

Campbell Ramblings

Keith & Elspeth Campbell

Equipping translation work in Papua New Guinea



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As we approach the last few months of our first assignment in PNG, we can see how far God has taken us in this role. We enjoy times with our PNG brothers and sisters, even with the continuing cultural clashes, and know that there is a part for us to play in showing the light of Christ in the Lae community.



The fellowship of believers...

A local church we have been attending recently dedicated a house for the pastor and his family, located beside the church. It was our first opportunity to see the preparations for a *mumu* (traditional feast) up close.

Besides the pork steamed in the pit of hot rocks, there was fried chicken, vegetables and bananas cooked in coconut milk. Before the feast, the building documents were presented to the Pastor, and everyone was invited to tour the newly built home.



It is encouraging to be accepted as part of this fellowship, and to see a gradual development of relationships with individuals in the congregation.

Prayer points

Once God has spoken,
twice have I heard this;
that power belongs to God,
and that to you, O Lord, belongs
steadfast love. *Psalms 62:11-12*

Christians pray because God is powerful, and God is loving.

Ministry

- Opportunities keep arising for us to speak at churches about the Bible translation ministry. Pray that PNG churches would commit to equipping and challenging their people in studying God's word.
- June sees us hosting a two week translation workshop, then meetings of our regional directors from the PNG provinces. Pray for the effectiveness of these events.
- Pray for replacement Centre Managers to be found in time to undertake the training and hand over during September.

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SaveLongGod ...

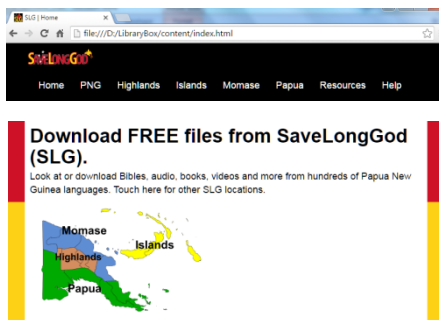
(Note: 'save' is pronounced 'sah-veh'..... think of the English word 'savvy')

We recently received a handy tool intended to aid distribution of Scripture resources in *tokples* - the traditional PNG languages.



SaveLongGod (Knowing God) has come from a partnership between multiple global organisations committed to Scripture translation and use.

Users can access complete New Testaments, videos (Jesus film, Luke, Acts, etc., ...) and Scripture apps (for Android phones which plays recorded narration as it highlights the Scripture passage), songs and evangelism tools.



With updated material from Global Recordings Network there are now about 465 languages using their mobile phone or laptop connected wirelessly to the pocket-sized device.

Once we learn our way around the content and features, and how best to utilise it, we hope to meet with church groups, schools.... anywhere that we can connect with the many regional people who have come to Lae for work and study.

Please Pray...

- That God will provide opportunities for us to share this exciting resource with the Lae community.
- Praise God for the way in which recent technology developments in PNG are providing improved access to *tokples* Scriptures.

Prayer points

Family

- Hannah – facing many changes over the coming months. Pray that God directs her path.
- Elisabeth & Shawn – both are contract workers, waiting almost to the end of one contract to find out if they have another contract starting soon. Praise that they have work, petition that they persevere with the 'temporary' nature of their employment.
- Keith's Dad is intending a visit to PNG in July. Pray that plans come together, and that he be in good health for the trip.
- Elspeth's mum has recently been diagnosed with non-aggressive breast cancer.

Personal

- Pray for a full recovery for Keith's back injury. (see page 3) Physiotherapy services are limited in PNG and involve travel out of Lae.

Furlough plans...

Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established. Proverbs 16:3

Our return to Australia for 6 months furlough is rapidly approaching. There are a number of practical tasks we need to give thought to after being out of the country for two years – medical checkups, home renovations, and dealing with stored possessions that now don't seem quite so essential!

