

***“To find God’s will is man’s greatest discovery; to do God’s will is man’s greatest achievement” John Wesley***

**September 2009**

To all our dear praying friends,  
The winter is officially over and spring is here as of the 1st September. It has to be said it’s been the warmest, sunniest, driest winter we’ve ever experienced!

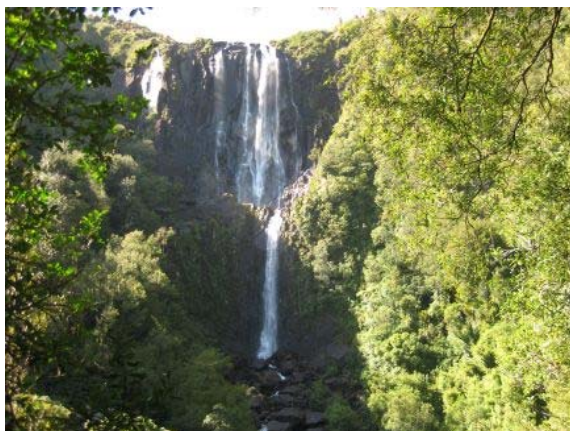
### **Family News**

Fiona’s youngest brother Bruce and his wife Lynne had a baby girl - Iona Ann on the 4th July. This brings the number of nieces and nephews up to 5 now and Fiona’s eldest brother and his wife are due to have a baby boy anytime in the next two weeks so it’s all go!



***Bruce and Lynne with Iona***

Then on the 9th August we celebrated our first wedding anniversary! It seems incredible that we have already been married a year. It has gone so fast. We planned to do a tramp (Kiwi word for a hill walk) on the Saturday at a place called the Wairere Falls. It took us a couple of hours to climb to the top and it was absolutely brilliant. We had a gorgeous sunny day and the scenery was amazing!



***Wairere Falls***

And then after that we spent an hour relaxing in the hot pools at Te Aroha before going out for dinner in Hamilton - a perfect day! It was also a great opportunity to take the time to

look back and reflect on the past year and all that God has done for us and all the many blessings He has poured into our lives. We have SO much to thank God for.

### **Rich’s Studies**

*“Make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self control; and to self control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love.”*  
2 Peter 1:5-7

Here at college I have been blessed with a wonderful opportunity to focus myself fully on adding knowledge to my faith. As a young believer this privilege is forming in me a strong biblical foundation of practices and principles which Fiona and I must apply to our lives and marriage. Although at this time I am growing primarily in knowledge, I’m finding that so long as I apply what I am learning there is growth in all areas of my life, such as, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love. No doubt at different stages of our life we will have opportunities to grow in different areas and at different rates. I’m so thankful for our time here at college where I can grow in the foundational things of my faith, and where Fiona and I can begin our marriage surrounded and supported by many people who have had their marriages and faith tried and tested in so many ways.

In regard to my classes this term, they have been - Spiritual Warfare, Folk Islam, New Testament Gospels, Epistles, The Biblical Theology of Missions, and Music in Missions. I’m thoroughly enjoying all of them and I eagerly look forward to the future where I will have many opportunities to apply and put into practice all that I am learning.

The ministry at Ngaruawahia is going well. Relationships within the team are continuing to grow and function well and we are developing new initiatives to engage the kids, for example teaching them some songs, having a sports day, and story telling. As we play games with the kids each week and as our relationships with them develop, please pray that we would not neglect sharing the Gospel with them as well.

Unfortunately Mason, the young boy who gave his life to the Lord hasn’t been coming recently. Please remember him in your prayers – that he wouldn’t forget the decision he has made and that he would continue to grow in his relationship with the Lord.

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**Operation World**

On the 26th August the team in the UK met with our publishers. The tentative schedule that came out of this was as follows:

- December 2009 - complete all country profiles (1st drafts)
- Jan-Mar 2010 - revision cycles; write/revise Introduction, Special Ministries sections, and Appendices
- Mid or end March 2010 - begin typesetting (overlap with April proofing)
- April 2010 - proofreading cycle/s (approximately 4 weeks for final copy-editing and proofing; meaning that early April “final” manuscript should be ready)
- May 2010 - 1st of May deadline to print final copy; 3 weeks for printing plus shipping and distribution time (may vary based on location of printing).
- June publication worldwide.

Please water this schedule in prayer and pray that we would be able to meet the deadlines.

At the moment I am working on South Africa and then after that is finished I will move on to Pakistan. (If you are reading this and you can help with either of these countries please don't hesitate to get in touch with me on [fiona.fraser@operationworld.org](mailto:fiona.fraser@operationworld.org)). Now that I am only part time everything takes much longer. Please pray that the time I do have to work on Operation World would be fruitful and productive, that I would be able to focus and concentrate, and that I would receive quick responses and good information from all our contacts. As deadlines draw nearer we don't have the time to wait ages for feedback to come in. Please also pray that my connection with the OW server at Bulstrode would work well. I've been experiencing a few problems lately with my work not being saved properly which means I have to keep re-doing it which is obviously frustrating especially when I am already so pushed for time.

**St Mary's**

At the beginning of August we had our first bible study with the older youth at St Mary's. We had no idea how many were going to turn up and were greatly encouraged to have seven. We just had a pretty informal meeting getting to know the kids and asking them what they wanted to do in this time each month. We really wanted for them to say what they want to study and look at, and what their questions are, instead of us implementing a program. So they came up with about 6 topics that they want to study including how we got the bible and how do we know it's true, the End Times and Judgment, the Trinity, and

Creation Vs Evolution! So that should keep us pretty busy! We started off this month (just this past Sunday) with the question of how we got the bible etc., and that seemed to go pretty well. We found it pretty tough to prepare because it's such a complicated and complex issue and it's pretty dry stuff. It was a real challenge to simplify it and present it in a way they could understand and engage with without it turning into a 45 minute boring lecture! Next month we will look at Creation so that should be a bit easier as there is far more scope for getting the kids involved.

Please continue to pray for our involvement at this church - especially with the Youth Bible Studies and Fresh Expressions Services - that we would be a blessing and encouragement to the church while we are here. We are so grateful to God for this opportunity to serve Him and to get involved at St Mary's and we just really want to make the most of it!



*At the top of Wairere Falls*

Thank you for all your continued support and prayers for us. It is such a blessing and encouragement to us to know that so many people are praying for us and supporting us in so many different ways as we move forward in God's will for our lives. We wouldn't get very far without you all!

With love in Christ,  
Richard and Fiona

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