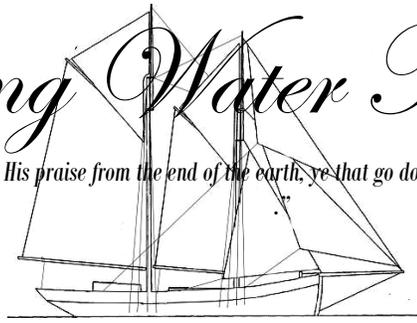


Living Water Mission

Isaiah 42:10 "Sing unto the Lord a new song, and His praise from the end of the earth, ye that go down to the sea, and all that is therein and the inhabitants thereof. .



News from Bwasa and Milne Bay – October 2011



Klondikers all! Well not really, we went to the mine site in an attempt to do a boundary walk of Magisubu land but the mine personnel proved obstructive and only let us stay after some debate. The place still looks like a squatter settlement and I cannot see any indication of the millions of dollars they apparently intend to invest in developing the mine. The new Canadian/Australian mine prospectors have made many developmental promises but have yet to deliver anything solid on the ground. We went down the following day having achieved little but causing deal of unease for the insurocratic policymakers in Australia or Canada.

Thanks for Supporters

Our deepest and heartfelt thanks to the Lord and to you for the support you have given us. We pray that God multiply and prosper you for your generosity in every area of your lives.

Land Disputes and Mining in PNG

We returned to the village in early August to find tension over a land dispute. This is common in PNG today as land here is all traditionally owned. Unlike most other countries, land here is owned by tribal families and proving title and boundaries is done by presenting a history and a family tree convincingly enough for a court to believe you. Invariably some people see opportunity to steal land by inventing a story line or insinuating themselves into the real story to achieve this in the courts. One of the major forms of corruption in PNG is in relation to the opportunities afforded to greedy people under this arrangement. The genuine landowners generally are caught off guard because they, knowing that the land is theirs relax and take little heed to warnings and advice to register their land. Our people are exactly in this situation as formal claims have been made for their land by neighbouring tribes and clans. The reason for this is based on gravy train expectations of 'kompensisin' from the gold mine a mile from us up the mountainside. It has not in production yet but with gold at an all time high there is considerable pressure to get it working. Surprisingly enough despite this there is little of the infrastructure at the mine site which one might expect even when still in the late prospecting stage. Anyway it being on Magisubu land makes it attractive to land-thieves. Without minimising a highly complex issue, it still stands that until a government is elected which has sufficient capability and capacity to see the need for their own Domesday experience this enormous door for corruption will remain open.

Relative to this is that an iniquitous law in originating in England in which the government own mineral rights on all land. They sell these rights of exploitation to miners by way of a licence. This licence, when granted, is exercised, usually with arrogance, by the miner to exploit the mineral resources on other peoples' land. I know this law passed into the Aussie legal system and is currently producing problems between miners and farmers in Queensland over mineral rights access on farmland; in their case gas retrieved from old coal seams. Here in PNG this law seems to have the same standing. I am not familiar with the land law in PNG; however the mining companies exhibit the same conceit in carrying out their operation with regard to landowners that we can draw a reasonable conclusion that the same or similar status quo exists here. It is understandable that governments of poor countries are looking for income sources but there certainly must always be equity in law to protect those living on the land and especially in PNG where the landowners are often woefully ignorant of the real values of the resource and physical end results of mining activity on their land. PNG experienced a real disaster in the civil war in Bougainville resulting from failure to strike a good balance between Government/Miner/Landowner interests over the Panguna copper mine (Rio Tinto). In practice it amounts to pollution and destruction of the environment beyond description, this is the recorded experience of mining in PNG. A mine properly run, without cutting corners to increase the profit margin and with a government diligent to promote the interests of its people while obtaining revenue should be a benefit to everyone concerned. Still we are not in Heaven yet where there is no sin, greed, sickness or devil. There is no such place as Utopia or a heaven on Earth so these things will always manifest but this should never be ground for complacency. Anyway pray for us and for PNG.

