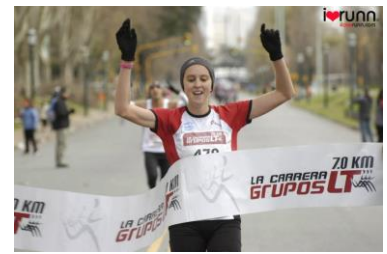


Laura Kyte (de Gonzalez)
Sept 2013



Finally back in action!

During the last two months we have begun to see the fruit of many months of investment and there is a great sense of excitement and expectation as to what lies ahead. The example of Abraham has come up many times for us during this time as well, and we are encouraged to stand firm in what we believe the Lord had promised us and thus be **“imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises [of God]” (Hebrews 6.12).**

Firstly, I was thrilled to make a comeback to competition in July, having decided not to be phased by a lack of race fitness. I was convicted that God is truly at the heart of my sport if I am enjoying it and letting His joy and freedom flow through my body as I run: **“For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery” (Galatians 5.1).**

I raced in a fairly low key event first, and then on July 21st I competed in a 7km race in the city centre, a more competitive outing. In between events my motivation had definitely returned and I just felt so excited to be racing again, and really happy with how natural my new biomechanics had felt, and the physiological sensations I had



during and after the race (i.e. feeling strong and recovering well). I had begun to train much better in the lead-up to the 7km race and was delighted to make the podium, crossing the line in 3rd place, feeling even stronger and more confident during the race, giving it my all for an **Audience of One!** I think that however a race may go or whatever position you might finish, God is always smiling when you give the very best of yourself and your talent from start to finish; and to make the podium of a fairly important race in the city was a fantastic reward for me.

Fabio and I waved goodbye to Buenos Aires on a high note, now focussed on our month-long trip to the Salta province, eager to see how our house in Cachi was progressing!

We spent a week in Salta city making various purchases in order to furnish the house. We were hoping to have everything ready for the end of our time in Cachi, but there is still a fair amount of basic things to be sorted out. Initially we were disappointed but weighing everything up, a great deal has been done since initiating the project just over a year ago, taking into account that we have been a long way away from Cachi (first the UK, then Buenos Aires), and so we readjusted our expectations and hope that by December, things will be up and running! The good news is that there continues to be much demand for accommodation in Cachi, from both athletes and tourists alike. I personally can't wait to decorate the house with some **“spiritual” details**, having brought some literature and posters with Bible verses to put around the house. We are keen that this should be a place where God's presence can really be felt and **make all the difference** to a person's stay in Cachi.



Our house in progress!

As is common in Cachi, there were a handful of athletes preparing for up-and-coming competitions, and among them was **BC**, a prodigious middle-distance talent from Mar del Plata whom I met for the first time during the South American Athletics Championships in Buenos Aires in 2011. As well as various encounters on the track, I was able to spend an evening chatting with **BC** about her training, hopes for the future, and we even got on to the topic of the Christian faith briefly. As is traditional in Argentina, **BC** was brought up a Catholic and she talked openly about her parents' involvement in the Catholic Church with children and as part of a team reaching out to the needy with food and company, especially at Christmas, accompanying those who would normally spend the festivities alone. It is always good to have an idea of where a person is coming from in terms of their experience with God, the church (Catholic, Protestant, Evangelical etc) and religion in general. *Praise the Lord* for opening this small door, *thank you for praying!*

It was also a joy to spend time with **Pastor MM** and his family, who have been ministering in Cachi for several years. They hold Sunday meetings and Bible studies in their house, run a children's Bible group and **MM** has a daily spot on the local radio where he shares a Biblical reflexion and Christian music. It was great to share God's word with other growing Christians in Cachi and although numbers vary from week to week, those whom attend show great enthusiasm and desire to grow in their faith. There were three women in particular who show promising signs of being "pillars of faith"- **A, C and G**. Please remember them in your *prayers* this month as they continue to know the Lord and be guided by **MM and his wife AM**.

Finally, I *praise God* for the privilege of training exceptionally well in Cachi, adjusting to the altitude without problem and surprising myself in many sessions. I am also thankful to the Lord for **Fabio** and for the decision we made in venturing forward as coach-athlete team, together we are learning and growing in this area with God's guidance at the heart of things. Please keep *praying* for us as we look ahead to the next few months of training and competition, and similarly for Fabio as he returns to competition in September and will be making some decisions about his future in the sport.



Training in the (cold!) Paradise of Cachi

September marks the arrival of Spring, a sense of renewal and fresh beginnings. Please join with Fabio and I in asking God to renew, revive and blossom in the hearts of those with and for whom we are praying:

- **M**, facing injury and some family problems; that the Lord would provide refuge "under his wings" (**Psalm 91.4**) and give her the strength she needs day by day.
- **Y, L and V** as they continue to run a cell group for athletes of the CeNARD and be "**salt and light**" among their club mates and coaches.
- For on-going opportunities with **LZ, LF and R** as we meet up following our trip to the north and share what is going on in each of our lives.

With love in Christ,
Laura and Fabio

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