

22 June 2010

Dear Family and Friends

We arrived back in Scotland at the end of April after a 5 day delay in Lusaka. The time in Lusaka, because of the volcanic eruption, was unexpected but was a good time to catch up after the rather hectic time we had before leaving Mwandu. We are well settled at the furlough flat in Springfield Street, the same close as last time, but the door opposite.

We are now about half way through our leave. We have completed all our dental work and have had a check up by Healthlink 360. They have been very helpful in getting Mubita referred to a Speech Therapist and Paediatrician. We are still seeing them with him at periodic appointments.

We have been kept busy and warmly welcomed with deputation work in the Presbyteries of St Andrews and Stirling. We have preached at Church Services, visited schools and hospitals and spoken at midweek Church Meetings from St Andrews, Falkland and Elie in the East to Houston and Kildrum in the West and Balfron, Fintrie, Cambusbarron, Clackmannan and Menstrie in the Middle. There have been meetings at 121 George Street with our debriefing, speaking with World Mission staff and at the HIV/AIDS Programme. It has been good to be able to share a bit of our life and work at Mwandu with the Church through the Guild mainly in Edinburgh, and at the World Mission Council in Dunblane.

We have also been well entertained for lunch and supper by friends at home and others who are reciprocating, having visited us in Zambia

We also enjoyed our time at the General Assembly at the end of May, catching up with all the other concerns of the Church. Ida spoke and thanked the Church for their support for the AIDS Relief Programme at Mwandu and asked the Church to continue with their advocacy for universal access to ARVs for the poor and voiceless. This again she reiterated at a Fringe HIV/AIDS meeting. We were unable to attend the 2010 Mission Conference in early June but were given tickets for the closing service which was a memorable exuberant ecumenical celebration.

We are grateful too for the continuing support both material and spiritual we receive from so many congregations and individuals.

The hospital is now in possession of a working scanner which has been donated from Nairn. We have been given baby-clothes and various types of medical supplies to take back to Mwandi. We are fortunate that we are given an extra unaccompanied luggage allowance by World Mission. We have discussing the possibility of gathering materials and sending a container with medical and education materials. That is perhaps something the two presbyteries and associated congregations might like to consider.

It was also good to be able to gather together as a family for the wedding of Stuart and Kirsten on 12 June at St Salvator's in St Andrews where we were four generations of Waddells with Ruairidh, Fiona and Lucy. The photographs can be viewed online at: [alistairstephen photography](#) then click on online albums, then Kirsten & Stuart). This special time for us was followed the next Sunday by a lunch for family and friends at Stirling for Dad's 80th Birthday. We have enjoyed having Catriona living with us as a day pupil. She has just finished her GCE O Levels, so things are winding down for her at school. We have been able see and visit Kirsten & Stuart regularly in both Glasgow and Edinburgh. We have also appreciated being able to stay at their modern flat in the now gentrified Gorbals. Gregor too we see from time to time. He is continuing with his Hall of Residence Warden's job and is also working as a waiter and housekeeper at the Station Hotel in Ayr. He starts his honours year in September.

We have still kept up our blog during our time in Scotland and this can be accessed through: [idaand keith.blogspot.com](#)

A dear friend and former CEVAA Missionary to Zambia, Jean Fischer, has been involved in the publication of a new book called: **THE SPREAD OF THE GOSPEL IN BAROTSELAND**. From the Paris Mission to the United Church of Zambia. It is edited by other former Missionaries Philippe Burger, Francois Escande and A Honegger. It has been translated into English by John Roden.

In its 5 Chapters and Epilogue it deals with the genesis and dawn of the Zambezi Mission from 1885 to the death of Coillard in 1904. From the death of Coillard through to the Paris Mission's Golden Jubilee in 1935 and then the final 30 years of consolidation and reinforcement leading to the autonomy of the Church of Barotseland and its subsequent incorporation into the United Church of Zambia. It will be a wonderful reference work for those interested in the history of the Zambezi Mission and is a very useful contribution to the chronicled Mission and Church History in Zambia.

The cost is 25.00 US\$ or Swiss Francs and is available through Jean Fischer, 4 Meurons, CH-1237 AVULLY Switzerland. E-mail: njfischer@bluewin.ch

We are now looking forward to our visits to London, Berlin, Prague, Vienna, Geneva, Montpellier and Perpignon in the last two weeks of July. It is a combination of holiday, Church work and visiting family and friends. Our appointment is an ecumenical one with the Methodists too and the Church of Scotland being the lead agency. We have kept in touch by e-mail with the Methodist headquarters in London but will now on our visit have the opportunity of putting faces to names.

We wish you all a good break in the coming months. We have been very fortunate with the weather and have been enjoying sunny days and the long evenings.

With love and every blessing

Keith, Ida, Catriona & Mubita