

Hot off The Press

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



Hello from the Lockdown Lowveld. June has brought a few changes as we moved from lockdown level 4 to 3. Last Sunday, in the fresh winter's sun, Kay and I took an afternoon stroll – the first for three months – across the neighbourhood and beyond. The flora is still beautiful, and we enjoyed the hour-or-so just to 'get out' together. The other

night the security lights outside our flat kept coming on. I cautiously took a peep behind the curtain and discovered 3 playful cats enjoying themselves.



Amidst the questions, wonderings and glances back home, it's been SO GOOD to have time to sit, draw near to God and just BE with Him. As I've said before we take time daily to read God's Word to each other. We've just concluded the poetry books of the Old Testament and have been enjoying their richness. His Word brings light and life and His great love. Psalm 119 carries these truths so well [click here to read it].

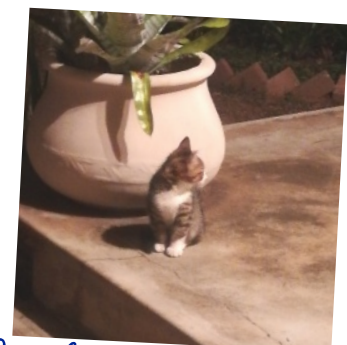


Some of the brilliant colours seen on our walk

This weekend we should have been flying into Heathrow but, as for many would be travellers, our plans have changed. I thought wistfully of William Davies' little poem: 'All in June':

"Today the fields are rich in grass,
And buttercups in thousands grow;
I'll show the world where I have been -
With gold-dust seen on either shoe."

It is dusty here, but not that kind of golden dust. We're grateful for photos of our new Kentish garden, which we've never yet seen in summertime. There's so



One of our late night visitors



Enjoying a mug of good coffee together

much we miss and yet we know that we are here in God's appointed place for now.

We cannot say when we'll return and we really miss the prospect of seeing family and so many dear friends once again. Our visas expire in about 6 months, so renewal is on the agenda as we contemplate the days ahead, although all the government offices are still closed. However, we can say that God has opened a door for us here where we find friends to be family for now.

We have opened the EP Offices for 3 mornings a week, but so many of our students are still not in touch. There's still no working postal service for any post; no schools open and no prisons allowing contact with the outside world.

Our Sunday mornings continue as special times as we gather at 9am for church in the breezy carport. Fourteen of us gathered last Sunday as we were joined by a few visiting friends. We worshipped, I preached, and we fellowshiped further with coffee and cake before joining the livestream from The Vine in Cranbrook. Here's the link if you're interested: [lively, friendly, real and... part of us really. vinechurch.org.uk/watch-live](https://www.vinechurch.org.uk/watch-live)

I'll conclude with the scripture I read recently on my birthday; the Psalm that reminds me of how many years I have enjoyed on His earth:

May God be merciful and bless us.
May his face smile with favour on us.
May your ways be known throughout the earth,
your saving power among people everywhere.
May the nations praise you, O God.
Yes, may all the nations praise you.
Then the earth will yield its harvests and God, our God, will richly bless us.
Yes, God will bless us, and people all over the world will fear him.

That is our prayer request for this month.

Thank you for your love, prayers and friendship, your whatsapps, texts and emails, all gratefully received in the land of our calling. Facetime brings you closer but 'virtual' will be replaced by reality one day....

Peter & Kay



A tree that needed felling provided me with some good exercise.



Busy baking for our Tuesday fellowship evening