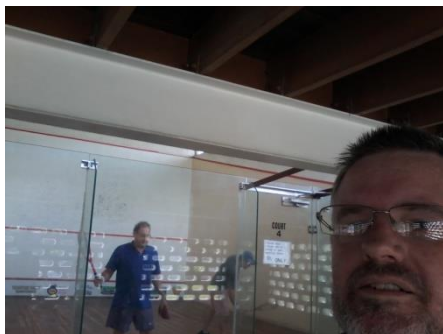
We will endeavour to meet up with our supporters across Queensland where possible, while making time to connect with family and friends. If you or your church would like to help us with accommodation, travel costs or any other perceived needs during our furlough, please contact us on keith-elspeth_campbell@wycliffe.org.au

Here is a rough outline of our travels....

October	1	fly from Lae to Australia
October	16	presentation at Willows Presbyterian Church
November		presentations at churches in the Townsville region
December		presentations in churches in Far North Queensland
December	19	Vacation with family and friends in South-east Qld and NSW
January	25	meeting with APWM, Brisbane
February		presentations at various churches as we travel north to Townsville
March		home to Townsville, prepare for our return to PNG



In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps. Proverbs 16:9



It's no joke...

A Lutheran, a Salvation Army member and a Presbyterian walk onto a squash court..... and the Pressie does his back in!

Saturday morning sees a regular group of expatriate squash players gathering at the local Chinese Club for some friendly yet intense competition. There are several Christians mixing with some guys currently in Lae filling various management roles with PNG companies.

Earlier this month (June 4) Keith hurt his back quite seriously and spent the following week in pain, struggling to stay on his feet for more than twenty

minutes at a time. Elspeth has been kept busy covering all of the essential management tasks in the office.

The enforced rest has left Keith's desk in a bit of disarray, and highlighted the fact that our plans are always fragile and open to derailment at any time.

Please Pray...

- praise God that Elspeth was up to the task of managing the centre
- for sustained health as we face three busy months of workshops, Regional planning meetings, a work party visit and training of our replacement managers.
- for the witness of Christian expats as they interact with those here in secular roles



Hand in glove ...

We refer generally to the work of Bible translation, though a critical component of putting Scripture into the hands, heads and hearts of PNG people is literacy development. The two work together in order to provide communities with an effective and usable translation.

Isolde Kappus stayed at our Lae Centre this past month after three weeks in Mond-Bip village within the Nek language group. Isolde came from Germany in 2015 to work with Language Resources in Ukarumpa, but has been granted 20 percent of her time to assist the Nek translator, Katri Linnasalo, with literacy development.

The four Gospels and some epistles have been completed and published in Nek, while other books are in the process of checking and editing, and a completed Nek Genesis in digital and audio format was dedicated earlier this year.

Isolde is tasked with establishing a literacy committee drawn from each of the local villages, and equipping elementary school teachers with literacy tools and techniques to ensure that the Nek language is accepted and used in its written form. This will lay a foundation for wider use of the translated Scriptures as they continue to be made available.

The response of the school teachers has been positive, and Isolde has worked with the newly formed committee towards providing a quantity of materials translated into Nek suitable for use in the classroom. There are plans for further booklets to be produced for use in the classroom, and for adult literacy programmes.

Language	Nek
Population	2,000 and increasing
Situated	Boana, more than 80 Km from Lae
Translation	NT draft complete
The task	Developing literacy tools & training programmes



Isolde and the Nek Literacy team

Please Pray...

- for expansion of the literacy committee – it currently consists of members from one village family.
- for the members of the committee (pastor Kaik, Yassar, Noribe & Rachael) that they can promote literacy among the community and that they may find some financial support for their work.
- for the Nek school teachers attending literacy courses in Ukarumpa over the coming months.
- Isolde returns in January 2017 to another village, Bandong, seeking to further her Nek language learning and build relationships with the people.



Welcome – Nek style

Numanggang update...

In our March newsletter, we wrote of Saleng and Isum working on drafting the Numanggang Old Testament. Here is an update from the currently USA based Wycliffe translators, David and Yohana Hynum.....

After four long years of doing therapies for his back and working on the translation remotely, David is finally on his way to Papua New Guinea!!! In his suitcase are copies of twelve Old Testament books in Numanggang! Isum and Saleng, plus nine others from the village, are waiting for him at Ukarumpa and for six weeks they will pour over these books, checking, revising and preparing them for printing.

(Hynum's Newsletter, June 2016)



Praise God... for this exciting progress towards a complete Numanggang Scriptures.