

Curran's Currant

CMS Mission Partners—Pakistan

September 2010

Three years after leaving Fleckney to begin life as Mission Partners in Training with CMS we have finally arrived at our final destination, the village of Rattanabad in Sindh!

A Sort Of Home Coming

Say “Goodbye” to Murree, say “Hello” to Sindh! After a difficult final month in Murree we were pleased to leave, moving to our new home in the village of Rattanabad, near the city of Mirpur Khas in Sindh province. We meandered slowly down the country visiting friends and drying out from the Murree damp. We had the pleasure of staying with friends in Rawalpindi before spending a week in Lahore. In Lahore we enjoyed the hospitality of more friends and visited our old church, Bishop Rocky Chapel. We were able to enjoy swimming nearly everyday at the Lahore International Club and shopping in ‘Western Style’ establishments once more. The children particularly enjoyed spending a lot of time with their friends.

After consolidating all of our possessions in one place we were ready to move on down to Sindh. We had a wonderful flight from Lahore to Karachi with PIA (Pakistan International Airlines) with no delays. In another classic piece of Pakistani lassitude to Health and Safety, we waited expectantly for a child’s seatbelt for Boaz. When it never came we



Sian Enjoying The Rattanabad Dust



Why Does It Always Rain On Me?- Another Damp Day In Murree

asked for one, to be told “We don’t use them here, just hold him, he’ll be fine”.

Touching down in Karachi we caught a taxi for the 4 hour drive to Rattanabad which was smooth and uneventful. Upon arrival we were warmly welcomed by Dr Ebenezer, the director of the TB project and the people who live on our compound. We have been overwhelmed and humbled by the hospitality we have received. One family provided us with 4 consecutive meals when we first arrived, something unheard of in the UK!

A Green Family?

In wonderful answered prayer we were able to sell our car before we left Murree with the help of friends. We were very pleased to get a good price for it. It is a massive burden taken off our shoulders. These days we are blessed to have access to the projects vehicle in Rattanabad which, though it would never get through an MOT, is good enough to bump us along the short journey into town and back for shopping etc. Cars are very expensive here so currently we do not have enough funds to buy our own vehicle, but maybe one day!



***Our Things Being Unloaded After Their
1,100km Journey***

Becoming More Pakistani

Next month marks our first anniversary of arriving in Pakistan! Recently we have noticed ourselves becoming more Pakistani in numerous ways.

Here everything happens at the last minute with little forward planning. Things will always change so why waste the energy? Adopting this approach to our move, we packed a few days before, not knowing which day we would move. Only the afternoon before did we arrange a removal truck and decided we would leave the following day. Cutting things fine is now becoming more natural, but still causes Dave's pulse to race at times.

On Sunday we went in a car with only one seatbelt and 7 children to church. We no longer notice the soapy after taste of the local Cadburys chocolate, even Sindhi *Chai* with a thick skin on tastes delicious and refreshing, where as in 2008 when we visited every cup turned our stomachs!

Boaz Walks

It happened whilst waiting for our plane to Karachi, in Allma Iqbal Airport, Lahore. After many false starts the day had finally come. There was a deserted concourse, Dawn and the girls had gone to buy sweets. There was just Boaz and his daddy. Spying a table he fancied, he let go of my finger and walked 6 steps on his own to where he wanted to go. He looked back with a cheeky grin, contemplating what he had just done. He had walked for the first time, and since then he has never stopped. He is really steady on his feet. Faye and Sian are having to get used to sharing their doll's pushchairs with him, which is causing quite a ruckus at times!



***What Are Step Ladders?
Who Needs Health & Safety?***

Flood Relief

A neighbour is the country director for TEAR Fund in Pakistan. We have met some of the TEAR Fund emergency response team from the UK helping to set up the response programme. Currently they are the only international NGO helping in the two large Sindhi districts lying to the East of the Indus. They aim to support 6000 families over the next 6 months and more as funding enables.

Prayer Points:-

- Praise God for our smooth move to Rattanabad and that all of our luggage arrived safely
- Praise God that we were able to learn a good amount of Urdu in Murree
- Pray for the continuing relief efforts following the terrible flooding in the country, pray specifically for TEAR Fund and their local team providing relief based in Rattanabad.
- Pray for us as we settle here, for the children as they cope with another transition, for Dawn as she begins the home school, and for David as he begins working in the clinics
- Pray for our continued language acquisition so we can communicate effectively with people
- Continue to pray for David's application to register with the PMDC and for our application for a new visa, that they will both be successful

New Address: PO Box 21, Mubarik Centre, Mirpur Khas, 69 000, Sindh, Pakistan

We also have very poor email access at the moment, we are sorry for not replying to emails