

“NEW STARTS!”

LAST AUTUMN WE PLANTED A BARE ROOT PLUM TREE. ‘Would it survive the winter frost?’, we wondered. ‘Even if it does’, we were told, ‘don’t expect fruit for at least 5 years!’ Now, 6 months later, we have not only seen blossom and green leaves appear, but a spray of baby plum fruits, getting ready for a summer crop!!



Sometimes we are happily surprised by the Lord bringing the new and unexpected into our lives and ministry. For example:

At the April meeting of the Colchester group we were told there are some Thai restaurant workers in **Billericay** who would like to study the bible in Thai. An arrangement was made, and a month later we went there, not knowing what to expect. To our delight two Thai believers and one Thai enquirer came to meet us. Together with some of the Colchester believers, we had a precious time of bible study together.

With the possibility of other Thai joining, it was decided to form a new fellowship group, with a monthly meeting to study the Thai bible together.

Please pray the new group runs well!



Something new for us was the opportunity we had recently to attend the monthly fellowship meeting for **Thai students** held in the centre of London. Led by Piak and Nam, we enjoyed a creative programme of games and bible

study, as well as delicious Thai food.

Please pray for a steady intake of new students as the present ones return to Thailand soon.

Caring for the work of NTC Network of Thai Christians has become a larger and larger demand admin-wise, to the extent we felt a change was needed. So it was really encouraging that at the May meeting of our NTC **national committee** it was agreed to divide the admin

“See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?” I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland. (Isaiah 43.19)

responsibility into 4 ‘departments’, that of admin, finance, member care, and events planning. We plan to put this into practice in the next few months, making the work load for ourselves or for our successors considerably lighter.

Please pray that the leaders of each department can do a good job, and everything runs much better!

On the practical side, another ‘first’ happened recently. Stuck in the centre of London after a meeting, we found that the Piccadilly underground, which we needed to cross the city to collect our car, was not now running. But it happened that our daughter Hannah a few days



earlier had persuaded us to get the ‘Uber App’ on our phones. So we thought to try it! So before long an

Uber taxi appeared, and we were on our way back to our car, happy to have added another ‘first’ to our list.

As our work still involves much travelling, pray that we may avail of every convenience!

Also for prayer

* On June 6th the Oxford group will have a BBQ as part of their monthly meeting; pray newcomers will join.

* On June 8th two of our members get married; David is to conduct the service in Thai; pray it goes well!

* Annual Camp, 24-27 July, is on theme “Made new in Christ”; pray for Rev Daniel Kim bringing God’s word, and the many team preparations still needed.

* The North London meet-up continues this month; pray for more members and good leadership.

* Son Paul continues to suffer painful sciatica; pray for good pain relief, and full healing.

* We continue to do much travelling in caring for the groups; pray for strength and safety for this.

Thanks for praying.

David and Mary

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