

PILLINGERS' UPDATE, November–December 2008

Serving People in Word and Deed

Dear friends,

It's Christmas Eve, and we wanted to wish you all a VERY blessed Christmas, as well as giving you a brief update on our news before the New Year is upon us!

Steve: As you know, I've been intensively involved in typesetting the **Konkomba Bible** (Ghana) since October. Last time we wrote how the start had been delayed as I had problems with kidney stones. PTL, that got resolved, and we did start! You may remember that this was with Mary Steel, a veteran translator with Wycliffe. At the age of almost 80, she was now going through the typesetting process for the 5th time! This was a complete revision of the previous Konkomba Bible and as such had to be typeset from scratch.

It was such a privilege to work with her and take on — for the first time — an entire Bible. I enjoyed it immensely and it was wonderful to see the pages roll off the printer in our typesetting office. That was, of course, just the first draft. Mary spent weeks scrutinising these pages to correct last-minute mistakes. I put in the corrections; and at our last Centre Fellowship meeting of the year I presented her with a printout of the first pages of all the books [see *photos below*]. She was delighted! She has now gone home to Northern Ireland to celebrate Christmas, and early next year I will do all the final adjustments, plus title page, preface, etc., after which it can be sent off for printing.

Thank you so much for praying. It was a close run thing to get through this first phase in time (working with the translator), as Mary could only be here till now. But PTL, we made it!

Johanna: At home all is well, and we look forward to having Christmas with the four of us. Stephen will have a break from his full-time job with Siemens in Sheffield ("Delivery Services Co-ordinator"); and Jen has come home after the first term of her second year in London (Goldsmiths College, Anthropology). And Steve will be very relieved to have a break. Since he's had no holiday this year, with a period of particularly concentrated work during the last few months, he's really earned it!

We want to thank you for your support, friendship and prayers throughout this year. Thanks to you Steve has been able to typeset the Ite New Testament (Togo), the Ahanta New Testament (Ghana), has helped to complete the training of two typesetters in Cameroon, and typeset the Konkomba Bible (Ghana) — as well as other minor jobs. Next year many more people will have access to God's word in the language of their hearts as the printed copies of these translations reach their destinations. THANK YOU!!

Have a wonderful Christmas, and may you know His blessings in the New Year.

With love,

Steve and Johanna.

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