



Newsletter No. 8

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"Sing to the Lord, praise His name; proclaim His salvation day after day. Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous deeds among all peoples" Psalm 96



Dear friends,

You have our latest newsletter in front of you- the last from Australia for this year-. We are currently counting down towards the end of November, when we are leaving for Holland. Fortunately we are able to enjoy the nice temperatures of Melbourne's spring before heading of to a dark and cold winter in Europe.

It hasn't been long since you received our previous newsletter, however we do have a good reason to send out an update: there is plenty of news to share!



The next step.....

A while ago we wrote about the application process with MAF Australia and the possibilities to fly in Arnhemland. During this process we experienced that God wasn't leading us to a position in Arnhemland at this stage.

Shortly after we made the decision not to go to Arnhemland, Arjan was offered a position as junior flight instructor at the Mission Aviation Centre at Coldstream. In this position, that will initially be available for one or two years, he will provide both theory lessons and flight training to new students.

This is a unique opportunity and it didn't take us long to evaluate this option: after prayer and a more indepth conversation with the Mission Aviation Centre we decided to accept this offer wholeheartedly and we are looking forward to get started.

So it looks like our work for MAF is initially not starting off in a third world country, but at the trainingscentre of MAF in Melbourne!

Praise and Prayer:

- We praise God for the opportunity for Arjan to start as a flight instructor at Coldstream!
- Joshua is thriving on his new bottlefeed and we are very thankful for that (and for the free samples as well)
- The housing that has been provided for us during our stay in the Netherlands
- Would you like to pray with us for Arjan's instructor course: it is hard work and very intensive
- And for all the preparations for our time in The Netherlands + next years return.

The work will be different, but it is definitely as important (some people say it is even more important). At the Mission Aviation Centre at Coldstream future MAF pilots are being trained towards a position in the mission field and it is a great opportunity to be able to help them reach the required knowledge and standards.

Arjan is not just working as a junior flight instructor, but he will also receive additional training towards a higher instruction grade. This will provide him in the future with possibility to fulfill roles that are limited to pilots with an instructor rating (i.e. testflights, checkflights etc).



Before all this will become reality a lot has to be achieved: Obviously Arjan has to finish his current training (that's why we came to BCV in the first place), and on top of that he has to finish the instructor course that recently commenced (including passing for the exam).

The Netherlands

The plans we had for our return to The Netherlands have changed: instead of going home for at least 6 months we now will only stay for 10 weeks: We have to be back in Australia at the beginning of the new semester. We are leaving on the 24th of November and will fly back on the 2nd of February. We are looking forward to see our family and friends in Holland and are aware of the fact that it will be a busy time catching up with them. To make things easier a special day will be organised for us where we can meet many of our friends and family at the same place.

The Lord has provided for a place to live and a car during our time in The Netherlands.

Visitors!

In September we had friends over from The Netherlands. It was very good to see them again and we had a lovely time showing them some places of interest around Melbourne. Highlight was the scenic flight with Arjan as "captain" over the Great Ocean Road and the 12 Apostles.

Caroline

Caroline is keeping herself quite busy. Not only with our (fast!) crawling little one, but especially with everything that has to be arranged for our trip to The Netherlands and our return to Australia early next year: visa, flights, housing etc.

We also have started packing as we are unable to live on-campus next year. We don't have a house for next year yet so we have to store all our belongings for the time that we are away. If you know an affordable house, (preferably in the vicinity of Lilydale/Coldstream) that would be available for us in the period of Februari-December 2009, please let us know!!

Joshua

Joshua is doing very well. He initially had some troubles with bottlefeed formula due to his milk allergy, but now we have found a formula that he can have. A very expensive one though....So far we haven't actually paid anything as the dietician and paediatrician together organised free samples for the next three months, what a blessing!

Commercial Pilot Licence

After a year of hard work Arjan passed for his commercial pilot licence: he is now a commercial pilot. He, however, still has to do some additional training before he can say that he really completed his training. Arjan also recently started with the instructor course which is very challenging, but he feels that this brings a number of elements together: his passion for flying, teaching and working with people. One of the first challenges was to fly the aircraft from the right seat (which is normally the seat for the instructor) it is not as easy as it looks!

Lots of love from Arjan, Caroline en Joshua



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