flightplanning.nl)  
Website: [www.flightplanning.nl](http://www.flightplanning.nl)

### Support details:

Branch/Account No.: 733107 690361  
Account name: J.A. Bijl  
Request for e-Newsletter:  
[info@flightplanning.nl](mailto:info@flightplanning.nl)