

In the church

A lot of our time in the church lately has been spent with the **Sunday School**. Apart from the normal lessons, last week there was the end of school year presentation of the Sunday School. There was also the visit that day of the person from India who founded the school that the children at Trento support. It was good for them (and for the adults) to have a personal contact with those to whom they send their money. I had written a song for the presentation, so I was busy preparing that, some videos to accompany it, and the older children who performed an instrumental piece. Pinuccia on the other hand prepared the choreography for another song, as well as doing the general organising. Now we are preparing a four day camp for the children in July - there should be about a dozen present. The whole family will be going: I will be looking after the music, and also our children during the events of the camp, and generally just being around to help, whilst Pinuccia will be running it all with the assistance of some other very capable people.

For the past few years, the **Wednesday night Bible study group** has been the most difficult to work with, with very different people that did not really form a group together. So we met and



The Sunday School children and teachers.

had a study together, but that was about it. But in the last couple of months, things have seemed to start working better. There have been a few new people coming (so there are 12 people now), which has created even more diversity in the group. Despite that there is more commitment to the group and to the other people now, so it is starting to work as it should. I have also got to the point where I feel that others could be involved in leading some of the studies, so that has been happening lately. Certainly, the studies could be improved, but the group is supportive of the others that are having a go.

The Wednesday night group has also had some travellers lately. One was the lady who God had prepared to work with the Chinese people at Trento, as I described in past newsletters. Last month she was in Hong Kong, but also went to China to visit her priest friend, where she also ended up talking to a group of 40 university students about the Gospel. As she said, if someone had said to her 4 years ago that she would be teaching the Bible at Trento and evangelising university people in mainland China, both in Mandarin (which she didn't know), she would have laughed at the suggestion. But God has prepared her to do wonderful things for him. The other person was one of a group of 7 people from the church who went to a big European youth missionary conference (about 6000 people) in Germany over Easter. Since she has only been a Christian for a year, it was a big change for her after just being involved in the church at Trento, and in some Italian GBU meetings.



The Wednesday night Bible study group:

From the top left Fosca (went to Germany), Katia, Mariya, André, Yvette (Chinese), Filomena, Anna, Osea, Claudio, Pippo, Salvo

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In the family

Our family life in the last couple of months has certainly been characterised by **guests**. Both sets of grandparents, and aunts, uncles and cousins from both sides of the family have stayed or visited. We have also had some missionaries travelling through. Then this weekend a couple of people from a German band (that will be visiting the band that I play in) will be staying with us. A couple of times the visitors have clashed, and we had them sleeping in different places, and for one lunch we managed to get three different sets of guests at the same table. We thank God for the privilege that we have of hosting lots of different people - we have just bought Stefania a big map of the world so that she can learn where they all come from. I am also thankful to God that he provided an apartment that can be used for all this hospitality (quite hard to find at Trento), and that also Pinuccia considers it important and accepts all these guests despite the extra work for her.



At the end of April Daniele finally managed to have his **operation** for an undescended testicle, after three false starts. However, the surgeon discovered that the problem was not an undescended testicle, but that the testicle did not exist at all. So he just removed the tissue that should have made it, and fixed the other one in place. Daniele reacted and recovered well, and had already woken up from the anesthetic when they took him back to Pinuccia after the operation. After being attached to a couple of drips, he was eating and running around with his usual energy. He was out of the hospital in the afternoon of the same day. **Thanks for all your prayers for this.**

Upcoming events

9-12 June: Meeting near Florence for missionaries in Italy

21 June: Service at Rovereto

27-28 June: Annual church weekend away

30 June-3 July: Second church children's camp

5 July: Baptism of six people from the church

12 July-20 August: (approximately) In Sicily with Pinuccia's family