

# Update From *The Kings*

March 2009

## ~~The British~~ Americans Are Coming!

Allison is to become one of the Queen's subjects. We were recently notified that her application to become a UK citizen has been accepted! On March 25<sup>th</sup> Allison will attend a citizenship ceremony in which she declares to uphold the laws of the land. Many of you will remember that Allison's mother, Maureen, immigrated to the US after originally coming as a nanny at age 21. She met a navy boy named Dale, and the rest is history. British law allows certain first generation descendants of British citizens a right to return.



What does this mean? Allison will now maintain a US and UK (dual) citizenship. It means for Allison an end to visa applications and the expenses. It opens up new options for my visa and will allow me to apply for citizenship after a couple years. Citizenship in a European Union (EU) country means greater flexibility to live and travel in the EU as well as to other countries that don't look too kindly on US passports. Mostly it makes us feel more legitimate. While on a visa, we're always aware that the winds of politics and policy can change and suddenly disallow our stay.

## March Madness

No. Not the NCAA basketball brand of craziness. Our lives and schedules are especially crazy this month. We have visitors coming from the

States, Allison's citizenship ceremony, extra team planning meetings, church meeting, administration and preparation for Perspectives and Encountering Islam courses as well as current Children's Music Academy classes. New things, most of them positive, are happening in almost every area, but it takes thought and emotional energy. A couple weeks ago, I needed to be in two services at once. We are working out details and trying to promote for new CMA classes. We appreciate your prayers for peace and rest knowing God is in control.

## Together Again

The Challenge Bradford Away Day will happen on March 28<sup>th</sup>. This is part of my work with the group of five Baptist churches. There is growing excitement. More than 50 people have signed up so far and ministers from other churches are interested in what this group is doing. The member churches exist to encourage one another in Christian presence and mission in the city. We are aware that unity in the body is not an easy thing to foster. For these five churches, it is an attempt to recapture unity. We know that unity in the church is a powerful testimony.

Please pray for this event. Much work needs to be done in preparation. A variety of activities will happen on the day around the idea of Micah 6:8 "What does the Lord require of you:

But to do justice, love kindness and to walk humbly with your God".



Westgate Baptist Church has been meeting for more than 250 years and is one of five churches in Challenge Bradford.



### Pre-School!?

It can't be. Oh how fast they grow. Adam is due to start pre-school after Easter. He will attend two days a week at the same school that Madeline went to last year. Adam is into cars...matchbox, hot wheels, big ones, small ones, you name it.

Madeline spends much of her time when not at school dancing around the living room on her toes. Her favorite videos are instructional ballet videos for kids. Madeline has now begun picking up the local accent with gusto. Say water, and bottle without the 'T'. Add in words like 'mummy', 'hoondred' (hundred), and go up in pitch at the end of your sentence instead of dropping and you'll be getting there.

### Another Car Bites the Dust

We're sad to see our old Peugeot Estate (station wagon) go. Actually, we're not too sad, but we'll remember the car in which we learned to drive on the other side of the road. We'll remember the fire under the hood (bonnet) as it came close to burning up just days after we bought it. We hauled our worldly possessions, wood, wardrobes, rocks and branches with it. The kids have thrown up in it from car sickness more times than we'd like to count. In the end,

the maintenance and repairs needed to make it safe again would have cost 2.5 times the value of that eleven year-old car.

We're thankful for getting a great deal from a friend at church who owns a car dealership.



Now we've entered the minivan stage of life and can now fit the kids and any guests who might come to visit us from overseas. (hint, hint) Don't worry. We've got the motion sickness medicine down to a science now.

As God leads and enables, would you consider a gift to help off-set the cost of this needed item. Your gift would be greatly appreciated.

As always, drop us a line or just come and visit.

Blessings,

*Tom & Allison*  
*Madeline Adam*

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**Donations can be made to Pioneers, and designated to "King:111-110".**

PIONEERS

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