

Hot off The Press

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

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We step cautiously into another month reminding ourselves this is summertime; hot hazy days here and clouds of rain there with weather reminiscent of March winds or April showers. Whilst the world continues to debate the risks and realities of Covid-19, life in various expected and yet surprising ways, pushes forward.

My own health has been almost entertaining, slightly concerning and definitely interruptive. Our plans to conquer the garden and do some external house decorating in our extra time here have eluded us. Recovery from a fractured foot, followed by a hernia diagnosed for keyhole surgery, an aneurysm scare (negative), and now I am to be awarded a crown from my friendly dentist. It seems plenty is happening. With surgery set for 20th of this month and surrounded by isolation days, our peripatetic escapades are limited.

Our nearly vintage Rover 75 has served us well but also requested attention with its local 'doctor'. Happily now fixed it sped us to Northumberland a couple of times, also to a dear friend's funeral in Norfolk, and to places nearer home, to be with good friends of EP and members of God's wide and wonderful family. With due respect to football fans, we enjoyed the benefit of a very clear road home from the north on the night of the climactic EURO 2020 Cup final.

Whilst musing on the impact of a full stadium, my thoughts are drawn to the most mega stadium of all time. The Bible is clear on the matter and we get a grand view of this jaw dropping spectacle in the book of Hebrews. Chapter 12 opens the door to what we can glimpse 'beyond the edge of space.' No, this is not Virgin Galactic territory, but stretches the imagination as you read... "Since we are surrounded by such a huge



The cats seen whilst walking the wilds of Sissinghurst don't compare with those found in KNP

crowd of witnesses to the life of faith... let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.... We do this by keeping our eyes on JESUS the champion who initiates and perfects our faith." God's Gospel is greater than any galactic gallivanting.

These months in England have tested and deepened our faith in The One who called us to be in South Africa. Yes, both Kay and I, whilst so enjoying being here in our homeland, we really also want to return to the place where God has called us to serve. We must run the race that HE has called us to run. His call to run is a call to win. (1 Corinth.9:24) So we choose to obey and do it with focus. Like you, we discover it's packed with challenge and emotion. But to give in is not what God has called us to do. He comes too, even amidst the present uprisings and tensions.



Kay's work in the greenhouse is producing fruit



Walking recently along a Northumberland beach with a good friend, and looking across a vast ocean I'm again reminded of God's great love... So vast and so important, and so needs to be shared with so many. With about six weeks before we expect to fly, we want to say with emphasis to you who continue to stand with us, and run with us, and those who pray for us...

"Thank you for being there." It's been precious to spend a little time with many of you and we are very aware that some of you have continued to stand with us even without sitting with us. THANK YOU. When hearts are hurting and heads are swirling with so many uncharted and unexpected moments, we are held in God's love, God's hope and God's ways, to see God's harvest.

Our next update may be before we fly (August 30th) or may even be after we find ourselves back at E.P. in White River. Please pray for us, and for South Africa, and watch this space.

In His grace,

Peter & Kay



One harvest reminds us of a greater harvest coming....