

June 2025

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Joel Cornelius Smith



Baby Joel

Thank you so much for all your prayers

Joel Cornelius Smith was born at 22.19 on Wednesday 4th June 2025, weighing 3.11 kg (6lb 13oz).

Thank you so much to everyone who was praying for us and for all the cards and gifts Joel received.

We are now safe and well at home after one week in Bournemouth hospital. Joel had an eventful first week. After a long labour, Joel's heart rate started to increase and we were taken into the operating theatre for an emergency caesarean section. It turns out he had his umbilical cord wrapped three times around his neck, so a normal birth would never have been possible. Shortly after birth Joel vomited green bile and was rushed to neonatal intensive care. He had x-rays and was monitored for four days on antibiotics and a drip. Throughout the whole experience we felt very encouraged and supported by our church, family and friends. We were also very grateful for the care we received in hospital from the doctors and midwives that made our week much less stressful. Above all we are grateful for the way God worked through the whole situation and gave us peace and joy at the arrival of our son.

Next steps...

Nathanael has collated all the paperwork he needs to submit for his licence and he will be able to make the application after his paternity leave. Nathanael will continue to work to get an aircraft type rating to add to his licence once it is approved.

We will be attending MAF International orientation for a week in July and the En-route course at All Nations Christian Collage for ten weeks in September to December.

Please pray

Praise God that Joel is now home and healthy. Pray for continued healing for Joanna after the caesarean section.

Pray that Joel would feed and sleep well, and that we would have energy and sleep.

Please continue to pray for our next steps as a family.