

## News from Wallace, Tina & family in Chile Oct/Nov 2008



'**SALUTATIONS**' as Charlotte says to Wilbur in Charlotte's Web.

Here on the left is a photo of our September YWAM DTS group. There are around 30 students in total; the eldest being in her forties and the youngest being just 16. They come from all walks of life and from many different places within Latin America, the States and Europe.

### A SOGGY WINTER

Winter in Pichilemu was pretty miserable this year with rainfall from this year and last all in one go. It was great for the national drought problem; not so great for the local leak problem in our front room. At one point we did even consider getting sandbags – thank God for the choice of ceramic tiles over laminate flooring! The rain which didn't come into our house festered outside creating mud trenches in a cowardly attempt to stifle our efforts to leave the house. Most embarrassing incident this winter by far was my 'Damsel in distress' moment when Wallace was away and I, (Tina) got the car stuck deeply entrenched in mud 15 metres from home. A (male) neighbour immediately sprung into action rescuing me with his 4x4 while other males looked on. Fiercely 'independent woman' -type thoughts conflicted angrily with the damsel-wannabe within.

### VIRTUES OF FOREIGN CALL CENTRES

Unfortunately this year we will have a year with spring, autumn and two winters – we really ought to have been able to arrange this better with two summers perhaps. Nevertheless we are very happy to announce we will be in the UK from Dec until March 2009 despite an initial hiccup with booking. A travel firm (using off-shore call centres) booked us on flights (after confessing they didn't know where Chile was) from *San Diego* instead of Santiago and subsequently insisted it would take 10 days for a refund. I wrote a letter hinting at the virtues of employees who know their geography and ushered up a prayer. What was initially a disaster turned out to be for our benefit when they gave us around £1000 off what should have been the total cost at this time of year on a more direct route. Hooray for foreign call centres after all!

### BIONIC BABE

An eagerly anticipated visit by two friends of Tina's turned sour recently when one of them, Susie, slipped on wet grass one morning during what was meant to be only a week's stay. Susie broke her ankle badly and had to be operated on (with metal plate, nuts and bolts, Lego – you name it) here in a city close by and convalesce with us for over a month. Tina enjoyed every minute of unexpected time with them but poor Susie was in and out of the physio clinic and in a lot of pain for most of their visit. Added to that their thwarted travel plans and it was all pretty awful for them. Karen administered pain relief when required and invented creative ways of washing Susie's hair. Susie amused the children by needing to shuffle up and downstairs on her bum which they mimicked mercilessly. Tina took full advantage for home school – a hands-on lesson in hospitals, pain, plaster casts, fascinating nuts and bolts x-rays, physiotherapy, etc. Susie, now the bionic woman, had to carry with her a medical certificate from her surgeon in Chile when she left stating that she is medically allowed to set off the alarms - whether it be duty free or airport security - which she does quite frequently. They did get a perk on the way home as they flew business class though all things considered it hardly compensated!

### THE (not always so) ALTRUISTIC LIFE OF A MISSIONARY – A MOMENT TO REFLECT!

Call it a revelation, call it common sense but I'm increasingly convicted that life as a volunteer overseas is no more challenging or altruistic than my life in England. Sure, it has its added pressures but that is often balanced by the benefits and really it's the day to day attitudes and small decisions that make a difference at home and in the local community. Personal struggles don't disappear, fears don't evaporate and personalities don't transform themselves just because you get on a plane and change postcode. No matter where you are or what you're doing or whatever stage of life you are at, you can still experience conflict, use time unwisely, over-indulge, avoid responsibilities, get too comfortable and live an ordinary life. The real challenge is living an *out-of-the-ordinary life* wherever you might be geographically and to whatever God has called you. On our introductory evening when all the students introduced themselves (as the title of the evening would suggest) each one was asked to say why they chose to do a DTS. Many of them, including a single mother of two, simply stated that they had come to the conclusion that *life without God didn't make sense*.

#### MOST BIZARRE MOMENT AWARD...

...would have to go to Wallace and Isabella. Isabella has launched into her tooth-losing phase of life with gusto losing a couple from top and bottom. Wallace, not wanting to be left out, has also lost two front teeth – the victim of old root canal work gone wrong and a dodgy local dentist (though there are some other rumours floating around the YWAM base – that perhaps Tina had something to do with it) He's now been without his teeth for a good few weeks and it has certainly provoked many a gasp and giggle around here. Please pray for new replacements soon as he is forbidden to fly to England like it!!! – If you look closely you'll see he has his mouth strategically closed on the photos likening him to a Cheshire cat.



#### TO THE UK AND ON TO THAILAND

Wallace and I are finally realising one of our dreams – to lead a DTS team on outreach to the UK. The team will later travel on to Thailand. The team are L-R: Steve (US), Samuel (US), Amy (US), Scott (US), Susanna (Switzerland), Wallace, Tina and David (Chile)...possibly also Pedro Hartley (Chile) who isn't featured. We have 3 weeks confirmed in the UK with another 2 offered and a week confirmed in Thailand.

#### THANKS FOR

The amazing opportunity to be home for Christmas and to be part of taking a team to England. Continued general good health. General good progress with home-schooling. God's provision in times of need including a loan for the flight money. Thanks so much to those who support us month by month and those who give when they can. We couldn't do it without you!

#### PLEASE HELP US PRAY FOR

Complete **recovery** for Susie's nastily broken leg. For the possibility of **Talita** (Wallace's daughter) coming to Chile in 2009 to do a DTS. For the UK/Thailand outreach team in general and the **courage** they need to step out in faith in so many ways. For Pedro and Amy are still praying for finances for the outreach. For our own **provision** as we face greater challenges – specifically that our **car** would sell here and the wisdom to know how best to **rent** out our house in Chile. For an alternative **place to stay** in the UK – OR – special **grace** for our parents throughout our extended stay!

*'Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession' Ps.2:8*

*tinaywallace@hotmail.com*