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*Dear Friends,*

**TT - Travelling Together' (40)**

September 2012

How was this summer for you? What have you been doing?

Here in Burgenland there is the feel of autumn in the air and the wine growers are getting ready for their main harvest. For days now there has been a lot of activity in the vineyards round Lake Neusiedl. The grape harvest always needs a lot of extra voluntary help. On occasions we have ourselves said we would be willing to help, if they are short-handed.

One real highlight in August was the **lovely surprise visit** from our Slovakian friends, Jan and Ljuba, on their way back from Croatia. Out of the blue they were there on our doorstep! What an encouraging meeting after so many years! THANK YOU, both of you!

The other highlight was the **big open air wedding of M and S** on a small peninsula by Lake Neusiedl. WOW! Hans-Georg was responsible for the church service and the wedding ceremony. **He really enjoyed this evangelistic event!**

At the start of August we decided on the spur of the moment to travel to Carinthia. We wanted to have a long weekend away from it all, to spend more time in God's Word, letting HIM speak to us and praying together. This was so refreshing that we would love to do this again some time soon. A full holiday hasn't been possible for us this year, but having **shorter breaks** makes up for it and gives us valuable time out. We'd love to have **YOUR IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS for mini breaks!**

**You prayed for Rita...**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> September Rita was called home. Now she can see the Lord Jesus face to face! That is what she was longing for! In spite of very strong medication her pain had become unbearable in the last few weeks! But her last moments were full of reconciliation and the deep peace of God's very real presence as her whole family gathered round her.

Now we are in the middle of the preparations for her funeral on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 17.00 local time. She had prepared it herself, down to the last detail, some months ago. She asked us then to take the service. It is to take the form of a thanksgiving for God's work in her life. **We pray therefore that her very special testimony will bear fruit for eternity!**

**"BIALLA, WEST NEW BRITAIN PROVINCE, PNG"**

We were pretty amazed when a letter reached us with the above notice on it! "Hello. I am wondering if you are the same people who were in Bialla... My name is G.L. and my family had the little shop by the palm oil mill, near the jetty. I came round to see you quite often as Margret helped out at the International School with music/guitar playing (Religious Education). How are you? Your lads must be grown up now. We have been living in Australia for some years now. Where are you living now? Please get in touch!"

When we read something like this, it makes our hearts beat a little faster and we're so glad that after sixteen years there are still people who remember our time there. We are still in touch with some of our indigenous brothers and sisters there and recently we have been in contact with F., an international leading worker at the oil mill. She is suffering from an aggressive wasting disease affecting her nerves and muscles and asked us to remember her in our prayers.

**"Eisenstadt FORUM"**

There is much to consider regarding restructuring, changes and further outreach. **We need your prayers so much** for the planning meetings, for good ideas, for more workers and for enthusiasm and joy in our times spent together. **THANK YOU!**

**What else is on the calendar for September:**

- **6<sup>th</sup> Sept.:** We are travelling to Vienna for two different speaking engagements. One is to do with working together with missionary societies in Austria and the other, in the afternoon, is an advisory consultation about church planting work. We have many questions and **we are eager to seeing how God will lead us!**
- **13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> Sept.:** The Foreign Missions Team (TAM) is having a retreat together with the leaders of our association of churches. At the various meetings during the weekend we hope to have new inspiration for our future work here in Austria and further afield.
- **17<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> Sept.:** Hans-Georg will be at a missionary conference in Lviv in the Ukraine (**Central and Eastern European Missions Forum, CEEMF**, [www.europeanma.eu](http://www.europeanma.eu)). This will be about working together with Eastern Europe countries in world mission. Many East European church leaders and missionaries will be taking part to share about the big task of world mission and looking for ways to network with each other. **PLEASE PRAY** for the leading of the Holy Spirit and a way forward together.
- **28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> Sept.:** Church weekend away and various services in Nuremberg.

**THANK YOU**

**...for all the ways you show your love for us**

**...for your prayers**

**...for your gifts for us as a family and for our ministry**

**We value your help and your faithfulness so much!**

**With love in the Lord,**