

## NEWSLETTER 24

July 2011

Two months have passed since last I wrote – a time of refreshing, relaxing – and then busyness! It was good to see friends again after our four months away and to renew prayer times with Clayton – a dear brother with a similar passion to mine – revival.

In June we welcomed two dear friends from Australia, John and Maria Coman. John was a pastor with the Christian & Missionary Alliance and now serves as Vice-principal of a Christian school in Kalgoolie, Western Australia. He and I travelled across the Great Western Desert together as he led a group of teachers and students who ministered to Aboriginal children at Warburton. That was a wonderful experience in 2006 that I shall never forget. It was a great privilege to entertain them at our home. Such sweet fellowship!

On June 18<sup>th</sup> our grandson Matt married Elaina – what a beautiful wedding, full of special touches authored by the bride. Matt will be coming to university in Victoria in September to study Geology while Elaina will come to work at our local hospitals as an operating-room nurse. We are so proud of them both as they begin their new life together in the Lord.

As July approached we began to prepare for our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding celebration on the 15th. Guests were planning to come from Australia, Wales, Portland, OR., north-central BC - and all were going to stay at our home! No sweat – we'd manage! Our eldest daughter Corinne, helped by her sisters Andrea and Lynette, planned a special celebration on July 16<sup>th</sup>, to which many of our closest friends came – it was truly wonderful to meet so many, some after many years. Our youngest daughter Lynette arrived from Australia – her anniversary was the same day as ours. As I am writing this newsletter (26<sup>th</sup> July) we are planning to leave tomorrow for Wales, en route to Norway, where we shall spend the next four months while Anne touches her 'roots'.

Just four weeks ago I had a telephone call from the pastor of Highway Christian Fellowship, Sidney BC., asking if I would speak at his church for three Sundays while he visited his daughter, a student in Australia. I was quick to accept as I so much enjoy that fellowship, but then I realized I would not be here after July. "Which Sundays are you looking at?" I asked. "July 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>" he replied – the only three Sundays I had available! The Lord is the One who plans my schedule and this is but another example of what happens when one is committed to hold on to His hand as He leads.

You can listen to those messages by going on to their webpage at [www.hcfsidney.ca](http://www.hcfsidney.ca)

When I can, I shall put them on to this web page.

I'm not sure how I shall have access to the web while we are away but we will try to keep you informed on what the Lord is doing.

Gareth