

DELTA DIARIES

.....Beware, Kapuna tribe to “chill out” in NZ

Our family is looking forward to a NZ Christmas this year in the Deep South. We’re hitting the NZ scene in December and departing in early March [after the big wedding]; so we’re hoping to catch up with as many of you as possible.

Lin has decided she is not ready to embark on another southern expedition so soon, so she will look after Shiana’s beloved cat and rabbits, and in her spare time, keep the hospital ticking.

D
E
C
2
0
0
4

Little David play on your harp...

This year has been an exciting one for us. The saga of David and Goliath has been prominent as we remembered Goliath’s big-mouthed tactics and David’s trust in a big God.

All was going well at Kapuna until the month of May struck. Out of the blue we were told that the Gulf Provincial Government was taking Gulf Christian Services to court to evict us from Kikori Hospital. At the same time the National Government announced it was closing down over half of the CHW Training Schools in PNG and rumors from high places told us Kapuna was in for the axing.

Kapuna stepped straight into battle strategy—every hour the bell rings out and operation “bow the knee” goes into effect. Additionally, Dr Scott contacted a worldwide prayer ministry and wow.....



Me, scared of a little insect?

I don’t think so...?



.....suddenly, people were sending emails from UK, from SA, from everywhere, telling us they were praying for us—encouraging stuff for us jungle dwellers who seldom get to see the horizon, being stymied by the trees. Goliath has not quite bitten it, but David and the Kapunaites will keep singing and playing that golden harp till the giant is dust.....

.....NZAID and AusAID arrive on Silver [the lone ranger didn’t make it]

As for the training school closure, God—Praise Him—used top shots from NZAID and AusAID to step in and get their fingers on the pulse: money. They told the governmental hierarchy they would rebuild any Kapuna Training facilities requiring attention. And so have come the delegations from the AusAID and NZAID asking that great question: how can we help?

There is still the big “Stakeholders’ Meeting” later this month between all the church schools and the Department of Health. So we are thanking God that he will take us across that one as well...

.....Operation ‘brokem screw’ [bow the knee]

However, for us, the greatest benefit of Operation ‘bow the knee’ has been another move of God here at Kapuna. The students and staff moved into the stirring water, and they’ll never be the same again. On Sunday night one of the patients saw a dazzling bright light in the sky and.....

.....in the light a man appeared, coming down onto the Church. The patient, excited, ran and told everyone what she had just seen.

.....the lads step across the line

Recently, when we showed the video "Raised from the Dead" on the big screen, one woman responded. But afterwards Jadon’s friends, Benami and four others, started talking about the video. That night Benami had a dream, in which he was walking to Ara’ava village on a moonlit night carrying his school bag. In the sky appeared a great banner that said ‘Jesus is coming soon!’ He realised that if Jesus came, he wasn’t ready, and would be left behind. So in the dream he went down to the river searching for someone to baptise him...all five of the lads were baptized today...hallelujah.

.....Video projector voted best invention

Barb was so excited about the boys breaking through and how powerful the video was on the big screen, she stated that ‘the new video projector was the best thing since sliced bread and real butter’. Thank you again, John and Dot, there in Oz, for all the effort in getting us the right unit.



God of the Theatre (the operating theatre)...

So many times, so many times it happens—God comes to our rescue, and we are left amazed at his gracious response to our call. The telephone to heaven is free, and you can hear from heaven almost any time. Here is one of the occasions:

A young boy fell out of a tree and badly bruised his abdomen. Next day, I mentioned him to Dr Scott and Dr Paul, visiting from Kikori, saying we were watching him closely. A few hours later, a loop of bowel appeared, confirming my worst fears. There was no doubt he needed an operation; Dr Scott agreed to do it. He decided to check for further damage and immediately blood flooded the area. Acting quickly, he got it under control. But then, Dr Scott, who had not been so well himself, had to take a short break for some horizontal meditation.

Thankfully, soon he was feeling better and the boy's bleeding had stopped. Rather against his surgical instincts but with God's leading, he closed the abdomen and we all went to bed. Praise God, there was rapid healing and the boy was back to health in a few days—God is indeed very good.

Very Sad News...

Stanley, on staff at Kapuna and a great church leader, was injured during a village rugby game. Sadly, he died of head injuries at the scene. He was a lovely Christian and a wonderful friend. We all miss him, but we know he has gone home to be with his Lord and Saviour. Please pray for his family at this time of sadness.

More Moves of God...

The move of God in Urama continues in power—please pray for Jim and his team as they preach repentance to the other Urama villages. This is a wonderful work of God, as surely the bottom of the barrel, the “sin of Urama,” is getting scraped out.

We have recently had the privilege of helping Jim with some secondhand clothes and a fishing net to help his family as he is often on the road (road? creek?) in his paddle canoe, reaching out to the other villages.



Praise

Barbara and team have just completed a major outreach in the Ihu district [pop 20,000]. It was a fantastic time, with many responding to the calls for salvation.

The district has serious problems. The government office and police station have been burned down, the airstrip is closed and the government health center has just closed indefinitely due to lack of law and order. They need transformation and a heavenly visitation in a big way.

Thank God for what he has done, is doing, and will do in Ihu. By the way, Ihu is known as the district where every one says “I Hate U.” After God's transforming work, hope it will be known as “I Hug U.”

Many of those who responded for salvation are now talking about baptism. This is a thorny issue in the area, being linked more with churches rather than with Christ (sound familiar?). Please pray for wisdom, and for God's light to shine truth.

A blessed Christmas to all of you who have taken the time to read this far. We hope you all have a wonderful holiday season and a fantastic New Year.

Special Words of Thanks from our hearts

To the Hiwi Trust: your kindness helps keep us going on the ground. Thank you for helping us purchase the video projector—a truly wonderful tool

To Dr Nell: your help each year is very much appreciated

To the Jasper family in Oz: thank you for your support. May your rice fields be greener than the greenest Kapuna grass

To Sister Avis, Mrs Brown, and many others: thank you for your support and for the parcels that help us and the hospital so much, and cause so much excitement when they come

To John and Dot Luscombe: thank you for giving so much of your time to help this bush hospital

And thank you to those who have given to the OK Trust. It enables us to give to special people like Jim of Urama Village.

Thank you.

Gulf Christian Services: **Kapuna Hospital**, Private Bag, Baimuru, Gulf Province, Papua New Guinea.

Ph +675 648 5006

Fax: +675 648 5006

Email kapuna@online.net.pg [Note: 30k max. per email]