

Campbell Ramblings

Keith & Elspeth Campbell
Equipping translation work in Papua New Guinea



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We have learned to be more accepting of uncertainty and transitions in our ministry over the past twelve years. That said, the past three months have perhaps been beyond anything we had previously experienced. We have to remember that God is in control, and the path He sets is the best for us and for our kingdom service.



A clear redirection ...

After Elspeth planned to be in PNG early January for the Introductory Skills Course (ISC), the 5-week course did not proceed due to a lack of student registrations. Instead, this time was spent reviewing library resources and sorting out our Ukarumpa house. Doing this with Keith in Australia made one thing perfectly clear—being here on her own felt unnatural and was not an enjoyable experience.

While processing this, the request came for Elspeth to join an exciting new training initiative for Wycliffe Australia, based in Melbourne. **Launch into Life** (L2L) is aimed at current and recent school leavers as a Gap Year program providing experiences in engaging people with Scripture in Australia and around the world. There is much to be done now in the developmental stage ahead of a program commencement date in early December 2026.

Though Elspeth is sad to leave behind the PNG teaching work she loves and the great team at Ukarumpa Training Centre, we are thankful to God for providing ministries which allow us to be together in Melbourne for *most* of the year, with the exception of occasional interstate duties for Keith and trips to the Northern Territory and Israel for Elspeth.

Prayer points

For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer...
1 Peter 3:12 NIV

- Praise God for directing our paths so clearly, even though the way has certainly had its challenges.
- Pray that we continue to trust Him during the transitions of ministry roles and housing this year.
- Please pray for the training needs of the PNG people committed to Bible translation. These dear saints will always be in our hearts and minds.
- Pray that we be able to tie up a few “loose ends” in PNG – the sale of our little house and our car which are no longer of use to us. We would love to see both be a blessing to another mission family.



The Ukarumpa “limo” ...

When we shipped our old car over to PNG the intent was for it to be safe transport for Elspeth in and around Ukarumpa and the valley. Little did we know it would also be a desirable “limo” for senior students attending Graduation. At least that ensured it received a detail clean by the grateful students!



Our "home" redefined ...

The move from the PNG Highlands to a leafy Melbourne suburb is quite significant. We will be living in a 2-bed unit on the end of one of the dorms at Kangaroo Ground. Keith got to stay in it when he flew down to the recent Wycliffe Board meetings, so we know what lies ahead (photo right). It isn't fancy, but we plan to make it a home filled with much fun and social activity as per our usual standard.

What we **don't** know at present, is which route we should take to drive from Townsville to Melbourne next week. Heavy rains have resulted in a number of flooded roads in central Queensland, and with the Middle East conflict we are hearing reports of low stocks of diesel fuel in some country towns.



Although if you had to be stranded waiting for floodwaters to recede or for a fuel delivery, best to be in a motorhome with all the creature comforts!



The things we leave behind ...

[Keith] This one is a personal prayer request. In my experience, finding a male "soul-mate" can be a rare occurrence for older Christian guys. We tend to form acquaintances around shared tasks or a particular interest—and in that respect my buddy Jay fits the mould as we both are passionate about competitive sailing—the 50-foot foiling catamarans being a favourite - and were both frequently engaged in home renovation projects which involved sharing tools and lending another pair of hands as we built decks, installed fireplaces, overhauled solar hot water systems and generally made a lot of noise and dust!



However, we were equally in our element simply bouncing around ideas and sharing stories over a cup of decent coffee. Though Jay was from Chicago, USA, and I hail from largely rural and regional Australia, we simply clicked. I will miss our close friendship greatly.

Please pray that both Elspeth and I are able to establish positive uplifting relationships in Melbourne, either amongst our Wycliffe community or through a local church, and that these would enrich our experience of serving God in a new location.

Assorted highlights ...

Right & Below: A large tree came down in our Ukarumpa yard before Christmas, thankfully missing the house. After a week of hard work assisted by **Tepi**, our previous yard labourer, there was plenty of firewood for ourselves and the community.



Left: Before joining Elspeth in Ukarumpa, Keith and Corey were able to cover the motorhome just as the rain came down in Townsville. We were relieved to find our home clean, dry and mould free on our return five weeks later, in spite of the extreme wet weather. The process left Keith far from clean or dry!

Below: Liliana (4 years) started Kindergarten five days per fortnight.

Last week we received the precious gift of a second *bubu* (Tok Pisin for grandchild), much to the delight of big sister. Welcome to the family, Oliver James Boyle.

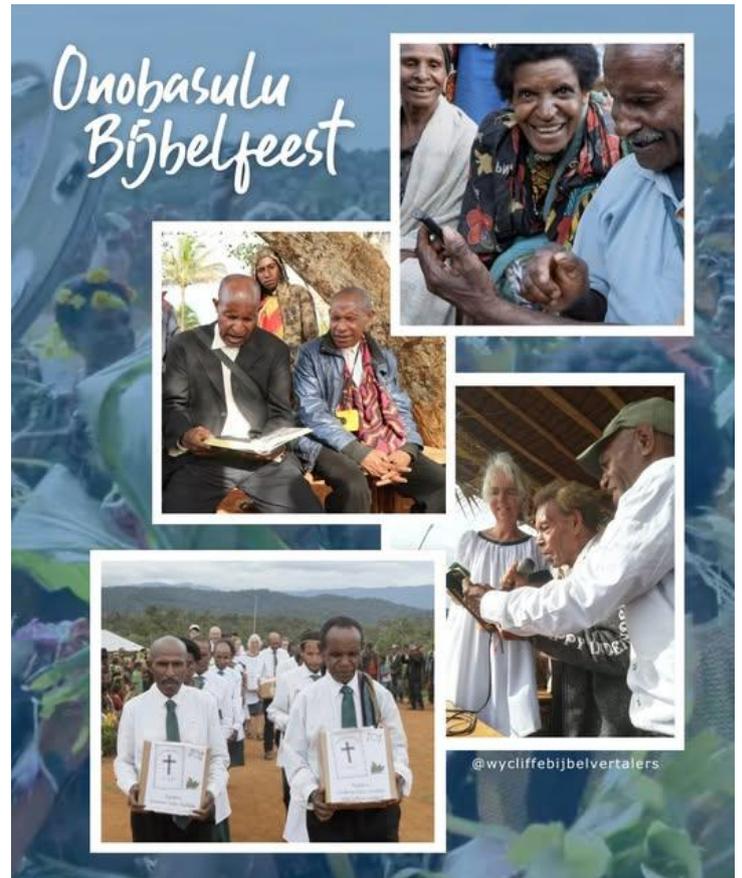


Pressing on towards the goal ...

The Onobasulu people dedicated their New Testament translation in January, with over a thousand guests from neighbouring language groups joining the Bible Festival. The work has been a corporate effort, with advisors from Netherlands, the USA and Switzerland involved over the past 29 years. In the days prior to the event a local leader was reported as acknowledging the international co-workers as 'part of the tribe'—a reminder that the Gospel of Christ binds us together in a unique way.

Amidst the music, dancing and feasting, people purchased their copies from the stack of 700 printed New Testaments, together with numerous audible Scriptures.

Our prayer is that these people will continue to receive God's word into their hearts, building them up into a community which glorifies God.



How to partner with the Campbells

At the Wycliffe Australia website wycliffe.org.au/member/keith-elspeth you will see links to receive our updates and send messages, and a link to our 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.**