



*The Mexican ship Cuauhtémoc leaves Bordeaux after la fête du fleuve, its sailors in the riggings.*

# Daveys in France

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*1 Great is the LORD, and most worthy of praise,  
in the city of our God, his holy mountain.  
14 For this God is our God for ever and ever;  
he will be our guide even to the end.  
(Psalm 48)*

Dear friends and supporters,

Well here we are, coming up to two years in France - and not just surviving, rejoicing ! Join us in thanking God for his goodness, his provision, his guiding hand and his presence every day.

Looking back over this quarter:

Gwilym and Catrin both passed their school year and were admitted to the next year up. We are so thankful for this.

Pat passed her end of year exams at the language school (*Mention bien* - average > 70%).

A new home has been found for the pastor's family in the outlying town of St Loubès.

For the summer the church will meet at Pessac, just a couple of kilometres from our house ( hurrah ! ) After the summer some rooms have been found in Villenave d'Ornon, the town where we used to live.

The highlight of the period was H's baptism on 1 July - a full church, then a big meal followed by a brief information and planning meeting. (H is the girl in the photo below)

The work of Bible teaching has continued, albeit with the centre slightly quieter than usual because of exams and the gradual homeward drift of students.

Our annual financial statement in May showed that we had covered our costs again this year. I hesitate to say that our support has been at 100% because the mission would still like us to build up 3 months' reserve, but to finish the year with a small sum to bring forward is good. Our sincere thanks to God and to all our supporters.

Our role for the coming year has been clarified :

Pat will not return to the language school. Instead she'll join an association that teaches French to immigrant women and she'll continue to brush up her French as she spends time working with women. This will be combined with using her hospitality gifts in the church and with the students. She'll also be leading the older youth work with Alan.



Alan is giving up the English Class at the centre and devoting more time to the work of the church. This will involve taking part in the organisation of the church and encouraging people's involvement in the work. Also Alan and Pat will be leading the older young people's activities (ages 17 & 18 - the lycéens). The house-group *Groupe Rive Gauche* will continue, of course, as will the Bible studies with individual students and with student groups and student evangelism.

We continue to consider starting something international in English. We may hold a service for Thanksgiving ( in November ) to measure interest.

These next few months will see us involved in

- 1) Finding accommodation for the Griffins, who arrive en route for Cote d'Ivoire in August.
- 2) Helping with moving the church and the pastor's house-move.
- 3) A long-awaited and longed-for holiday ( in France ).
- 4) Continuing to work with the student lads who remain in Bordeaux.
- 5) Planning the youth work and getting the team together and "on message".
- 6) Sustaining the ministry in the church during the pastor's absence in August.
- 7) Preparing the centre for the restart in September, which means replenishing our leaflets, tracts and booklets, getting the internet fully changed over and various odd jobs round the place.

We are thinking and praying that Alan may make a trip to the UK to visit churches in February or early March of 2008. If you may be interested in him coming could you please email or write to say.

*What to pray for ?*

Pray especially for the time surrounding the moves. The church will be harder to find, and many churches close anyway during July and/or August. It would be a pity if we lost people because of the move.

Pray too for the youth-work start-up in September. This year was difficult for the youth in various ways, and it's important that we hit the ground running and that things work out OK.

Thank God for the way that things get better all the time for the children. We are looking forward to next year for them.

Que Dieu vous bénisse !

*Alan, Pat, Gwilym & Catrin*

To start or stop receiving this prayer letter, or to change your address please either contact by e-mail [phil.harman@deeside.org.uk](mailto:phil.harman@deeside.org.uk), or fill in this slip and return it to:

Mr. Phil Harman, 14 Eaton Avenue, Connah's Quay, Flintshire. CH5 4HR

Please send the Daveys' prayer letter to:

Name:

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