

# DELTA DIARIES

*Beautiful sounds* flooded our bedroom. I saw people walking past our window, singing. The worship was powerful. A glorious mist swirled around the worshipers. A voice spoke in my mind: 'You must get into the glory of his presence to enter the worship.' Then suddenly I was down by the TB ward, joining the crowd in heavenly worship...I wish such dreams came more often.

Someone recently said 'Kapuna is a well-spring'. About the same time, however, another said 'We have left our first love'. Sometimes we wonder if we are more dry than alive, but God encourages us with such dreams so more of his life will flow.

**S** *Keeping cool* and forgiving the men—saved a kid's life? A while back Barb and team headed off to Era Kiti for a teaching camp requested by the men of the village.

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**P** After much organizing and preparation the team arrived to a nice welcome, but the village was almost manless??? Hmm Hmm! The men had requested the camp, but you know...the cargo boat came in and all the men went to Moresby to sign a land agreement.

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**6** 'Stink, stink!' says Barb. 'Pack up and leave', says the South Otago instinct (sic). After a time to cool off, she remembered a dream one of the students had that God would pour out his Spirit that weekend in an awesome way. She proceeded to do some mental forgiving—the heart one comes later...

Saturday morning, in the middle of the program, a canoe pulls up with a screech and a clatter of paddles...

*Yet more crocodiles*



*Death Adder*



*Angel Wing in the background*

.... An emergency? Yes, and bad: a widow's only son (Gani) bitten by a death adder and with all the symptoms of snake bite. Nurses in the team? Plenty. Snake bite serum? Narry a drop (costs thousands of dollars and needs a fridge).

So it is the Kapuna kids into action. They gather around Gani, grab every mustard seed of faith, and ask God for the Gani's life, which without God is coming to a quick close.

Our canoe, Angel Wing, races off to Baimuru Hausik with sirens blaring. Actually, 'Angel Wing' describes the canoe's ministry rather than its speed!

It seems very unlikely the terrified kid will make it and making things worse, his mother starts to wail vociferously. At Baimuru, we find the duty nurse has gone to the market, busy selecting fresh fish for lunch. We get the key off her, rush to the fridge, grab the antivenin, and Praise God, pull Gani back from the brink of death.

Much rejoicing back at camp at the news the widow's only son was saved.

**But there is more**...about ten young men and women went into the waters of baptism and many others washed their feet as a sign of rededication...

**...and more**...During the Sunday service one of the few men left in the village, along with his wife, chose become a Jesus family and dedicated all five of their children to the Lord...a first time for the village.

**But there is even more**...Barb and team went to Nahoro last weekend, Gani's home village...the first time in 50 years that a ministry team from Kapuna had been welcomed there (a staunch sorcerer place with a veneer of religious whitewashing).

Gani, the snake bite kid, was the key that opened that door. But better still, he was one of the first to come forward to say YES to Jesus, along with his mother. And after them, over 30 others.

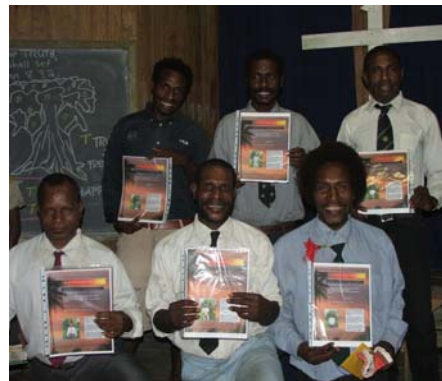
Yes, God is good. There is serious work to see the God-zone established in Nahoro; please pray we will know how to best proceed.

**Discipleship:** Last year Akia came to the 10-day teaching program to commit suicide...and he surely did...drowned in the waters of baptism. His decision to die to his old self was serious and he has grown in God. He was elected Kapai village chairman for the United Church and came to do Discipleship Stage 2.

His Stage 1 leader is in Port Moresby attending a 1-year Bible College course, so Akia stepped in to help lead the group of seven. We praise God for the deeper work. The Discipleship boys are now out for two weeks of outreach in the villages.

**Unusual happenings:** Joshua (a student nurse), shared in church how he'd been praying for his family and last night his no-good drugged-up cousin paddled here from Baimuru...to buy Bibles! He bought 7 Bibles and we donated him some extras.

He shared with Joshua what had happened to him. He was drunk when God gave him a taste of heaven. He saw lots of chairs and tables set as a feast. God said all the chairs had names on them and to see if his name was there. He looked, but his name was not there. He is a changed person and is spending his time in the word and sharing what God has done for him.



**Dr Lin** was seriously sick for a number of weeks and gave us serious concerns. It is good she is from tough high county farm stock and is now back in her garden and eating her bowls of brown rice and bananas. She says she will be making one last trip to NZ to see the family and any friends who can catch up with her in Auckland or Tauranga.

She will be in NZ from late December 2006 until early February 2007 and would love to see any and all of you. We expect to accompany her—we usually plan an NZ break every three years but with three kids in NZ and two years of 7-52 commitments, we can't say that a break from our beloved swamp will go amiss.

A short Hi from 'Grandma': I am just fine, praise to the Great Physician and some crystapen, the old wonder drug. My house has a new stove (much thanks to Rotary) and its first ever flush toilet. My garden is full of zinnia, marigolds, and lilies, and even produced five ripe pineapples for all the recent visitors—unheard of in August. Hope to see you soon!!

Love to you all,  
Barb-Colin-Lin-Shiana

**Great News:** the NZAID manager and other VIPs came out recently to open two new training buildings. Three years ago Kapuna CHW Nursing School was listed for closure by the Health Department, but by the Grace of our God, the NZ High Commissioner had just visited us to present Dr Lin with a QSO (coincidence? Or heaven sent?) and had left an open invitation to *knock* if there were any needs.

So we knocked, as the major reason for choosing Kapuna for closing was 'Poor facilities'. It was a very special occasion to thank NZ AID for the funding.

**2006 Raskol Awards: 1<sup>st</sup> Place**

When his revolver failed to fire during a holdup in Mt Hagen, would be robber, James Wusu, did something that inspires pure wonder: He peered down the barrel and tried the trigger again. This time it worked.

**2006 Raskol Awards: Honorable Mention**

A man walked into Andersons, put a K20 bill on the counter, and asked for change. When the cashier opened the till, he pulled a gun, grabbed all the cash, then fled, leaving the K20 still on the counter. The cash he got from the drawer? K15!! (If someone points a gun at you and gives you money, was a crime committed?)