



## Advent Christian Conference of New Zealand Inc.

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### News Volume 11.2—March 2008

# NEW BABY FOR BURGE CLAN!

At 11:25 p.m. on February 27th, **Tarnya Burge** gave birth to a baby girl. Her name is **Ruth Jemma** and she weighed in at **9lb 14oz** (4.48 kg).

Tarnya and Ruth are doing well recuperating at home.

**Dave** is a proud Dad, and **Sam, Rachel, Noah, Jonathan, Joseph, Thomas,** and **Timothy** are all very excited to have a new baby sister!

### *Burge Baby Photos (more available online at [www.acconz.org.nz](http://www.acconz.org.nz))*



Does the photo on the right remind you of a certain 1970's TV show? If you're thinking **'The Brady Bunch'** you're only partly right... Remember they were only a "small" family with six kids (& a nanny!). The rival 70's TV show **'Eight Is Enough'** is more accurate in this case, although we understand the Burges are not drawing inspiration from the classic 50's (or 2003 re-make) movie **'Cheaper By The Dozen'**.

### *Special Support Project Update—We're Almost There!*

You'll remember that **ACCONZ** volunteered to urgently raise **NZ\$3,850** so that our sister ministry, the **Christian Mission of ban Naratchakwai**, is able to establish itself officially as an independent organisation within Thailand and continue operating. Since July 2007 **we have raised \$2,835**—thanks to those who have generously given.



***There's only NZ\$1,015 to go!***

***We'd like to finalise sponsorship by the end of March, so we still need your help please.*** Would you consider investing in this special project? You can contact us using from the details at the top of this letter.

If you would like to **learn more about the Thai ministry** you can receive **newsletters** from **John Middlewood** (by post or email). **Please contact us** or go online: <http://www.acmissionz.org.nz/johnsnewsletter.htm>

## Invitation to ACCONZ AGM—April 19

We invite you as a supporter to attend our Annual General Meeting on Saturday April 19th, 2008 at our Takarini church, 160 Great South Road, Takarini, commencing at 10:00 a.m. We will be giving thanks for the year past and making plans for the future. If you can't be there we'd still appreciate your prayers.

## Thames—Gavin & Alison Get Press

Gavin and Alison are already 'mucking in' in the Thames community. They have approached key figures in the town for cooperation and support, and things are looking positive for growth at the church this year.

**Please pray for Gavin and Alison** as they network with community leaders and build relationships with their neighbours and local folk.

# Couple relish community

## Christ's church open

By **MATHEW GROCOTT**

Creating a strong sense of community in the Parawai area of Thames is the goal of two of it's newest residents.

Gavin and Alison McIntosh are the new pastoral workers at the Church of Christ on Parawai Rd and want Parawai people to feel like they are a part of a community.

"We want to build a sense of community in this area. We've been brought in to try to raise the numbers and raise the profile of the church, raise it's involvement in the community. We want it to be the church for Parawai," Mr McIntosh said.

"Parawai is sort of stuck out at the end of Thames and has it's own little identity," Mrs McIntosh said.

Mr McIntosh sees the church and Parawai School as being the key community facilities in Parawai.

"We want the school and church to co-operate and support each other to the benefit of the community."

The couple met with community leaders in Thames to



**COMMUNITY:** Pastoral workers Gavin and Alison McIntosh want to create a strong sense of community in the Parawai area of Thames.

introduce themselves and create networks and said they were impressed with how approachable Thames people are.

Married for 31 years with four adult children, the couple

moved to Thames for the "friendly, healthy, laid back lifestyle".

"It's nice and quiet," Mrs McIntosh said. Mr McIntosh's grandfather lived in Thames and in his youth Mr McIntosh

completed an apprenticeship at A&G Price.

"We'd always kept contacts here," Mrs McIntosh said. "We heard there was a position coming up and thought it could be for us."

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