



Woodington Family, Christmas 2006



This year ends at the Bible College with an Aussie Christmas Bash. This event also marks the end of our first year in Australia. It has been a very exciting year of discovery and achievement. We have met so many wonderful people, one of whom is dressed in this Koala Suit.

As a family, we have all grown spiritually and are enjoying this very different way of life. MECS School has proved to be a big hit with the children. Paul helped on the boys' schools camps recently including the steam train trip below. The Girls did very well in their exams. Kiri enters into a specialist math's group next year, which is her senior school year, equivalent to A level years in UK.



Clare has been working at the Maroondah Hospital three days a week. She has enjoyed working there although it has taken her a little time getting used to all the new procedures. Clare also took two bible subjects this year, Romans and Personal Evangelism. She also took two pre-Christians to Alpha and both have accepted Christ into their lives.

Paul has mentored a non-Christian who later this year gave his life to Christ. At Bible College, Paul achieved distinctions for all bible subjects. At the Mission Aviation Centre, Paul passed with straight sets his entire commercial and instrument flight theory exams. Yippee! This has been 12 theory exams.

Next semester Paul is set to get his Command Instrument Rating and Commercial Pilots License. The following semester is set aside for Advanced Transport Passenger License (ATPL), which is used for airline style flying. MAF have an airline in the Northern Territories.



At mid-semester break, the family flew to Fraser Island in Northern Queensland for a week in this Bonanza A36 commercial aircraft. It is a 300 km/hr aircraft and suits our family. It took just over four hours to get to there and we landed at night. Fraser Island is magnificent with this 94 km beach.

We are so busy with studies and fitting everything in that writing a newsletter does not get the attention it deserves. This seems quite typical of those in mission work.



We helped organize a 4x4 off-road men's and sons camps for two different Vineyard Churches, the second of which Paul was the keynote speaker. It was a great experience and very challenging. It is difficult to imagine where these cars can actually go! Several cars needed rescuing. Our Nissan Patrol was one of the rescue equipped vehicles and took part in quite a dramatic rescue involving tying two Nissan Patrols together with a snatch strap and pulling the stricken Toyota Hilux over 2 km up a mountain.

We have had a great year and settled in well, although we do miss you all. God has been good to us, we are looking forward to an Aussie Christmas, and another year of God filled learning and adventure. Clare's mum visited in March and Paul's Mum and Dad have just arrived for Christmas. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a God Blessed New Year.

Love and Blessings from – Paul, Clare and Family.



Right: Bruce Searle, Dean of Mission Aviation, who's Father was the 2nd Principle of the Bible College and Chaired the 1st MAF Australia Meeting. He is also Paul's Instrument flight instructor.



Left: a shot of Paul's first night flight over Victoria.