Bwana Bwana Village
Misima Island
MBP 31st October 2026

To all our friends.

Yes it has been a long time again since I wrote. Much has occurred since my last writing and mainly that my reserve money held by Masurina/CAFco has run out and we could no longer remain in Alotau. Our vehicle broke down on account of the CPU which controls modern vehicles and we could not solve it. So we were left to travel by local minibuses or 'shankses pony' At weekends I could borrow a small truck from Setima and get the heavier things done. I did recently offer the BCC teaching to virtually every church in Alotau, but they all have programs and are not really interested in either teaching the foundations or affirming their people, while the town degenerates around them. Some of this falls out from Independence in that many feel that as they are an independent nation they do not need to heed 'outsiders' which is rather sad. However, this general view is not held so widely in Misima or other islands. When we arrived at Bwaga Bwaga the pastors asked Colly and I to minister in the United Church (Methodists) although they too have centrally organised programs but they are more open to foundational teaching than the Alotau churches.

I think I have mentioned before that a massive disparity exists between Big Ministry statistics and those given by secular society. YWAM declare that 96% of PNG is Christian but the International Corruption Index place PNG at 127/180 of the most corrupt nations on Earth. We are also a nation addicted to betel nut chewing, a drug which has an effect similar to marijuana. This statistic is enough for Christians in developed nations to keep their money and support in their pockets because they put their trust in Big Ministry much like society in general put a lot of trust in Big Business and Big Charity. However, we must be led by the Holy Spirit, Who leads according to what God says and not the flesh of man.

We, however' are in a sort of cleft place which effectually produces (1 Cor 4:10-14) It is in a way, a good place to be because when we left Falmouth the Lord answered me saying "trust Me and go" His provision in Milne Bay was immediately apparent in the form of a workboat (which I wrote about before) and being dependant on God's provision. We operated this boat for nearly 5 years, via the work of our hands, having very few financial supporters. No matter; because we believe that what God orders, He pays for! Notwithstanding this we still have to overcome some suffering while still looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. Heb 12:1-3. I just finished reading Foxe's Book of Martyrs again and understand that we have absolutely nothing to complain about but rather to hold fast to our faith knowing that God will answer our prayers with full provision but in His time. This time is indeed very short because Jesus will soon return to take us. So its one eye on Heaven and the other of the business we have to do, to occupy until He comes.

I have just read a book on the Celtic Church which was a great encouragement as it revealed that Biblical Christianity possibly started in the British Isles within 100 years of the Lord's ascension. They were Biblically founded, mostly taught from the OT and later NT. They believed and operated with signs and wonders to confirm that they were teaching God's Word as Mark 16:17-20 affirms, which we do too. Hearing God, obeying His directions and restraints is paramount among us Christians. Yet for the most part our Bretheren here, do not have the confidence that they are hearing the Lord at all. (John 10:14-16) this also reflects just how important it is to either continue to lay foundations and restore old ones in believer's lives to bring them to the confidence that they are walking in God's revealed will.

It does not take a genius to see just how chaotic our world is getting and we believers would need to be wilfully blind to the fact that these truly are the 'beginning of sorrows' Jesus referred to in Matt 24. The fact that we are so close, is witnessed and measured by my 78th birthday. The year of my birth being 1948 is generally accepted as the signified trigger for the countdown of end time events beginning with the re-establishment of the Nation of Israel and the restoration of the Jews to their indigenous land after an absence of 1900 years. v. 14 states that this (my) generation will not pass away till all these things have been fulfilled. So it behoves us to consider our position regarding doing God's will and to have the confidence that we are doing it.

So Colly and I, together with our two girls, Mercy and Talitha, (from Colly's family) are lodged in a tiny, semi-bush material house with two rooms. The area is spectacularly beautiful. We have a stream running down through the rocks and boulders where we get our water and the community washing is done. Light is provided by solar and supplemented by our small generator. We have no internet as such, although Mercy has found a spot were limited access can be found. We can get some satellite connection via a Chinese store in Bwagoia 20nm East of us where we access an hour for £1 but we have to be in the store to receive it. It would be great if we could have such a system but again, we would need to have the boat running to pay for it.

Our schooner *Living Water* is firmly anchored in Bwagoia Harbour but is immobilised by a frozen rudder. We have an excellent caretaker that I can only say is God's provision for us because the boat had suffered much at the hands of 'smallboys' since arriving in August 2019. For those who don't know Papuan culture; one of the most destructive and least mentioned ones is that their males are expected to 'play' until they produce a baby. All they have to do apart from that is to obey the clan leaders to clear gardens or build bush material houses including one day a week of community service like clearing a road. They normally go to school but it is their own choice to embrace responsibility or not and mostly they do not welcome it but prefer a life of chewing betel nuts, drinking bush alchohol, forming 'gangs' and then chasing girls. They have a distinct clothing pattern to define them which is to wear their trousers as half-mast. This is known as 'loosebum' by villagers. They steal what they can to promote their habits and I have lost thousands of pounds worth of equipment stolen or damaged in this way. I had an 8hp Honda outboard which was stolen by them and our 20hp Honda from *Living Water* was

taken apart by them and damaged. Many of you may remember the story of the smallboys who broke into our containers in Mutuyuwa, Alotau, and stole a lot of valuable stuff from them, including a Honda 5hp outboard which was placed in a field for later recovery but the security having recovered it handed it to the police for evidence. The police then stole it themselves and gave it to one of their policemen from Esa'ala and the Provincial Police Commander simply was not interested despite his telling me the story. As missionaries we know that it is the penetration of God's Word into people's lives that brings godly change. This can only be accomplished by committed (and supplied) missionaries whose ministry is backed up by signs and wonders. It is the supernatural element that convinces Papuans that God means business! All 9 gifts need to be in operation which means that the character of the missionary will be tested and he will be contested in the same way that the Early Church was contested.

