



Daveys in France

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Was it not you who dried up the sea, the waters of the great deep, who made a road in the depths of the sea so that the redeemed might cross over? Isaiah 51 : 10

Dear friends and supporters,

Sorry for this cram-packed prayer letter. There's a lot to tell you and a lot of things to pray for !

Firstly we are thankful for a full and eventful summer spent on holiday in the UK visiting family and friends and at the UFM Family Conference, then in Brittany at the AGM of MPEF (UFM in France). By the end of it all we felt very much at home in the car. Alan preached through August as usual. We sneaked in a church visit or two and it felt very odd to confess that on our return to France the church would have nowhere to meet.

However, there's no point parting the waves till the people are on the beach, and sure enough, after a few happy weeks meeting in our home, then in the Foucachons' home, and then a little false start, we now have a settled place to meet. We can rent to begin with and then buy at a price we have agreed now (a very reasonable price !) We have a two-storey building and the worship room will occupy the ground floor with the children's rooms, kitchen, office, etc. on the first floor. It's on the border of Bordeaux and Cenon, right by the Jean Jaurès tram stop and with easy access by car and easy parking. We got the keys yesterday (22nd) so at present little teams are spending happy hours cleaning, plumbing, adapting and painting. We hope to occupy the premises on October 12th. And best of all, it's very visible. We won't be hidden away down an alley.



So how do we plan to use the premises ? Well apart from the usual meetings on Sunday mornings and in the week, Sunday evenings are going to be busy. Twice a month on Sunday evenings we'll hold services in French with the goal of encouraging Christians to bring their friends along. These will be straightforward outreach services.

The other Sunday evenings we plan to hold services in English for the Internationals in Bordeaux. These will go under the grand name of the International Christian Community of Bordeaux (in French Église Anglophone Internationale). The weeks where there is no Sunday service we will hold Bible studies in our home on the Saturday evening. In order to build a bridge between the French and English evening services we'll provide a skeleton translation service to help people to understand the bulk of the service. Our friends in the Christian Bookshop have been passing our phone number to people who ask for services in English.

Meanwhile the student work is restarting with some adjustments and changes. We have started the evangelistic surveys on campus and we hope to have some good contacts to follow up. The Bible studies, prayer groups and English classes will be starting soon.

Two of our students are spending the year abroad. **A** is in Dublin pursuing his studies in Business. We were able to link him with a church in Dublin who then helped him with accommodation till he was able to get a room in university hall. Then **M** is spending a year with a Friends International student outreach team in Cambridge.

S, a Chinese student is in good form after having an operation on both hips this summer to correct a congenital deformity. All our students need prayer for their studies !

Family news - we're all fine. Gwilym and Catrin have started their school year - now in the same school - and they're adjusting to the rigours of school life again. Pat and Alan are finding the adjustment just as hard - oh those early starts !

Thanks and praise

Health, strength and joy

The new premises

Big opportunities

A united church

Workers with different gifts

Students who want to serve

Prayer

For good student contacts early on

For the evening services in French

For the activities of the student centre

For anglophone international contacts

For the students' studies

For continued unity and for conversions

Thank you for your faithful prayers.

Every blessing,

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, 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:

Address:

You may like to receive the prayer letter by e-mail. If so please give your e-mail address.

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