



## *Preparing to work with Wycliffe Bible Translators*

Dear Friends,

As I write I have just 8 weeks left before I leave for Africa. On 1<sup>st</sup> September I will travel to Cameroon to attend an Africa Orientation Course (AOC) from 8<sup>th</sup> September – 24<sup>th</sup> November. I'm delighted that I will be travelling with a friend who is also attending the course. I'm also delighted that following AOC my travel arrangements will allow for a very brief visit to the UK before going on to Mali where I will be based for my work.

Thank you all for your interest in my work and for the encouragement and support you are giving me, which really means a lot to me. To be honest, I have been finding everything quite overwhelming with regard to the practicalities of preparing to go overseas and the emotional ups and downs I've been experiencing. It's good to remind myself often that I am not doing this alone. Of course, primarily it is not about me, it's about God and my belief that he has called me to this role in Bible translation work, and I am trusting him to give me the strength I need. Yet God has not asked me to do this on my own, but with the support of so many of you who are involved in this with me. When I was a student at theological college (nearly 25 years ago!), I remember our College principal used to read from Romans 12 at the beginning of each academic year, and on reading this passage recently I was particularly encouraged by the words *'...in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.'* (Rom 12. 5)

Needless to say, the last few months have been very busy.

- I have enjoyed the opportunities to talk to some groups and churches about Bible translation work and my own plans for going to Mali. I have been encouraged by the interest shown and the encouragement given to me on these occasions.
- I am grateful that I've been able to find part-time temporary employment in an office where I used to work, and I have appreciated the support of colleagues during this time.
- I had a lovely week's holiday in North Wales with my parents and aunt in June.
- Practical arrangements for going overseas – I have achieved quite a lot, but there is much still to be done, and I would value your prayers as sometimes I panic that I will not be ready in time.
- Background reading in preparation for going to Africa – this is very interesting and helpful, and again I would value your prayers that I will be able to complete the reading I would like to do before I go.

## Prayer & praise

**Please pray** that I will be able to complete all the practical things that need to be done before I can go to Africa and that I will have a sense of peace and calm about it.

**Please pray** for my family, particularly my parents in the UK.

**Please pray** for the staff of AOC who are preparing for our course in September.

**Praise God** for the way things are coming together for me to go to Africa in September.

**Praise God** for the support and encouragement I am receiving.

**Praise God** for his guidance so far in my journey with Wycliffe Bible Translators.

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**A date for your diary:** On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> August at 3.00 p.m. there will be a commissioning service at West Malling Baptist Church, followed by a fellowship tea. I would love to see you there if you are able to come, and I would appreciate it if you could let me know if you plan to be there, please, as it will be helpful to have an idea of numbers for catering purposes.

Thank you all for your interest, support and friendship, and I would value your prayers particularly during these next few weeks as I prepare to travel to Africa on 1<sup>st</sup> September.

With very best wishes

*Nicola*

Nicola Pinn

Newsletters and support:

Please let me know if your contact details have changed, or if you would prefer not to continue receiving my newsletters.

Wycliffe workers do not receive a salary, so if you would be interested in supporting me financially, please contact me and I will send you information about how to do this by standing order or as a one-off gift. Information and forms can also be downloaded at <[www.wycliffe.org.uk/getinvolved\\_05\\_howtogive.html](http://www.wycliffe.org.uk/getinvolved_05_howtogive.html)>.

Alternatively you can contact The Administrator, West Malling Baptist Church, 61 Swan Street, West Malling, Kent ME19 6LW. If you prefer to send a gift direct to Wycliffe please send a covering note indicating that it is for Nicola Pinn. Thank you.

Personal contact information:

**Please note my new e-mail address:**

**nicola\_pinn@sil.org**

**Home address for correspondence until 31.8.06:**

20 Fartherwell Avenue, West Malling, Kent ME19 6NQ

tel: 01732 844487

**From 1.9.06 – 24.11.06:**

Nicola Pinn – AOC,  
SIL,  
B.P. 1299,  
Yaoundé,  
CAMEROON.

Please note, it is likely that any mail posted to me after the end of October will not reach me before I leave Cameroon. Also, we are asked not to have any packages sent to us at this address, please.

**From 1.12.06:**

SIL, B.P. 2232, Bamako, MALI

**Church contact information:**

The Administrator, West Malling Baptist Church, 61 Swan Street, West Malling, Kent ME19 6LW (please mark envelope 'Re. Nicola Pinn').