

Peter's Page

News from Peter Kirk, May 2008



Dear Friends,

I am sorry to see that it is well over a year since I last wrote to you all about my Bible translation work.

But now at last I can report that, as of this week, the New Testament text is complete and has been handed over for typesetting. The Old Testament has also been revised and is being typeset again. The hope is that the full Bible can be printed and published before the end of this year. Praise the Lord that this long task of preparing the text has been completed successfully!

For the first half of last year I was playing a major part in this work. I visited Baku in February and May to work on corrections and approval of the text. At this point we were satisfied with the general quality of the text, but the team wanted to do more work on improving its readability. Also there was a lot to do on book introductions, the glossary and maps. My Korean colleague took the main responsibility for this, which is now finished. So for the last twelve months I have taken a back seat in the project, making some checks by e-mail, and have not been back to Baku.

Meanwhile I have been busy here in Chelmsford without actually having any formal regular work. I considered doing some further study in theology, probably based in Cambridge, but then decided not to do this for the time being. I have spent quite a lot of my time in informal study, and also keeping up my blog, which is now called Gentle Wisdom and is at <http://www.qaya.org/blog/> - I hope you will find interesting this series of short articles on the Internet, mostly about Christianity.

One thing which has taken up quite a lot of my time is moving house. In March last year I sold my house in High Wycombe. Then at the end of the year I bought a second house in Great Baddow, Chelmsford, in fact on the Meadgate estate only 100 yards from my church. I spent much of the Christmas break refitting the bathroom in the new house, and then moved in in mid January. Meanwhile I have let the old house to some younger friends from church. Also as of this month I have a lodger in my new house, a young man from Paris who is working as an intern at the church.

A lot of my time is still taken up with activities at my church – indeed all the more so now I live so close. After a year's break I was re-elected as church council secretary last month. I now help to run the coffee shop at the church every Monday morning as an outreach to the community. My major involvement recently has been with prayer ministry, especially for healing, which is becoming a focus of the church. Meanwhile as I write my vicar and his wife are visiting the current revival at Lakeland, Florida, and if things get going here as they would like there will be plenty for me to do.

There is also the possibility of further Bible translation work for me. New projects are starting based in Baku, but I have turned down the chance of involvement in them. But I have now been invited to take a part in a couple of projects on related languages which are based mainly here in the UK. At the moment I am not sure what kind of involvement in these I might be offered or accept.

So please pray for me to have wisdom about how to use my time: whether to do more Bible translation, or further study, or concentrate on work in my church. Please also pray for the team in Baku as they prepare the text for publication, and for me as very likely I have to sort out some glitches with this.

Thank you for your continuing support, and best wishes to you all,

Peter Kirk

*New address: 397 Meadgate Avenue, Great Baddow, Chelmsford CM2 7NN
New tel: 01245 264405 Mobile: 07940 125144 E-mail: peter@qaya.org*