

# Campbell Ramblings

Keith & Elspeth Campbell

Equipping translation work in Papua New Guinea



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We are jumping the gun on our September newsletter, but have good news to share...  
God has moved people to support us in amazing ways, and our return to PNG by the end of the month is locked in.



## He who wills, and works...

We needed to return to Australia mid-2023 in order to obtain additional financial partnership after Wycliffe Australia restructured their ministry funding model in 2021. We had planned to reach out to several new church communities, also bringing a message of what God is doing in the lives of PNG people.

As we met with Townsville friends, then travelled south in late June – visiting the Townsville, Burdekin, Rockhampton, Yeppoon, Gin Gin, and Gladstone (with Mackay and Sarina to host us on the return journey next week) – our objectives were to thank current supporters for their faithfulness and to encourage them to continue praying for our situation to be resolved. Instead, many responded with assurances of supporting us even further, such that we returned from a trip to Perth seeing family, to find that we were only just short of the required amount.

Sharing with communities in Toowoomba, Caloundra, Kingaroy and Miles provided so much encouragement as we took the opportunity to speak of God's word impacting lives in PNG. We have been greatly blessed in this journey by so many dear brothers and sisters who prayed with us, generously supported us, opened their homes to us, fed us and even topped up our vehicle with fuel!

It reminded us that this ministry is a team effort, and that the process of building partnership in this way actually reinforces that God is in control.

*Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. (Hebrews 13:21)*

God has work for us to do in PNG, that the name of Jesus Christ might be glorified. He who worked this awesome salvation, establishing a covenant of grace with His people, is more than able to provide all we need to be equipped for the task.



## Health update...

Keith's arthritic pain in his hands and wrists has gone as mysteriously as it came. Several months without fish oil capsules and no recurrence. **Praise the Lord!**



## Prayer points

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you.

Show me the way I should go, for to you I entrust my life. Psalm 143:8

- Praise God for providing the funds required for Wycliffe to approve our assignment to PNG, even ahead of our ideal timetable for returning.
- That having seen His faithfulness in this significant need, we continue to trust God to supply **all** that we need in His service, each and every day.
- Give thanks that our car covered over 4,000 kilometres without a hiccup... then keep on praying for the final 2,200km before we get home to Townsville next week.
- For refreshing time with family in Townsville, Perth and Maclean.
- We have both had annoying coughs and stuffy heads during our travels... particularly in cold and windy Perth. Pray that a few days of Townsville sunshine will have us fit for duty!

## And more equipping ...

Over the next three months, Elspeth will be in a mentoring role for two courses at the Ukarumpa Training Centre.

The **Paratext 1** course in the first two weeks of September introduces PNG citizen translators to this globally utilised software program which enables translators to plan and organise, study and draft, check and revise Bible passages based on other comparable texts and the original Greek and Hebrew Scriptures, providing accurate, consistent and quality translated texts.



The **Initial Skills** course will run for five weeks during October and November, allowing participants to develop their English skills in order to effectively access extensive resources for the Bible translation task, and lay a foundation for other Bible translation courses.



## Prayer points

- Praise God that Elspeth will make it back to Ukarumpa in time to participate in these two critical training courses.
- Pray for course participants who may be leaving families, gardens and other responsibilities in order to train for Bible translation. Pray for safety as they often travel days by boat and road transport.
- Pray that the community would embrace these visiting students dealing with often challenging adjustments to new surroundings, cooler temperatures, different foods, and the tight schedule of regular classes.

## Headed west ...

We took time out from a hectic schedule of Wycliffe ministry engagements to visit Elisabeth and Shawn in Perth. We had not seen our son-in-law since July 2021, and Keith enjoyed bonding over some home renovations.

Elspeth finally got to celebrate her significant birthday in style, after spending it isolating in Townsville with COVID. The kids took us out to a fancy revolving restaurant atop a city skyscraper. (You can see it's fancy, as the plate is enormous compared to the serving!)

We all four came down with coughs and flu at certain stages, but managed outings to Escape rooms, the Perth Zoo, and Old Fremantle Gaol. The girls checked out *Lightscape* at the Perth Botanic Gardens one night, while the lads bonded once again... this time watching the footy.

We enjoyed Perth, loved spending time with family, but our next trip west will definitely be a season other than winter. A trip to the southern coast had us thinking we'd missed a turn and ended up in Antarctica!

