

James
Sandra
David
Tom
Katlyn

Back in Nepal [Nov-2009]



Chinnery

2,4,6,8,10! Yes, all the bags have arrived! We squeeze through the crowd of people at the Kathmandu airport and are happy to see the familiar face of Babu Ram. He came with the INF vehicle and brings us with all our luggage to the house of our friends. Tom watches the chaos on the bouncy roads. Then he leans back in his seat and says: "Now, I'm back in my favourite country!" He closes his eyes and falls asleep.

After 3 days in Kathmandu we travel by bus the seven hours to Pokhara. Here we have four weeks of language study and several meetings for James. David and Tom can also go to the INF school there. We would like to invite you to learn a few words of Nepali with us in this letter. ☺



Gadeng-gadung



The thunder [Gadeng-gadung] is rolling over the Pokhara valley. The roads turn into rivers which also carry the waste of the last week with it. With our sandals we waded through the water to our house. Suddenly James stepped, with Katie in his arms, into nothing [well, deep water] and ended up in a ditch. As I watched him, my own legs disappeared too, then David's and Tom's! We were all soaked to the skin and full of mud, what a sight! It must have looked hilarious! ☺ The Nepalis who had been watching from under the roof had to laugh and so did we. David's and Sandra both lost a shoe—disappeared in the ditch, so we started to dig for it. But we had to give up after a few minutes, it was just an impossible task. So we walked home barefoot, and thankful that there was a hot shower waiting for us in the flat where we were staying.

Rangi-changi

We were slowly driving up and down the road, looking out for a house which could be suitable for the next couple of years. Hmm, maybe that house would be possible? We knocked on the door and told the person who lived there, that we were looking for a house. We asked if this is his own house and if he would be willing to show it to us and maybe rent it out. The landlords were very happy to show us around the house. We looked to see if there was a kitchen, inside bathroom and toilet [traditionally they are outside], tried to find out if there was enough water and a water tank in the house and a garden to play in. As we were looking around different houses, neighbours and total strangers would join us, and the search party grew bigger and bigger. Soon we had the feeling that whole of Surkhet knew that we were looking for a house.



After all that, we decided that we would go for the house of our friends Ulf and Meike, who had left about 1.5 years ago. The house is an old stone and mud house, almost next to our old house. It is also, the old INF leprosy clinic. After a bit of back and forth with the landlord, he agreed to take responsibility for some necessary repairs. The house needed to be re-mudded and re-painted, the windows needed some new mosquito screens as well as paint and the pipes in the toilet and bathroom needed to be checked. [the toilet has a history of blocking] Our kids are very excited to move into the house of their friends, Laura, Amy, Jill and Phil. We are looking forward to decorating, putting down floors [lino], lay some cables for the much needed battery back-up system when the power goes, and will put in new material under the ceilings, so that not everything the mice produce up there, drops on our heads. Should we make the ceiling cloths pink, yellow, or green or maybe blue? Or have each room in a different colour? Really "Rangi-changi"?

[colourful]

Ramailo

It is really ramailo [joyful] in school. At the moment there are 4 children, 2 more will join in November. [one family with 3 kids is unfortunately not coming now]. David is in year 3, Tom in year 1, Kaniel from Holland in year 5 and his sister Rebecca in year 2. Such diversity is quite challenging for our teacher "Miss Sarah". Besides the teaching she also has all the administrative work to do. She is very happy that Elfriede, a friend from Austria, is able to help her until mid December in school. Elfriede is also doing German lessons with David and Tom and helping us with all the "allamalla" [Chaos] of the house move. ☺

The way to school is at the moment very long—40 minutes walk one way. Quite some fitness training, especially with Katie and shopping in the rucksack! [Sometimes we wouldn't mind a car...]



Alla-malla

As we left Europe James was expecting to return to Nepal to train and develop Nepali managers [amongst other jobs]. However his boss had other ideas, and now, after a bit of alla-malla [chaos] and some hot discussions, he has been appointed the Programmes Director for INF. This is a slightly daunting task - overseeing all the operations of INF across the country. He does look forward to the challenge, but would ask for your prayers for wisdom as He will do this job from Surkhet and not the HQ in Pokhara. This distance will certainly put a strain on communications and mean a lot of travelling [and time away from home]...

