

The Journey of Hanna Joy

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Hello All,

I pray that you've all had a blessed Christmas and that the new year brings you many blessings. My Christmas was a wonderful time with the whole Schulz clan being together in Perth. Although we have got together at other times, we've not been together at Christmas since the 90s.

Since I last wrote, I have graduated from the Grad Dip with EQUIP Training, packed up my stuff and moved out of Kangaroo Ground. [Graduation](#) was the end of a big year of learning and growing, as well as time to say goodbye to some good friends made during the year.

2012 should be an exciting year. It has started with sailing on both STS Leeuwin II and HMB Endeavour. It has been good to be back at sea again and especially good to fulfil my childhood dream of sailing on Endeavour. I am in Perth until the end of January, spending time with family and friends then heading back to Adelaide.

Please join me at my [commissioning](#) on Mar 18, at St Pauls Lutheran Church, corner of Parker St and Longford Cres, Ferryden Park. Church is at 10.30am with a fellowship lunch to follow. An indication of numbers for catering would be appreciated.

I leave the next day for Melbourne to see that part of the family, drop in at the Wycliffe Australia headquarters and have a supper and [information night](#) at Calvary Lutheran Church, 1 Oldstead Rd, Greensborough. Come along at 7.30pm on Thurs Mar 22 to hear more of what I am going into and to ask any questions.

From there it is on to south east Qld to see friends and then a stopover in Cairns to catch my breath between all the farewells and the new start. I hope to be in PNG at the very end of March.

My PNG adventure starts with time at

Ukarumpa, the SIL centre in the Eastern Highlands. Here I will meet some of the team I will initially be working with. On Apr 10 or 11 we go together to Alotau in Milne Bay province to run [translation awareness workshops](#). These workshops are an opportunity for three language groups who are interested in starting a Bible translation in their language to come along and see what is involved. It may well be that Sharna and I end up partnering with one of these languages groups long term, so it is exciting to be able to meet them at this workshop.

After the workshop I intend to remain in Alotau for a few months and help write a [comparative grammar](#) of one of the languages already involved in translation there. This is an intermediate assignment that will contribute to the linguistic work of research and documentation that SIL is committed to in PNG. It will also help the advisors, mentors and mother tongue translators to produce a better translation by understanding the similarities and differences between languages.

In August I will head to Madang to participate in the [Pacific Orientation Course \(POC\)](#). This is a 14 week course to orient all new workers to PNG language, life and culture, including 5 weeks traditional village living. Hopefully Sharna will be able to join me for POC.

These are all my plans at the moment, but they may well

change. I have paperwork in with the PNG government applying for a 3 year volunteer work visa. I pray that this all comes through in time. PNG politics have been up and down. Although I have had enough immunisations to feel like a pin cushion, health considerations may cause dates to change. Finances are still coming together. There are many factors which are outside my control, but which God thankfully knows about. I do not go into this adventure alone, but with Immanuel, God who is with us. I also thank you that I go with your prayers and support.

Blessings and Bubbles

Hanna



Sailing and Translation...

Working on tall ships is something I have done for years and which I love, but it is also means working on the symbol of invasion of indigenous Australia and the destruction of language and culture. The ships I have worked on will usually fly the indigenous flag on departure and arrival as a sign of respect and acknowledgement that the land was never terra nullis. When sailing on HMB Endeavour, the replica of Cook's vessel with which he claimed Australia for the British crown, the symbolism is even stronger.



It is in this context that I experienced a welcome to country when arriving in Albany with Endeavour. The welcome started with our elders sitting down for a yarn and a cuppa. That is, Captain Ross and Uncle Lester, a Noongar elder, sat in the 20th Century Mess and talked over a cup of tea. The rest of the crew kept to our own culture and got on with work, rather than resting during the heat of the day. The yarning is probably the most important part of welcome to country, but it eventually lead to the ceremony part.

As Uncle Lester stood on the quarterdeck of Endeavour, he welcomed us to the land his people have lived on since ancient times. He acknowledged that ships such as ours brought death and destruction. They

brought the diseases, dispossession and alcohol which continue to drag his people into addiction and crime today. Yet he still welcomed us and spoke with hope.

"If you want to unravel a culture, take away their language."

When Uncle Lester said this, he touched my heart. As we had sailed from Fremantle to Albany, I had been so pleased to be back at sea. Pleased to be sailing Endeavour, which as I child I watched get built in Fremantle and dreamt of sailing on. The winds were against us and 21st century timetables demand prompt

arrivals, so we motored most of the way and only sailed a little. Even still, it was so good to be back at sea...back on deck, surrounded by water and sky. I had found myself asking 'Why am I leaving this profession which I love, to go to PNG?'

The short answer to that question is 'God'. The long answer is well, um... somewhat difficult to define. It is certainly not easy to put into words. Uncle Lester's words reminded me of why I am going into Bible translation.

They reminded me that translation and PNG is about working alongside people to strengthen and preserve language and culture, to commit to community and faith. It is about helping build the tools for literacy and discipleship and encouraging a culture and a people group to flourish. They are reasons worth me spending most of the coming years on land.



Dates

Feb-Mar: In Adelaide

18 March: Commissioning and fellowship lunch, 10.30am St Pauls Lutheran Church, cnr Parker St & Longford Cres, Ferryden Park, SA.

22 March: Supper and information night, 7.30pm, Calvary Lutheran, 1 Oldstead Rd, Greensborough, Vic.

Mar 24: Queensland

Late March: PNG!!!

Thanks for a great Christmas and a sailing start to 2012

Summer School For Sharna and others currently at Equip Summer School

Visa That my PNG volunteer work visa is processed in good time and approved

Plans and preparations That all I need to do before PNG goes well

Partnership Thanks for those who support me and prayer for more people to join me as regular financial partners

Peace of heart in all the farewells that need to be made

Thanks that God is with us, in all things

Prayer Points

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