

It's always a bit different here in Australia, apart from the obvious, the warm weather, the school year ends with the calendar year. This means that things start getting really busy in November and December.

University has finished for the year, Jack is home and Alice will come home in December. Olivia and Estella will be having their end of year school camps. Olivia's camp will involve hiking into the bush for two nights camping. Estella's will be a canoe hike to a remote spot on Lake Tinaroo. Edith is very excited about the school year finishing and has been making gifts for her friends and teachers.



It has been a busy year even though travel has been off the cards. We have been upgrading the Cessna C208 from PNG, I was able to go on the first test flight, which was a little bit nerve-racking. There were some very minor adjustments to be made after the flight. But considering the plane had been completely refurbished, repainted, new engine fitted and a complete avionics upgrade, it was an amazing testimony to the skill of the whole engineering team.



I have been continuing to support the Bangladesh team remotely, this has been challenging at times. The good news is that both aircraft in Bangladesh are now serviceable and ready to fly. Operations are planned to start in December, there is also a new pilot Fernando, joining the team just after Christmas.

The new hangars are looking very impressive, the main hangar should be ready to move into on the 4th of January and the second paint hangar will be completed in March.

As part of my role in engineer training I have been enrolled on a certificate 4 in training and assessment. This training is both via online and face to face. Hence I spent last week in Cairns studying and learning how to best teach, train and present to a range of students. I will continue to work online for other assessments of the course.



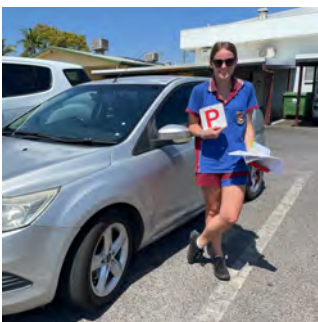
Anne has completed her first year working in aged care in the community. She is caring, offering support and also giving mobility and exercise classes. She continues to do supply teaching and has been monitoring new drivers as a volunteering role.



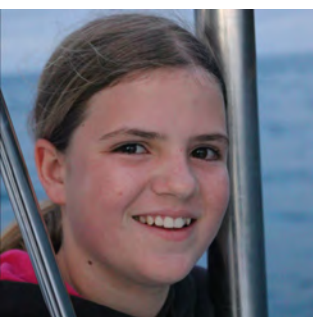
Alice has finished her first full year of Architecture at Queensland University of Technology. She has done very well with her grades and is enjoying the challenge of the course. During the year she has been involved with a campus outreach called 'Power to Change'. The opportunity arrived for an outreach to the Gold Coast during the "schoolies week" when the high school grade 12 have their final celebrations. Thanks to all those who supported this outreach in prayer and financially. She had some great conversations with students and enjoyed the opportunity to challenge her own faith, and see God using her to speak words of truth and life into young peoples lives.



Jack really enjoys his Mechatronics degree, he built an electric bike in his spare time and uses it to deliver food in down town Brisbane for Uber Eats. Jack and Alice had an opportunity to do an Alpha course at their church, which they have enjoyed and it has helped them really get involved in Church life. Jack will start work at the mango/avocado farm in the next few weeks, this is a great way of helping top up his university income. Jack, unfortunately needs to have his wisdom teeth removed, this will happen in December so please pray for him as he recovers from this surgery.



Olivia passed her driving test and is now on her P plates. She loves the independence and freedom that brings in this small rural town of Mareeba. She has finished grade 11. Her school year ended with a school leadership camp. Olivia opted for the two night hike option which involved hiking through the bush over 30Kms to the final destination. The whole grade got to reunite on the third night and have fun at a campsite bordering a lake. Olivia has also got involved in farm work during the holidays and can juggle the vet job and packing fruit so she can earn some good money before heading into her last year of official schooling.



Estella will be 14yrs old next week, she has had a good year at School. She has an after school job at a newsagents in town just one afternoon a week. This week she is on a school camp, she is going on a canoe trip to the other side of the lake as part of the camp. During the camp one lad got bitten by what was first thought to be a snake but turned out to be a millipede, but his rescue, via motor boat, ambulance and to hospital will be remembered by that year group for ever!

Edith had a good school year and made some new friends after losing a special friend half way through the year, who moved away. Next year will be her last school year of primary school, she is looking forward to being in her senior year. She has started to learn to sew, which is fun turning old t-shirts into peg bags and making tiny house pin cushions. She has three miracle guinea pigs which seem to live on despite days of rejection. Her and Estella also keep an eye on the chickens and so does the dog :D

Prayer

Jack's wisdom teeth removal going smoothly

For the Queensland borders to open (due the 13th December)

The impending threat of Covid as we hopefully become less isolated from the rest of Australia.

For the new hangar to be finished

The move into and setting up the new hangar

Our time as a family over the Christmas break

Praise

Alice and Jack had a very successful years at University and have made good friends The new hangar is almost complete

Farm work for the kids to be occupied over the long school break.

Health that we have all remained healthy along with our extended family

Anne's parents have now moved out of their family home and settled into their new smaller home, without the farm to occupy them, just an allotment so that veggies can still be grown.