

RICHARD AND PINUCCIA WILSON

SERVING IN ROVERETO, ITALY

With Daniele, Luca, and Mattia, and Stefania in Australia

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It is impossible in just two pages to describe the many things that have happened since our last newsletter: the end of the school year in June, two months in Australia, and now the beginning of the new school year. So there will only be a few highlights and reflections.

In Italy

The children finished well the school year. Luca and Mattia completed Year 5, and so will start middle school next week. Daniele got through his final school exams, but where he really excelled was being the presenter of the school's end of year show. Having had a break over the last couple of months, he now has to start looking for work and other activities to keep himself busy.



In Australia

With less than 8 weeks in Australia, the trip this time was more hectic than usual. But apart from the many formal meetings and times catching up with family and friends, there were a few general highlights:

As I talked many times about the various ministries I am involved in, I discovered that I had a new passion. When I explained that I am part of the *Church for All* group in ECM, that tries to help missionaries to plant and pastor inclusive churches (for people with differences or disabilities), I spoke best and I got more emotional (especially when talking about the autistic spectrum). Two months ago, I did not consider it one of my important ministries, but just something I had fallen into by accident. On the other hand, for a couple of decades I had also considered my computer ministry as something I had fallen into by accident, before recognising in hindsight God's hand in that. I don't want to make the same mistake again!

There were two periods of about 10 days in which Stefania stayed with us. It was nice to go back to the old family dynamics. But it was also good to see her new life first-hand, meeting her friends, and participating a



At the zoo to bring out their inner Australians

bit in her Australian life. And Stefania took advantage of our presence, getting us to cook lasagna and pizzas for her friends in two different social circles in two consecutive nights.

Good health for the family without any winter ailments, and some ongoing issues being less of a problem than usual. It is always good to be thankful for the good and not just be concerned when things don't go well.

The generosity of friends, and of supporters I hardly know - financially, with hospitality, and in practical help - to make the two months away from home enjoyable for all the family.

A very patient and loving family, who puts up with being dragged around to visit my friends and churches.

Although Pinuccia does see it positively as an opportunity to know and serve other Christians, and did a great job encouraging others when she spoke, despite difficulties with the language.



Daniele also understands it is a sacrifice for Gospel work, and silently helped when he could (eg looking after his brothers when Pinuccia and I were busy), and was able to actively prepare and participate when we had to speak at some children's meetings.

Playing bridge with my father a few times. Although with three second places and a third place, I did not quite achieve my objective.

Making good progress on the three projects of my computer ministry that I had brought with me. A new Italian commentary of 35,000 pages was added to the site and apps, and soon after I returned home another commentary and a new Italian translation of the Bible. (The new translation required more than 6 months of work, as there were about 20,000 changes to make to the electronic files that I had.) The third project, which is expected to be finished early next year, is going well, with Daniele helping a lot and so speeding it up.

In Italy again

After arriving back in Italy, we had to return to our normal Italian life quickly. Pinuccia started work four days later, and Mattia and Luca will start school on the 10th. I was supposed to start leading the church Bible studies in the first week of September, but I obtained an extension to give me more time to get organised (and to get over jet lag). Our hospitality ministry restarts soon as well, with the Youth Group of the two churches coming on the 5th for a pizza, which had been postponed in May but which now doubles as an 18th birthday party for Daniele. The following week we will have a few people visiting us from Australia. There are also several Zoom meetings with people and groups in ECM, as we all catch up after having had a break over the summer.

There were a some evident changes in the church after two months away: a few new people to get to know, and the front part of the church hall has been reorganised to accommodate the growing music group. In fact, with a sixth person joining the group while we were away and the musicians doing an increasingly good job, it was clear that it was time for me to leave that ministry. Our policy has always been to help out where it has been necessary (as it was in the music group 3.5 years ago), then stop when others can take over, as is the case now with the music in church. This leaves me free to do other things. I will be able to help more during the services (leading the service, translation), but will also have more time to help in other ways. The pastor is thinking of getting me to do some training for some of the church ministries, but we need to get together some time soon to talk about it better.

Upcoming dates

September 10: School starts for Luca and Mattia

September 14: After church picnic for the churches at Trento and Rovereto, to create better relationships.

September 25: Zoom meeting for the leaders of the mission on the field.

October 6: Next monthly meeting of the *Church for All* group, on dyslexia.

Prayer and thanksgiving points

- Give thanks for a good end of school year for the family, and for the changes for the children as they start middle school and work.
- Pray for the *Church for All* group, that it will help missionaries to plant inclusive churches.
- Give thanks for Stefania's flourishing in Australia, for the time we could spend with her, and pray for her plans for the future.
- Pray that the three commentaries in Italian that I have added to my site in the last three months will help people to study and teach the Bible.
- Pray that the people who visit our apartment can find the Gospel lived out there.
- Pray that I would find good ways of helping the church at Rovereto to grow and mature.
- Pray that the time together for the churches of Trento and Rovereto on the 14th will help build deeper bonds between them, as they work together for the evangelisation and the planting of churches in the province.

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