Concerning myself; my knees started to give me pain when I arrived in Ireland in August 2024 to collect a small yacht given to Kingsfleet. It has been that way now since then but it is a little less painful. Invariably, I apply my faith because healing is part of our Covenant in Jesus Christ. However, it does get a bit difficult getting over the rocky boulders and using the bush toilet between the volcanic rocks into the sea which needs a lot of bending. Job 19:25-27, is ever real to me but His peace rules in me, and my expectation of His answer is as strong as ever. We do not have too long to wait!

As you know Misima is a mountainous island, about 26nm in length and lies 130nm from Alotau, This means that making a passage to Misima from Alotau is into the teeth of the wind which is usually between F5-6 and occasionally F4 during the *Babaliman* season between May to September. The rest of the year is quite variable apart from the occasional cyclonic disturbance in the Coral Sea which can occur between January and April and we get Westerly winds called *Ialasi* Average of roughly 2-3 per year. We are rarely affected by cyclones except that this year 2016 we had a cyclone brew up in the Solomon Sea which wrecked a couple of islands and as usual the extra high water usually covers low lying atolls; called by the media 'storm surge' but there is no surge as such. During this storm I found myself continually praying and very effectively for which I thank God profusely. The population of Misima is estimated at about 13,000 souls spread around coastal villages with Bwagoia (called 'station' from colonial times) in the East to Ebora in the West. The people are generally quite poor but have got land. Gold was discovered, in reasonable quantities in the 1980s and a mine established there, which worked until about 2004. It had a significant impact on the PNG economy and made healthy profits for the mining company. By and large the 'company' as folks call it did considerably benefit the people and they cut roads on the island through very mountainous terrain, which would have been a very expensive undertaking. They also constructed permanent houses for some of their employees and Misimans have subsequently been employed in other mines both in PNG and overseas, rather like the Cornish miners 150+ years ago. Alluvial mining has added to the economy of the island too. People involved in working for the mine tell me that they invested some K240m (£60m) for the benefit of Misima Island people, which has, in the usual PNG way, 'disappeared' under corrupt senior officials.

In the 1990s some of the members of the United Church opened themselves to the Lord and received the baptism in the Holy Spirit and inspiration to walk round the coast to the villages teaching on this and they saw signs and wonders. The Holy Spirit was working among them and confirming the Word as Jesus promised in Mark 16:17-20. The Spirit was so much in evidence that villagers dropped what they were doing and followed the ministry team through the villages. Colly was part of this together with Ps. Ronnie Tomulesi. She said that complete lifestyle changes occurred, which strengthened family relationships and all the revived areas gave up chewing betel nuts for about 4 years before they backslid for lack of foundational teaching. It all came to a close when the elders of the United Church at Lowaga decided it was against their denominational position and ordered everyone to desist from their operation including speaking in tongues and so it all petered out. They 'obediently' lapsed back in to the old way of life again. Just as in Jesus' day, religious spirits still hold the communities. It is different now though and attitudes have softened at least in Misima. When the Lord provides our boat for the work hear we expect to unify the villages once more with many of the same people as before including Colly and Ps. Ronnie; only this time we will be able to bring discipleship teaching. Needless to say, this is standard teaching and should always follow evangelism everywhere, not just here in PNG.

There is a new mining company starting operations here to mine for gold, called Misima Minerals Ltd which is an offshoot of Ok Tedi mining who have been operating in the West of the Papuan region and highland areas. It is a wealthy company and we are hopeful that they have the welfare of Misimans at heart. I have written to them inviting them to participate in financing the boat we have asked God for in the amount of A$300,000 (£160,000). With this amount I will be able to purchase and get the vessel in condition for immediate employment. We will instruct a surveyor (who is very well known to us!) to survey the vessel to the standards of PNGs NMSA (National Marine Safety Authority). We will register her as soon as we arrive in Port Moresby and start work straight away. We plan to rename the boat Berean and she will be used, not only to provide for our ministry, but also to facilitate ministry around the island and other island communities in the Louisiade Archipelago. Please pray for the raising of the finances, we are dependent on God alone and there is no commitment from Misima Minerals to support us. I have made additional suggestions to the Company as well. After securing the boat, we hope for support to restore Living Water and prepare her to take young men to sea, teach them God's Word and then provide supplementary work on village gardens and house building in needy communities. Two secular suggestions where we could help were 1. To establish a Marine Training Centre to give courses in RYA syllabuses, STCW and VHF GMDSS radio telephony on vessels up to 24m. The other was to develop a marina around a 60tonne hoist on a mangrove area on the east of Bwagoia Harbour. This should give space for 30-40 boats to haul out. Development for hospitality would follow (Misima is a really beautiful island). So, many trades would be needed for this operation that would offer many opportunities for Misimans to work at the site. This would be immensely popular to cruising yachtsmen because Misima is the last place in the Western Pacific to stop and which lay outside of the mainland where so much lawlessness is

rampant and in addition to this it lay only slightly North of the route that yachts take to head to the Torres Strait and the Arafura Sea or to turn South towards Australia, where they could go after a good service and clean up in Misima.

Of course all this could happen only if the Lord delays His coming.

If anyone wants to contact me, please email guylivingwatermission@gmail.com