In addition to this we have had some persecution from someone at Waioko, where many of our students came from. A couple of letters of complaint were written to the Provincial Government and I had to give an account of our work, they soon saw through the subterfuge but the motive of the complainants was unclear. Stan says it is because I can read legal documents and advise the Sigialu family of the land-stealing scams that they see my presence as an obstacle to their plans. Anyway after settling with the Provincial Government people, we went on a peacemaking mission and the Waioko complainant seems settled now. (cf Matt 5:11)



In August we tested the pledge of New Guinea Gold to support local business with an offer to supply the timber for the building program they say they urgently need to house staff at the mine site. They did not even answer our offer. As we have been unable to get a bananaboat either we have been unable to move the Woodmizer to sites elsewhere either, to cut timber. However after converting an outrigger dugout canoe to use an old 4hp Evinrude that Simon Rooksby gave me last year I am encouraged that we can restore two large old canoes and make a catamaran capable of carrying not only the Woodmizer but also our student body for the next BCC.
For use in calm water only my 4hp canoe – thanks Simon

Our BCC Students

Just before we went to England in June, we completed the last of three intakes of Basic Concepts Course, students. Most of them have taken the teaching seriously and God has given them revelation. As a result we have the beginnings of a small revival among the youth in North Duau, the area to the North of Sewetai Bay. The pastors and ministers are very keen now about what we are doing and we are praising God for the turnaround.

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I had asked one of them, a girl of 19 called Miriam who God had used during BCC to come and preach at the Mission and she came with about 30 people. Sadly I do not have any pics of the event but it was momentous. God has raised one of them a young man called Ben as a prophet. He has only been saved since May, during one of the youth outreaches to Mwatebu. He gave testimony to visions that the Lord had given him (Joel 2:28 & Acts 2:17) and I was truly taken aback by the scriptural accuracy of his vision and the things that the Lord spoke to him. We expect to hear and see more of this remarkable young man.

Miriam beside me during water baptism

The United Church has experienced a move of God among most of their congregations with the result that pastors are beginning to release their young people on outreaches to local communities and across denominational lines. (Prov 20:29) Some pastors are beginning to work on basic concepts type teaching but there is enthusiasm for us to run some more courses. I did feel that the Lord was guiding me to do this again before setting up the Bible Training Centre curriculum. At any rate the depth of enthusiasm for the Lord's presence is great and worth any of the persecution we have had.

Boat ministry

It seems that things God has shown me many years ago appear to be breaking through the ground and that we can expect the Lord to provide the schooner we need soon. God had shown me in 1992 that we would need such a vessel, that He would provide it would train me towards this end. Our province is made up of several hundreds of islands and with it we would be able to reach the thousands scattered in our region. Not only this, but as God regenerates island communities so they too spread the fire not under our control but under the Holy Ghost in different churches. Beyond this we have the Solomon Islands and Vanuaatu as well. As many of you know we were to have had *Soteria* for this purpose but the donor withdrew it before it was fully released to the mission. God however is not limited and Cameron has located another splendid vessel, rather larger and more modern and we have asked the Lord for the vessel. The program for this schooner would:-

- a. Be for outreaches to the islands involving training village crews of ministry workers; evangelists, teachers and musicians.
- b. Transport and service for us between Bwasa and Alotau.
- c. Tourism program to provide finance to look after the vessel (about £6,000 pa)

This ministry yields to the Lord the practical means for the first time to trigger off revival in the islands as prophesied by Smith Wigglesworth before the last war to Lester Sumrall. I am sure we won't be the only ones but it is very exciting to see the Lord stir and change a whole denomination and draw them towards His plan. So those of you who delight in coming boldly to the throne of grace, please join us in praying for these things to prosper.

Boatbuilders

Our practical work has been marking time a little as we have been hampered by the effects of the land dispute but mainly by the Papuans commitment to feasting and continued heavy rainfall. If someone dies they have a feast involving different communities coming together bringing pigs, yams, taro, rice and the preparation can take often more than a week with the feast itself lasting a week as well. Then they have a memorial event which is as demanding on them as the original funeral was. Brideprice, calendar days, all take their slice of the action and these can and do hamper progress.

