

WATTS HAPPENING IN BETWEEN

NOVEMBER 2007

Dear Friends,

Greetings to you again. We returned yesterday from our two weeks in Ghana. We travelled about 2,200km without incident (well major anyway). The first week was spent on the beach, which was very relaxing. We have browned up a lot and the girls enjoyed days playing in the waves and exploring rock pools, as did we. We came back with many new additions to the shell collection!. The second week was spent in Accra (the Ghana capital) so Mal could work in the SIM finance office. Despite the week starting with viruses on the computers, he was able to get the financial year closed and all of the reports completed. Ghana has a lot of things not available here so with our own shopping list and a few orders from others we came back with a fairly full vehicle. It was a great time away, having time as a family, without the busyness of everyday life here.

Jen's brother Dan and his wife Diane, arrived yesterday evening to spend a week with us. They are on the way home from an overseas trip so it is nice to have family with us again. It is fun to show people our lives here and also great to have people at home who have seen, smelt, heard and understood a little of what we experience here. Erinn and Alicia will be back to school this week, and we will be in the office and at the labs again. The next month has plenty of activity and the usual comings and goings. Mal has a bit of work to get the Youth Centre library up and running properly, which has so far been a bit of a complicated process. He also needs to visit Fada to help the church office and the bible school with their accounting systems. The second lab where Jenny is working is now linked with the same equipment supplier from the US so there is a bit of ongoing work to get machines set up and operating properly.

An update on the housing situation for many of our friends living in the areas facing surveying. Handi, who works in the guest house, had his house destroyed completely and now has to rent something nearby, an expense not normally part of his budget. Michel's family lost a couple of smaller buildings and part of their wall and Paul one of our guards lost the same. Eventually they will have to move to their new blocks on the other side of town, but that fact that some of their house remains gives them more time to get things organised. So life has been a struggle for them all recently. We have returned to cooler nights here, but with lots more dust. So the season changes again for life in Burkina.

Praise and Prayer

- Many crops have struggled to survive the last dry month and there will be a lack of food this year. Certain parts of Burkina were hit hard by floods earlier in the rainy season and quite a few villages in the west of the

country lost many houses. Please pray that aid that arrives will reach those who need it most.

- Praise the Lord that that Jenny's six month blood test was all clear. We praise God for His care of her. She will have another test in another 6 months, a year since her needle stick.
- We praise God that during the surveying not as many houses were lost as first thought. Please pray that their new blocks of land will be available soon so that those who need to rebuild can do so quickly. Please pray that people like Handi will be able to manage their money well in meeting the extra rental expenses.
- We give thanks to God for a great trip to Ghana and for a special time as a family. Please pray that we would get back into work/school routine without too many dramas. We are grateful to God that Mal was able to get all of his work done in the SIM Ghana office and that the computer viruses were able to be deleted. Continue to pray please for Judy and Emmanuel who are working there. We praise God for his protection over us on the road, particularly with the news of a robbery that occurred on the road between Ouaga and the border 90 minutes before we arrived.
- Praise the Lord for Daniel and Diane's visit and please pray that we will be able to show them something of life here over the next week as well as catching up on the work that has gathered over the past 2 weeks.
- Mal was able to complete the SIM Burkina financial year before leaving for Ghana but has a few things to tidy up. His audit is not until January now which gives a bit more time to work on other things.
- Please pray for the organisation of our team conference in January. It is highly possible that the location from last year will no longer be available and finding something else affordable and suitable is not going to be all that easy.

Thankyou for taking time to read our news and to remember us before the Lord in prayer and thanksgiving.

**God Bless,
Mal, Jen, Erinn and Alicia**