Jilli-milli



on the houses should invite Laxmi to come inside.

We arrived back in Nepal in the midst of the festival time. At the end of the rainy season, just before the rice harvest, the 2 main festivals, Dashai and Tihar, are celebrated.

"During the ten-day festival of Dashai, the bloodthirsty Hindu goddess Durga [also known as Kali] is worshipped throughout the nation with abundant offerings and thousands of animal sacrifices drenching her stone-carved images with blood." Tihar, the festival of light, is celebrated shortly after Dashai. The houses are decorated with lights and tinsel and on the streets special sweets are sold. During this five-day festival, cows, dogs, cats, brothers and even one's self are worshipped and given offerings. The goddess of wealth named Laxmi is honoured especially. The lights



Gedagoodi

Gedagoodi [pulses] are on our menu again. They taste the best with our Nepali friends. It was a great joy and encouragement to see our friends again. When we met Pawitra and Henry in Kathmandu, sitting on the floor with them by candle light, eating Dal Bhat, or when we met Maya and her children in the tin hut and ate rice pudding, vegetables and chicken [yes, they do go together!] or in the simple house of Shanka and Bishnu in Pokhara, we knew that we are

home, in the right place, where God wants us to be right now.

Shanka and Bishnu's life really impresses us. Shanka had leprosy when he was a little boy and he was unable to go to school. At the INF Green Pastures Hospital in Pokhara, he got to know God, as a loving Father. During his long hospital stay he learnt to read and write. In this time the desire to help other children who couldn't go to school because of illness or lack of money, grew. After he got married, and had children of his own, he started an organisation which supports poor children so they can go to school. His main job is at Green Pastures where he teaches patients to read and write amongst other things.



kitchen preparing one meal after carrying home 10 kg of shopping plus Katie, by foot. The sadness [dukha] around us and the hopelessness in many people constantly pulls us down. Please pray for wisdom that we can overcome the many cultural barriers more easily and that we will know how to serve the people here in the best way.

Thanks and Pray:

We want to give thanks for God's protection and help on the many journeys. It wasn't always smooth travelling [2 punctures] and Katie making her frustration with sitting still known to all. Thank God for the house. It's so nice that we will have a home again. Please pray for the landlord that he will get to know God and that we can be a blessing for him and his family. Please pray for the house move mid November. Strong nerves, patience and electricity!

We are again shocked by the many burdens people carry around with them. Physical burdens like huge bundles of wood, a fridge, etc but also other big burdens like illnesses, financial depths, fear of evil gods, pain - the one year old only son of a friend died 2 days ago after having been ill for only 4 days, the wife of another friend died at the age of 26, the list goes on.... So many people are squashed down by these burdens and seeing no hope, they give up. Please pray with us that they find Jesus' helping hands - giving both hope and help. Could you lend a hand?

Please pray for James's new role as Programmes Director, which brings a lot of new challenges and lots of travel with it.

We look forward to hearing from you and are very thankful for your prayers. It's a big encouragement for us to know that you are praying. Our own strength is definitely not enough to handle all the new situations and well, just to handle life.

Thank you for your friendship!

Your **James & Sandra + David + Tom + Katlyn**

Contact us

Post

J&S Chinnery - INF
PO Box 1230
Kathmandu, Nepal

Phone

00977 83 520353

Online

js.chinnery@bigfootprint.org

News

Online

www.bigfootprint.org

Newsletter

Mrs C Chinnery

1 Wellow Brook Meadow
Midsomer Norton
Bath, BA3 2BQ, UK
01761 415352

chris@cchinnery.force9.co.uk
Or

Mr & Mrs P Davies
16 Cabrera Ave
Virginia Water
Surrey, GU24 4EZ, UK
01344 842564
sarahpaul.davies@yahoo.com

Finance

If you'd like to support us,

please contact:

Mr & Mrs P Lewis
88a Staines Road
Laleham - Staines
Middlesex, TW18 2ST, UK
01784 442101
peterchrislewis@bigfoot.com