

Laura Kyte (de Gonzalez)
January 2013



Happy New Year! Feliz año nuevo!

Thank you for journeying back to Argentina with us, where, as you will have gathered by recent emails, the priority has been settling down to **begin married life** together. There has been a lot of to-ing and fro-ing as we moved things here, there and everywhere, but we were able to get the main bulk of things done before Christmas! There was also a lot of to-ing and fro-ing with getting all the necessary paperwork for my permanent residency but again this was all handed in before Christmas and so this should arrive at some point over the next month. Thank you for your prayers about these issues, we know that **the Lord has sustained us** and given us the energy needed throughout!

Bio-mechanics has not been easy but it has been a steep learning curve

We value your on-going prayers as we begin this New Year, as we face some **challenges** on the sporting front. Firstly, Fabio and I, along with three other athletes from the national squad, had been working with the same coach and bio-mechanic, **D**; however, due to some internal politics within the Argentine Athletics Confederation, there are problems with incorporating D into the "system". This greatly affects the extent to which Fabio and other athletes are able to continue due to political and financial reasons, as there are certain complications regarding bursaries. Please join with us in **praying for justice, wisdom and the Lord's hand** over this very tricky situation which has come as quite a shock to us all.

Many of you were interested to know about the bio-mechanical change we are making to our running and walking styles in an attempt to improve performance and perhaps more importantly, avoid injury and improve posture. Again, **thank you for your prayers** around this issue for us both! **Fabio** has been making good progress and is ready to start back training, although please pray for him as he recovers from treatment for an infectious wisdom tooth as this obviously affects him as he trains. I have had a very frustrating time since being back in Argentina, with a relentless hip niggle diagnosed as a trapped nerve, and was very limited in what I could do. However, I was able to make the most of the time to improve other areas such as flexibility and slowly but surely, the pain subsided. Although there are still some niggles, I have been able to end the year on a high note by beginning to run again, more than anything to start transferring the concepts of "motor control" acquired through drills and exercises to running.



Keeping up training without supervision was tough whilst in the UK, but the fruits are now starting to show.

The aspect of ministry that I am most passionate about is getting alongside people on a 1-2-1 basis, and I am pleased to say that amid paperwork, moving in and settling down, I have been able to do a bit of that over the last couple of months. Many of you will remember me mentioning **M**, a 17 year old Christian basketball player; please do continue to pray for her following a very **tough couple of years**, your prayers have already gotten her through several difficult times. It has been a blessing to get to know **L** since the end of 2011, a keen runner in her forties who recently got baptised this year, encouraging her to get involved in a running club (which she did) and introducing her to the vision of **sport as a mission field**. Please pray for L's husband and 16 year-old son, who are not Christians, that God would be softening their hearts to be open to the gospel message. Since arriving back there have been many quick conversations and greetings, but now that Fabio and I are settled, this gives us time to plan a bit more who we can meet up with and when, with an attitude of **getting alongside and sharing Christ** with both Christian and non-Christian friends in the world of sport.

Another great opportunity has been with another fun runner, **A**, who contacted me via Facebook while I was in the UK, asking me if I was able to get hold of any Delirious? music. He explained to me that he had been brought up as a Christian but over the years, had stopped walking with God. He feels he needs to make a change, so please join with me in praying for him, as he tries to **make sense of his faith** once again. I lent him an Alpha book (in Spanish!) which he said he had been reading and is greatly encouraged. The last news I had was that he had been along to a church near to where he lives and is hoping to come along to “El Madero” where Fabio and I are members soon. An unexpected but welcome opportunity to encourage someone in the search for God!

Another exciting opportunity to serve Christ in the world of sport in a very practical way was at the beginning of December. **S**, pictured right, is one of Argentina’s best long-distance runners and has been training with Daniel over the last couple of months. They had been preparing for the extremely well-attended Nike “We Run” 10km series in Buenos Aires (15,000 people this year!), but neither D nor Sandra’s partner, **J**, were able to attend and assist her in warming up, looking after her bags etc. as on the same weekend there was a gathering for the national athletics team (which Sandra then zoomed off too after receiving her prize!). I had realised that no-one would be around a week prior to the event so I offered to **accompany her**, for which she was very grateful, and it was a good opportunity to spend time with her on and off the “track”. I see these as small but significant ways of “**showing we care**” as Christians, and please continue to pray for **S** and for other opportunities of this kind with non-Christian athletes in particular. As an athlete myself, it is always unpleasant to be “side-lined” and unable to compete, but I honestly take **great joy** in being able to get alongside athletes in moments of competition as I live the moment with them! So when S crossed the line in first place, a little part of me did too 😊



A more than convincing win, let's pray that one day it will be for the Lord

Thank you so much for being part of this new chapter of ministry through prayer, financial support and your messages of encouragement. We are so blessed!

Please see below for address in Argentina, NOTE THE CHANGE TO **POSTCODE!**

With love and rich blessings in Christ,
Laura and Fabio

“Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.” 1 Peter 3.9

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