

Ellen Benton - News from the Neelys

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Subject: News from the Neelys



News From the Neelys!



Changes and Choices...

For the last 8 years, I (Tamara!) have been serving Youth With A Mission in the area of global communications. Christian organisations, like all others, have to use communications technology effectively in order to reach the people we need to reach the people who need our message. Communications is a vital tool in everything we do as a mission from recruitment to evangelism, and it has been a fun challenge, learning how to use the resources that are available in a way that is purposeful for the Kingdom of God through the media provided by YWAM International.



As you pray, remember....

Jeff is travelling to **Thailand** March 13-25 for the annual YWAM **frontier missions leadership meeting**. They will be selecting a new director in this meeting, so please pray for wise deliberation and God's choice for the future



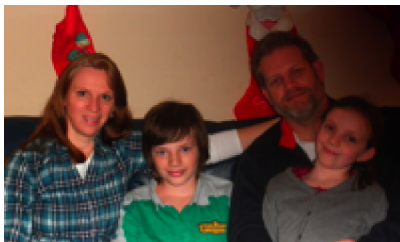
However, just as winter is giving way to spring here in the UK, it's time for a change of season! After much prayer and thought, I have recognised that it is time to pass responsibility for managing this area to others and time for me to seek God for a new opportunity to serve Him. I have an idea that this will include communications, as I have gained so much experience in that area, but I anticipate I will be serving in a circle closer to the ministry Jeff and I are both passionate about - taking the

leadership of this part of YWAM.

The School of Islamic

Studies begins April 15!

Please pray for our students (currently 7 but we'd like more!) who will be preparing to become church planters in Muslim communities because all people should have the opportunity to hear about Jesus!



All together and smiling! :)

Samuel and Jaela are in year 8 and year 5 at local schools. Samuel is interested in heights - climbing trees, building tree houses and hoping to climb Ben Nevis this summer.

Jaela is all about cakes - baking them, decorating them and giving them away so the rest of us don't eat too many of them!

As a family in missions, we value your prayers for them, too!



gospel to those who have no access to it. It is an exciting place to be, but I value your prayers for clear direction and a smooth transition. Change is always unsettling but I am nonetheless confident that God is in it, and He has a plan for my next step.

Meanwhile, it would never do to get bored! And I have acquired a short-term role which I am calling my "transition project"! What is it?

If you live here in England you could not be unaware that London is hosting the 2012 Olympics this summer. YWAM has been running Olympic outreaches since 1972 and our presence at Olympic events is a given - it is a unique opportunity to do what we do best : serve practically, connect with local churches and introduce people from many cultures and backgrounds to Jesus. (Read a brief history about YWAM's Olympic outreach adventures in this article called "That's The Spirit"!)

Olympic Countdown!

Here at YWAM Harpenden, we are only 30 minutes from the centre of London, and we are hosting YWAM's Olympic outreach (this grainy photo is us at the Olympic countdown clock in London)! We are expecting thousands of people to pass



through our 47-acre site between July and September, for training, prayer and preparation for sharing their faith at the Olympic events in partnership with other local churches and agencies. (If you're interested in being a part, visit : www.forever2012.com for more information!)

So where do I fit in? I have agreed to be a part of summer events management team for YWAM Harpenden - we'll be organising food, tents, transport, hospitality, health and safety and a host of other details to ensure that everything goes smoothly at our end. You may recall that I used to be

One more thing!



Don't forget the 30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim World prayer event! We are working on final edits and printing for the UK prayer guide. The 30 Days of Prayer happens during Ramadan which is happening during the Summer Olympics! What does that mean for Muslim athletes? Get the guide to find out!

the site manager for YWAM Harpenden and my past experience serving the base here will be useful in organising this historic event! It's a very exciting project, and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, so I am looking forward to it. This role will keep me busy until October, at which time I think I shall take a well-deserved break before launching into the next thing!

Ministry is busy for Jeff this season also - see the calendar column to the right for some highlights which I'll write more about in our next newsletter to spare you from having to read more just now! But if you'd like to know more about anything we are doing, please email us : tneely@oval.com or jneely@oval.com.

With much love and gratitude for your faithfulness in prayer and support!

Tamara & Jeff



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