

# Hot off The Press

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

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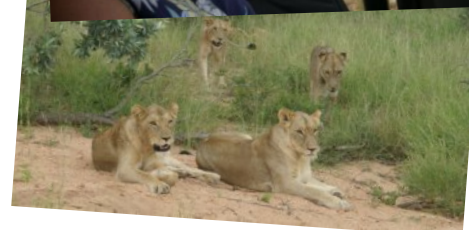
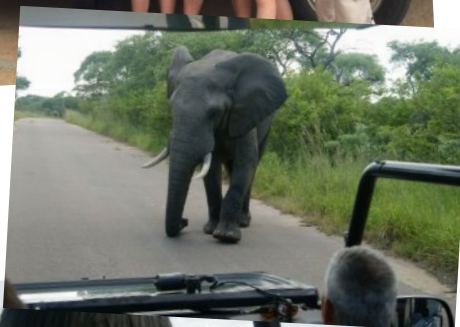


Hello from a wet and rainy South Africa. The temperatures have remained mild, around the low twenties, but the humidity has rocketed with persistent downpours for several days. A local shop owner told us he hasn't seen this level of rainfall for over ten, or maybe even 15, years. The

humidity is so high that our flat doors have swollen and towels just don't dry. That being said, we've enjoyed some bright moments under the cloudy skies.

February brought the much-anticipated visit of our son David and his two daughters, Sophia and Zoe. Their 12-day visit was very special and packed with interest, discoveries, fun and lots of love and laughter. Highlights included a special day in the Kruger park with some unforgettable animal sightings; have you ever been stopped on your way to church by an angry elephant, or surrounded by a pride of lions with only fresh-air between you and them!? We also visited one of the largest ancient rock caves in the world and a near-by zip-line experience. It was great being together in the varied routine of living in-and-around life at Emmanuel Press; meeting the team, visiting our favourite coffee shop, and meeting some of our friends, but just being with family was special for us.

The heavy rains have affected much of South Africa, particularly here in the province of Mpumalanga, we had to make some changes to our schedule. The other Sunday we were unable to



drive to a planned church engagement some miles away because the roads were impassable. Instead, the five of us went to a lively local church in White River. It was a precious time and will stand out as a moving moment with God's family as we worshipped the Lord together.

A certain unpredictability is always with us and our minds are teased by the interruptions of all sorts, whether events, people, problems or even good surprises. Do you recognise these lines I've borrowed from a poem by Robert Service?

"Today I opened wide my eyes, and stared with wonder and surprise,  
To see beneath the winter skies, an apple blossom peer;  
Upon a branch as bleak as night it gleamed exultant on my sight,  
A fairy beacon burning bright, of hope and cheer..."

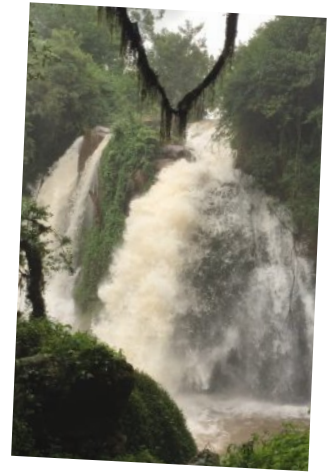
Surprises can delight or disappoint, and we've had both. Above it all we daily fix our eyes on Jesus and trust Him for whatever we face. So, amidst all the interruptions of electricity cuts, water shortages, car repairs, computer breakdowns, printing problems, and pleasant surprises such as conversations with new possibilities for the future, people expressing appreciation for EP courses; invitations for a meals; appreciation for my preaching and a new Christian tenant for a vacant EP flat, we keep trusting and knowing that our Father God holds it all in His good hand.

This week we've learned that our schools' worker will be leaving us next month for her next chapter in God's plan for her life. We continue to trust God for every day and we anticipate His provision for each role in the work and ministry of The Press. There are several issues we're praying will be resolved in the next couple of months before we're home again at Easter-time.

Recently two elderly members of the EP board of directors retired and two others have left us as they are moving on. Please join us in praying that God sends us new members who are full of faith and vision for the future of EP.

Thank you for your interest and care; we are truly grateful for your ongoing friendship, emails and support. Please pray that our faith stays strong as we work, witness and follow God's ways here.

*Peter & Kay*



*The Horseshoe Falls in full flow*



*It may not surprise you to know we took a pass on the zip-line*