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*Sikken is giving guidance to Gilford who is cutting out a hanging knee for the fwd bulkhead of **Magisubu**.*

However the boatbuilding has been going apace with all three of our apprentices in place and working like a team. The equipment provided by ECF is assisting greatly in the development of *Magisubu* which has reached the decking stage now. As I write a brideprice feast is being prepared so the tools are down for a couple of weeks. We set a target for the apprentices to build their own toolboxes and then we would give them a set of tools each on loan for a year pending report on progress, etc and then we would

have a mini-feast of our own and award the tools to the apprentices. I can report that they are all working exceptionally well. Reports have reached the moderator of the United Church and they have relayed to me verbally that they are interested in us being associated with them on the vocational side of our ministry.

Also, interest is being shown by people of other villages. Miriam's brother is a carpenter and wants to join our program so as we move towards building the 44ft cutter we could be having two boatbuilding teams. *Structure at in the stern*



It was always my desire that the timber work would provide income for those working on the boats, until orders for boats make it self-sustaining. The mine would have been a 'ready made solution' as Chris Abel tells me, but they have not responded yet to our offer as mentioned above.



Despite this the outlook is indeed good my spirit and soul are in unity of this expectation and looking to the Lord as our leader and provider to fulfil His purpose. The pic on the left is Terrence receiving his tools with his father Sekema looking on. All these tools have been donated to us by Tools for Self-Reliance based near Southampton. I cannot find words to express my gratitude for these tools and what they mean to our people and the potential they unlock in them. Thanks to the Lord and for this generous organisation for not only giving the tools but ensuring that they are complete, restored, sharpened and oiled. The 26ft *Magisubu* is in the background.

Container for 2012

Simon Rooksby told me that the British High Commissions in Commonwealth countries like PNG usually have a reserve fund to support things like this so with this in mind I approached our HC in Port Moresby. At first the staff reflected considerable keenness, even excitement but then the HC herself relayed to us after flying to NZ for an HC's meeting, that the David Cameron government wanted to move from this idea of direct support towards promoting politically oriented meetings to influence carbon footprint reduction and suchlike; also that DFID had 'pulled out of the Pacific'

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while they focus on Africa (maybe they should change their name to DFAD) I am sure that everyone attending the meetings would give great applause to their speakers but little effect is seen on the ground but the airlines and hotels are grateful for the policy at least. Payments would be made on a bi-lateral basis, ie govt to govt. Turning back to the old ways which did not work before and was open to corruption but for us we must look to God as our source and not to men. If any of you are inspired to help us supply this need directly or indirectly then do contact Cameron or me via text. The cost of container shipping is around £4,000 and being shipped via Singapore can come directly to Alotau. From previous newsletters you can readily see there value in supplying us with valuable equipment and resources.

Moving On

I am typing this News at 06.00 on passage from Bwasa to Alotau on Sinali. So I should be able to collect the emails you have sent us. I am going to try to run another BCC before Christmas as there is a lot of appeal in



the villages again and the garden making season is coming to a close. We have had my father in law visit us for a few weeks and Colly's best friend Geli too. They have been a great help and the villagers have enjoyed their visit. Some older people who can speak Misima have enjoyed 'storying' with them in the evenings.

My parents have gone to Spain and with no negative reports we assume they are well. Dad had his 90th on the 24th Oct and mum her 92nd on the following day. Although they gave up driving (at our behest) to Spain only two years ago they fly now and my brother Bob and Maz look after them.

From L to R. Stan, GW, Mika (Colly's dad), Colly obscured by Makelon (headman)

An arrangement was entered into with the United Church at Sewetai to take one of my Woodmizers to cut their construction timber in exchange for the timber for our 44ft Cutter. It is only provisional awaiting ratification by a community meeting. Another plan in the pipeline is to cut construction timber on Sekema's block on Wadaheya land with the other saw which should finally enable us to build our house. These plans may get enacted in the New Year but we shall trust God in all these things that way it works out better. So dream the dreams of God with us and pray with us for the fulfilment of His plans and purposes as we work in obedience to His voice.

Our next News will be in the New Year so have a delightful strife-free Christmas with lots of 'turk' and trimmings. Remember God's unspeakable Gift and this being the reason for the season as well as our being out here doing His business.

Love and blessings

Guy and Colly

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