

# Campbell Ramblings

**Keith & Elspeth Campbell**  
**Equipping translation work in Papua New Guinea**

**Wycliffe**  
Bible Translators



Wycliffe Australia  
70 Graham Road  
Kangaroo Ground 3097

What a full on three months! Elspeth had an unscheduled trip to Australia, and each new week seemed to bring with it a change in direction and priorities for Keith. Like the classic hymn, *It Is Well*, a tossing sea is an appropriate analogy for our mission life at present. May we lay hold of the “blessed assurance” of Christ’s provision in all situations.



## A richer understanding...

From April 3, Elspeth coordinated and taught the week-long English Enrichment course for beginning translators. In order to access the majority of the world's written Bible translation resources, and to work with English-speaking consultants, the national translators need to improve their English expression and comprehension. This course benefited them greatly as they progressed to the Translators Training Course 1 (TTC1) April 10 to May 14, equipping them for the task of translating God's Word into their heart language. Praise the Lord that everything went well, and the nine students were willing and eager to learn.



## A labour of love...

With the English Enrichment course completed, Elspeth flew to Townsville to be a full-time Nanna to Lily for a few weeks. Our daughter Hannah needed surgery to remove a troublesome gall bladder which had been impacting her health for almost two years.

It was an opportunity to make so many memories, and build on a special relationship. Keith had to be content with the joy of every phone call to Elspeth being interrupted with an excited interjection of “Pa!”. We are thankful that Lily is an easy-going toddler who enjoys life.



## Prayer points

*Who among the gods is like you, LORD? Who is like you—majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?* Exodus 15:11

- Pray that our newest national translators continue to follow the Lord's leading in their families and communities as they undertake the task of Bible translation.
- Give thanks that their local communities support them in this task, providing for their needs and caring for family in their absence during training.
- Pray for plans to extend the training offered to translators out to various regional centres and remote communities, to relieve the burden of travel and separation from family for those who would struggle with the current structure. [ see page 2 ]
- Pray for Lily, that she would one day come to understand that we consider her a precious gift from God.
- Pray for Keith's mum, who had a fall from her nursing home bed. She was a bit bruised, but is recovering as well as can be expected.

## Remote training...

The challenges facing prospective translation trainees getting to Ukarumpa can often be a deterrent – the logistics and cost involved in travel, housing, food, etc., can be a burden on village communities and families. For this reason, Elspeth has been given the task of duplicating the resources for TTC1 and TTC2, in a form which can be packed into storage crates for easy transportation by aircraft, boat, 4WD, or even carried along village paths. This will enable courses to be delivered by trained expat translation advisors in the local PNG villages.



## Up in the air...



By this time next year, there will be potentially six fewer expat staff in this photo

Out at Aviation, Keith has been dealing with a season of change, while addressing a major task historically focused on predictability. It is budget preparation time, when managers look to annual trends and current circumstances with a view to projecting these into developing a reasonable forecast for the coming financial year (FY25).

The challenge revolves around the current unpredictability – uncertain aviation fuel supplies; a potential major maintenance project on a helicopter; senior staff vacancies; and changes to our main financial systems scheduled for October – with the added situation of more senior expat staff heading on extended leave during the period. Next year will potentially be unlike any other over the past 10 years – similar in nature to the unpredictability of the COVID era when we were restricted in flying across provincial borders.

The outcome of all this is technically three FY25 budgets rather than just one – a traditional forecast, a pessimistic worst-case scenario, and what Keith has called his “Caleb Budget”, based on Caleb’s bold assertion on returning from spying out Canaan, that “We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it.” *Numbers 13:30*

Everything seems like one of those situations where God is about to do something incredible! But how do you ‘budget’ for God to act? Like the Israelites fleeing Egypt, with the impassable sea in front and the approaching Egyptian chariots behind, we need to accept the encouragement of Moses... “Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today.” *Exodus 14:13*

## Please pray...

- That we trust God’s good purposes in all that confronts us.
- For key positions to be filled, either by new mission personnel or skilled PNG staff responding to the need.
- For Keith also stepping up to the role of Aviation Deputy Director, filling in whenever his ‘boss’ is unavailable.





## The global mission...

A partner in Australia responded to the current aviation fuel supply crisis in PNG by offering a gift to be used to reduce the subsequent burden of increased flight costs. We were able to act as a channel for this generosity, passing on the funds to an associate with Faith Comes by Hearing (FCBH) travelling to Vanuatu. Brenda was working with a father and son team to launch a recording project delivering dramatized New Testaments in three local languages. [Note the foam mattress recording booth set up in the corner.] The *Hano* language group on Pentecost Island are particularly eager for this project to proceed, as their language is a largely oral story-telling culture with a written form not suited to a printed Bible translation.

The process was a beautiful example of God's mission community working together - essentially four people coming together across four countries, involving three active mission programs - to see His name glorified and His Kingdom extended.

## An inspiring testimony...

If you missed our May 26 blog featuring Nard Puyao [left.. handing out bibles] from the Isnarg community in the Philippines, check out his story [here](#), or search for our ***campbellramblings.org*** webpage and look for "What if they didn't come?"

## Prayer points

- Praise God for the technology which is allowing **all people** to hear the good news of salvation in Christ.
- Pray for the Hano people, that God's word would move powerfully amongst their communities.
- Pray for good partnerships between the various mission agencies working in Papua New Guinea.



## How to partner with the Campbell's....

At the Wycliffe Australia website [wycliffe.org.au/member/keith-elspeth](http://wycliffe.org.au/member/keith-elspeth) you will see links to receive our updates and send messages, and a link to our [campbellramblings.org](http://campbellramblings.org) website to access blogs and newsletters.

Support Keith & Elspeth Campbell in the Bible Translation Movement

Once Only	\$ 35	\$ 75	\$ 100	My Gift (Select an amount or enter your own) \$ 100.00
Monthly	\$ 250	\$ 500	\$ 1,000	

Indicates a required field

Give now

Below this is the tool to make it easy to partner with us financially. If God is moving you to be a part of the work in this way, Wycliffe Australia can help with any questions or to arrange other support options. **Thanks for thinking of us.**