

MalawiLink

The Cashman Family in Malawi

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Rachel aged one, has now made a full recovery from her severe Croup (inflamed upper airways) and breathing difficulties.

We enjoyed a lovely holiday at New Wine and after in Cornwall—thank you everyone who made it possible.



Rachel in dark times in July struggling to breathe

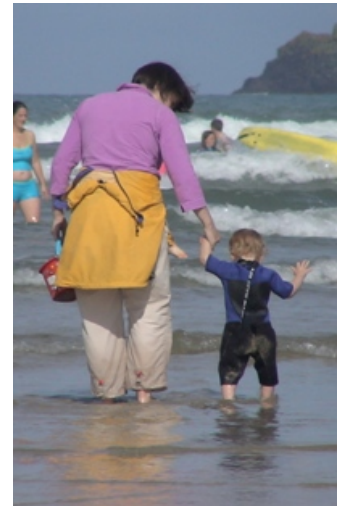
The start of a new chapter

Well, we are back! All four of us in one piece and in good shape after a lovely holiday in the UK. Thank you so much to all who have prayed for Rachel's recovery—she is now completely better and thriving on her new found ambulatory skills.

Looking at her now, we can scarcely believe that she was so very ill only two months ago. This short update feels like it should read like a speech from 'the Oscars' “...and we would like to thank everyone who made it possible.” But we have been the subject of such overwhelming love and kindness, from so many people, that we really don't know where to start. We cannot mention everyone by name, but we are so grateful for your prayers, for your love and for the generosity of our family in all Saints that both

allowed us to enjoy a damp, but refreshing week at “New Wine” in Shepton Mallet, and sent us on a lovely family holiday week in a beautiful cottage in Cornwall. The timing of both could not have been better and we could have done neither without your help.

Most of all we want to publicly and sincerely thank our Heavenly Father for his sustaining and restoring. We have learnt much in the last few weeks, but importantly have been reminded on how thin a veneer all of our “normality” is built on and the spiritual battles that go on largely unseen. We can testify to both the positive necessity and power of prayer and of the temptations and dangers of fear and doubt. The challenge now - as it is for all of us, is



Rachel taking her first steps in the sea at Polzeath

to keep our priorities and focus on what is important in the midst of a busy life and many distractions.

A Refreshing Interlude

We very much enjoyed our summer break. Our week in Polzeath saw Rachel having her first introduction to the sea. It was wonderful to play in the sand, spend hours in rock pools and taste great ice-cream. We think the kids enjoyed it

too! We also had a rather brief but lovely week with John's parents in Scotland. During this time we also caught up with Robyn's sisters and family in the North. We were able to go to John's family's church—St Paul's in Galashiels and

catch up with old family friends briefly before flying back for the start of Hannah's School term in the beginning of September.





Not just straightening legs, but helping straighten and heal a child's understanding about God's Love for them, is the most privileged part of being in Malawi

An unresolved conclusion

We have started back to work and there is much to do. Rachel continues to favour the hours of darkness to work on her oratory skills, but her parental audience are tiring of this and would prefer that sleeps at night like all the books tell us she now should be doing. I can only hope that the determination she is showing not to conform will some day find a more constructive outlet.

Hannah is enjoying school and now the daytime temperatures are in the mid 30's, she has taken up swimming once again. John is about to set forth on another week away from home in the Central Region doing clinics, operating and teaching. He has a busy schedule ahead with a great deal of operating. Robyn is still hoping that regular sleep will become a reality once again and at the same time is gallantly trying to keep the whole family on-track.

In the next three months we need to decide whether we will stay on in Malawi, beyond our initial 2 year contract and sabbatical, or whether we should return home to our previous lives. Both seem surprisingly difficult propositions to decide between, but decide we must, by Christmas at the latest. We would value your prayers as we think this through.

If you are thinking of visiting—just do. It would be lovely. Otherwise, do keep in touch by email. We long to hear your news.

With our love, thanks and very best wishes,

John, Robyn, Hannah and Rachel



RACHEL FULLY RECOVERED !
A walking, smiling testament to God's goodness and faithfulness

Staying in Touch

We would love to stay in contact. Email is best, but simple text is best. I am afraid that "broadband" connections in Malawi are much slower than in the UK and at the moment are extremely expensive.

Paul and Viv Nicholson, have kindly agreed to email or print and send out a newsletter to all our friends and colleagues who would like to keep up to date, Please either complete the form below and send to Paul and Viv , or email us and we will make the necessary arrangements:

Name:

Email Address

Or

Home Postal Address

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- I would like to receive John and Robyn's Newsletter by EMAIL
- I would like to receive John and Robyn's Newsletter by POST
- I would like to receive written information about financially supporting the work of the Cashman Family working for CURE in Malawi
- I would like to receive a free CD or Video (in PC format) about the work of CURE (also available as a download from www.malawilink.org)

PLEASE REPLY TO:
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OR
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