

# Campbell Ramblings

Keith & Elspeth Campbell

Equipping translation work in Papua New Guinea



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Our season of visiting with partner churches and individuals concluded last week, so we now have one eye on Christmas with Keith's parents in Maclean, NSW. The other eye is still fixed on Papua New Guinea ... albeit a bit out of focus at this point in time.



## Times of encouragement ...

Over a period of 179 days, travelling over 12,000 kilometres, we enjoyed visits with 21 churches and managed to fit in a Christian conference. We have shared several stories and photos in our past two newsletters, though a visit to one Queensland rural community stood out for a specific reason.

We first visited Chinchilla back in 2013, where a faithful few truly made us feel welcome on a Sunday evening, and several great friendships were established. On a return trip in 2017 we saw some new faces added, then early this year we heard news of growth over recent times. What a joy to find the worship area has had to be extended to accommodate a number of new families. *[Several were away on the Sunday the photo was taken.]*



We have been so blessed to be included in the life of 21 church families – to rejoice with them, and to pray with them through the challenging times. To see God at work in so many places has been a great encouragement to us.

## Times of uncertainty ...

Elspeth is scheduled to fly to PNG early January, preparing for a five-week Initial Skills Course (ISC). At present, no student registrations have been received. While this uncertainty impacts our travel plans, what we really want to see are four more communities commencing the journey to having God's word in their heart language.

**Pray that any obstacles to new translation teams coming for training will be overcome.**

## Prayer points

*From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint; lead me to the rock that is higher than I. Psalm 61:2 NIV*

- Praise God for His protection while travelling between churches these past seven months. In total we have added 21,000 km to our motorhome, with minimal – rather than 'no' – drama. (see page 2)
- Pray that the four weeks until Elspeth returns to PNG will provide opportunity to rest and unwind. We will celebrate Keith's 57th birthday [on December 17] over lunch with his mum in the nursing home, thankful that she still recognises family and the love we share.
- Please pray that we trust God in all the uncertainty surrounding the January ISC, and that this will not contribute to significant added travel costs.
- Pray for the brothers and sisters in churches facing hard times. We have visited places where communities are dwindling; where secularism is on the rise; where economic pressures are being felt; where available resources are unable to support permanent paid ministry. Perhaps consider Psalm 61 and pray that they focus on our God who is a rock and a strong tower.





## Photo potpourri ...

**Below:** 'Feed the Missionaries' is a regular activity at churches we visit.  
[Miles & Tablelands PC, Atherton shown]

**Right:** Renewing an old friendship and adding two more! [Chinchilla hosts]

**Below Right:** Wycliffe 'superstars' being interviewed at North Queensland Christian Convention by a good friend – heaps of fun!



Pa & Nanna had Liliana for several weeks in November, but there was no doubt about where her real loyalties lay once her parents returned.

**Right:** At Kangaroo Ground we managed to store all of our worldly possessions – well, at least the ones that aren't in either PNG or our motorhome.



**Left:** We lost a main drive belt bearing outside Wodonga, but the awesome tow truck driver only charged us \$220 for what seemed to us a complicated task! He dropped us at a repairer and we were on the road the next day.

**Centre:** One of the beautiful free campsites we have enjoyed – Archer's Crossing, west of Chinchilla.

**Right:** A market seller in Victoria was thrilled to see our PNG *bilums*, and to hear our experiences of her home country.



## God speaks Bwaidoka ...

When Stan and Patty Gibson first came to the Bwaidoka area in 1984, there were churches in every major village. However, with most of the service conducted in the Dobu language, people's understanding of who God is had been minimal. In the past, the practice of traditional animism had been the norm even among church members. Stan and Patty have been thrilled to see the understanding of the gospel take root as the people read the Bwaidoka Scriptures. Several people have made public demonstrations of how God can bless their gardens without using traditional magic.



Initially, Mark's Gospel was published in 1993, Acts in 1994, and a Book of Seven Epistles in 2018, with small booklets of Scripture stories also published. In 2023 the New Testament and Genesis were recorded for audible Bible devices.

As part of the November 2025 dedication celebration, 4,000 copies of Scripture were delivered via boat and helicopter, and the Bwaidoka people can both read and hear a complete New Testament for the first time in their heart language.



## Prayer points

- Praise God for the many people involved in the Bwaidoka Bible translation process over the past 41 years.
- Pray that the people will continue to grow in their understanding of God, and come to trust Him fully.
- Pray for the Gibsons and the three Bwaidoka co-translators as they continue to translate the Old Testament.

## How to partner with the Campbells...

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

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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.**