

DELTA DIARIES

Dear Praying Friends

It seems a long time ago since we were holidaying in New Zealand but it was great to catch up with many of you. Thanks for all your hospitality and fun we had together.

FAMILY... Lavana has now worked in most areas of Occupational Therapy, while Jeremy is still the coordinator of God Marks (a Trust that puts up Billboards of God talking to Kiwis). Janai is final year at Masters Teachers College and works part time at Pak'n'Save to support her car. Jadon is having a year at home helping Colin with his projects or taking Barb's class while she catches up on office work. As for Shiana, it's a good world for an 11-year-old who loves books, videos, writing stories, drawing, and playing...

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...Dr Valerie (Colin's big sister) has made it possible for Grandma to have one day off each week so she can spend more time in her beloved garden. At present Dr Valerie is looking after the Kikori Hospital as Dr Andy just finished his two-year contract and the PNG doctor who was to take over was a 'no show'.

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Some progress on our crocodile issues:

- We covered 30 villages on a crocodile awareness program – one positive was that the last four fatal attacks were **not** in villages our team had covered
- Our petition to the Governor resulted in the issue going to Parliament where some decision was made but we have yet to get a copy or to see any action taken as a result!
- We are making 200 harpoons for the villages– it's taking a month of Sundays, but we will get there. Guns would be better, of course, but cost too many \$\$\$...



*Yet another Croc.
This one 4.5m and
Every metre mean*

*Christmas
2006...with
whanau in
Auckland*



A letter Barb received after the fire conference, quoted pretty much as written

To Barb, my sister,

I will tell you a little story, about what we found when we came back from the leaders' fire conference at Kapuna. The Church deacon and one of the elders had a very big argument right in the church while having the main service. The Elder is an old man with white hair, told the deacon straight on the spot to take off all his clothes he was wearing. The deacon took off the necktie, long shirt, two socks, and put them beside the table and then was about to take off his trousers but the women in the church screamed that he wouldn't do that. Then all the church members ran out of the church. That was the Sunday we were at Kapuna for the conference. Tuesday we departed for our home, the little whisper came into our ear that church was in problem. We came very prepared for the Palm Sunday that next Sunday – but the deacon came straight to our house and said, 'I am here to stop you two not to have service this coming Sunday – you have to respect me I am the leader.'

We were just listening with ears but the anointing was in Spirit in secret. Thank you, we will not go over you but before you leave let us pray together. So we prayed together and then he left...

...My sister, the Lord has done a very great thing, we just missed one service. But for Easter Sunday, the deacon came and that elder too came for the service – Praise God, He is real. We just came to one of the things we learned at the fire conference. **We are nobody, but God's Spirit really works in the soul of human.** Our church is now moving, people were shocked when they heard the bell on Easter Sunday morning – very interesting when you hear from us Mr and Mrs Samson A'ape.

Well there you have it, a new twist to making services memorable, the Elder ordering and the deacon stripping. We know you will all have some problems in your own church but can they compete with this one. The good news is that the fire conference prepared this young couple to stand when their village church was under attack.

Two conferences were held – one for Baimuru where 60 or so leaders gathered and then for East Kikori when 40 or so gathered for the 5 days of intensive teaching, prayer and ministry.

God warns a sorcery man...Our good friends, Joe and Selina from Era Kiti, are at Kapuna for the birth of their baby.

Their testimony, in Selina's words:

...The video you lent to us was very powerful. We took it to the logging company and showed it on our Auntie's TV. People were touched.

When we arrived back at our village, while we were still taking our things from the canoe, the sorcerer man started talking against us and asking, 'What were you doing at the company?' He was talking and talking against us but we did not answer him.

Only our daddy said, 'We did not go for market or what ever, we went to share with the people.'

In the end the sorcery man went back to his house but something very interesting happened – that night, right in the night, we all woke with a big noise. There was no wind or rain, nothing...

...You know God did a big miracle – in the night the sorcerer man's house fell down flat with a big crash and everyone ran from the house. He is a bit quiet now!!!



*Joe and Selina and family
From Era Kiti village*



*4 generations of
Calverts...Grandma
with the first great
granddaughter, Lilith*

Hi from Lin...Hello to you all from Grandma Doctor! Yes I now have Daughter Doctor with me and at Christmas my Granddaughter Doctor and her Doctor Fiancée are visiting. Wonderful!

I had a great time in New Zealand getting to know all my grown-up grandchildren and making a special acquaintance with GGdaughter, Lilith, a cute little first edition.

Back in Kapuna, we are in the throes of national elections, a new training program, HIV/AIDS awareness, voting awareness, environment awareness, and most important, Jesus Awareness!!

Praise God for his daily strength and blessings. We hope the latest wonder drug for malaria will reduce the temperatures in PNG. Thank you for prayers.

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

Some of the things we have done recently with gifts you have given:

- Guitar for village church (Ara'ava village church, Gideon from Kararua, and the Discipleship)
- Help to the family of the lady taken by a crocodile
- Clothes for widows and poor
- Gift to the area pastor of UC on his circuit trip
- School fees for Samuel (father died in an accident some years back)
- Clothes for a solo mum living with HIV/AIDS
- Extra costs for conferences and outreaches
- Tape recorder for the school

A special word of thanks and blessing to all of you who give so graciously to the work here. Thank you so much.

Important Note: OKS Kapuna account has changed!!!

New Kiwibank Account: OKS Kapuna
Account number: 38-9006-0327945-00

Please use this new account for any future donations, or post cheques to: Calvert, 27 Valley Road, Waimauku RD1, Auckland 0881

And we have one supporter who will match any donations...dollar-for-dollar...for the rest of this year!!!

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

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