

Hot off The Press

News from Peter and Kay Goodchild at Emmanuel Press in South Africa

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We're happy to greet you from a hot and sunny White River where we're trying to adjust, but even the locals are struggling in high humidity & temperatures of 30+. This, our first report from White River for a new year, new decade and with new hope, is full of the new!

Returning to England in mid-December we were met by our daughter, Joy, who sped us back to Cranbrook where she presented us with a new set of keys for our new home. We sold the old and bought the new house in November; our family with friends helping 'move us in', two weeks before we arrived.

Just four hours after touchdown we were back with our home church. We were encouraged with a powerful prophetic word, confirming the rightness of our serving God's purposes here in White River. Within two days we were blessed with the early arrival of our new grandson, one month earlier than expected. Congratulations to Mark and Linda and big sister Lilia.

It was good to see the return of my grand piano after two years in storage and within 2 hours of delivery, the tuner was on hand. We spent many days unpacking boxes, sorting our 'stuff' of years and discarding unwanted bits and pieces. It's a new day and time for a new chapter. For the first time in our lives we employed a gardener – he gave the small garden a severe 'haircut', generating a couple of skip-loads of cuttings! Almost every day in England we entertained dear friends keen to say, "Hi" and glad for a peep at our new timbered home. It was good to meet with the EP UK committee; we're grateful for their work back in UK.



Cuddles with little Rafferty



Quite a contrast to the way our piano in SA was transported (see HOTP Issue 2 - April 2018)



Some of our Tunbridge Wells support group

We had just two visits planned in the diary; both were special. At the Christian Centre in Tunbridge Wells we were encouraged by the group of believers, then at Beckley almost 30 believers prayed and encouraged us around God's Word. Friendship in God's family is a richness quite unequalled on planet earth!

After six weeks we were off again. David whisked us to LHR and within 28hrs we were safely returned to our home at The Press. It's two years since we started this African Adventure and much has changed. The hassles and heavy difficulties of the past are behind us as we embrace a new year.

Within our baggage we included a small piano accordion, which had been collecting dust for years in our UK home, now destined for a new chapter. A week later, we presented this little musical wonder to our friend Domingos. He was delighted. He has suffered much through the traumas of hardship of the past few years but he is our evangelist hero for Mozambique, carrying the gospel with EP literature to people hungry for God's Word. Please do pray for him and his companions.



Domingos with the piano accordion.

It's been good to renew fellowship with our Tuesday study group, with leaders in the area and church friends too. But challenges continue... power cuts brings hassle and serious interruptions. Not least no internet connection and PCs not working. Just today the security gate's transformer burnt out. Oh the joys of modern day living in South Africa.

Looking ahead we have a new horizon. I will visit Malawi in April to meet the team at Starfish Malawi. Their leaders are seeing strong possibilities of working with us to bless and strengthen the churches in teaching and evangelism. Praise God for good cooperation and synergy.



Taking a break at the Leaders' Training day on 1st Feb 2020

I'm caught up with too much admin; rewriting job descriptions; employment contracts; overseeing buildings repair; leasing the flats etc. But Kay and I remind ourselves often that the main thing is to keep the main thing as the main thing. Paul said it emphatically in 1 Corinthians 9:16 – that is also our commission.

Finally... Thank you for your faithful interest, love and support! We do SO appreciate your steadfastness and sincerity.

Peter & Kay