

# The Journey of Hanna Joy

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## Hello All,

Hello all, and Happy New Year! I am indeed hoping and praying that this year will have much more happiness compared to the grief of last year, and that it will have many new beginnings.

I am back in Papua New Guinea after a wonderful month of **holidays** with family in Perth. While we had some fun adventures together, much of our time was spent just hanging out and being together, which I loved. It was a healing time for me, but please keep me and my family in your **prayers** as we go through the challenge of all the first anniversaries surrounding Clare's death on Jan 31 last year.



One of the joys of summer in Perth was many trips to the beach.

The dorm building project at the **Oroi'io Madei (Living Word) Training Centre** (OMTC) in Ubuo is in full swing! **Thank you** to everyone who has given to this project and made this possible. While we are yet to raise the full amount needed, we have been able to proceed with building to enable the upcoming courses to be run, and because project funding for those workshops will contribute to the dorm expenses. While we will have some outstanding internal bills in the next month or so, they should be cleared by the end of the Australian financial year. It is only possible for us to take this path because of all your gifts that got us so close to our goal and that enabled all the initial work and material orders to be placed.

Hans Beukers (Project Manager for the Gulf Delta Project) and an advance team travelled to Ubuo on Friday Jan 13, and were joined by the rest of the building team from the SIL Construction and Maintenance (CAM) department on Monday Jan 15. I have been receiving daily updates and **praise God** for the speed at which things are progressing. Please be **praying** for a safe and successful building programme. The dedication of the new dorm building is planned for Feb 14, with the builders leaving on Feb 15, and the trainers and participants arriving for the Oral Bible Storying (OBS) workshop the very same day!



The dorm after one week of building. Our land is a tidal flood zone, and a spring tide flowed through the property on the weekend. (Photo: Miranda van Wette)

**Pray** for all the logistics surrounding both the building and the workshop planning. We work in a remote area with very little infrastructure, which makes everything extra challenging.

## Oroi'io Madei (Living Word) Training Centre

To give to the dorm building project, please visit this link:

[Ubuo Training Centre & Dorm, PNG - Wycliffe Australia](#)

Or contact Wycliffe Australia on 03 9712 2777 or [info@wycliffe.org.au](mailto:info@wycliffe.org.au)



One piece of **infrastructure** we have improved lately is our internet reception. I returned from Australia with an antenna etc. for the roof of OMTC, the goal being to get the antenna high enough to reach above the height of the jungle and to catch the phone signal. We usually have to cross town to catch phone signal on the riverbank, where there is a line of sight to the distant phone tower. Well, the plan has worked! The antenna is up and connected, and allows us to have signal in the classroom. It is still a weak signal, and susceptible to many interruptions, but it is in the classroom rather than across town! I am **thankful** for the people who advised me on what equipment to buy, and for this increase in connectivity.

The **next OBS workshop** will be held Feb 15 – Mar 3. **Pray** for all the participants who came the first time to return, that the five language communities who sent no-one to the first workshop to send a team this time, and that the language communities who were under-represented last time to send a few more people. **Pray** for the staff as they teach, lead, guide, cook, manage etc. **Pray** for the families back home of everyone involved, that they will be safe and healthy in their own places, and concerns for family or village will not disrupt this chance for people to learn to tell God's story in their own languages. The stories we are learning this time are crucifixion and resurrection stories, to be ready for the Easter season.

After OBS is complete, there are a few days until the **Vernacular Path to English (VPE)** training course for literacy teachers commences. This is a three-week course (Mar 8-31) taught by four staff from the SIL Literacy Department. We did the first part of this training, Vernacular Creative Phonics (VCP), in Sept-Oct 2021, and have invited the VCP participants back to continue their training with VPE. As with OBS, **pray** for logistics, staff, participants, their families and their communities.



The new antenna on the roof of the OMTC, pointing at the Aird Hills phone tower. (Photo: Hans Beukers)



Daniel (OBS trainer) mentoring some to the Kope team in the foreground, while Colin (OBS trainer) works with the Urama team in the background.



Wayamo Asena (SIL Literacy Department) helping participants during Vernacular Creative Phonics training in 2021.



A time of worship and Bible study to start the day are a feature of all our workshops.



I intend to be in Gulf Province Jan 25 to Apr 5. This is a ten week trip that is packed with a building project and two workshops. **Pray** for me to have the grace, strength and wisdom I need for each day; this is a long trip with lots of people coming and going for workshops. **Pray** for good health, for myself and for everyone I am working with. I continue to struggle with chronic headaches, so **pray** that they would cause minimal disruption. **Pray** for good relationships with those around me, particularly with the challenges of cross-cultural relationships. **Pray** for safe travel for me as well as for all the builders, workshop leaders and workshop participants. Continue to **pray** for the ongoing challenge of speaking Kope.



Driving my boat... pray for safe travel! (Photo: Hollie Butler)



I am thankful for the Aviation department and their critical role in getting me to and from Gulf.

Twenty years ago this month I returned from a two-month work experience trip to PNG. Most of this time was spent with my friend Beverly Mosley in the village of Walagu working alongside the **Onobasulu** people. While I was there, they dedicated their first ever Bible book, the Gospel of Mark. God used this time to work in me to call me into Bible translation long term. The Onobasulu project has encountered many challenges in the two decades since I visited, but by the grace of God the work has continued. In late 2022 they finished the advisor check of the whole New Testament. In 2023 they are planning to complete the consultant check. Following this is recording and typesetting, with the dedication planned for January 2026. They have come a long way since I witnessed the dedication of Mark in Jan 2002! **Pray** for the team as they continue this work.



Dedication of Mark in Onobasulu, Jan 2003.



A much younger Hanna helping Beverly with entering translation work into the computer.



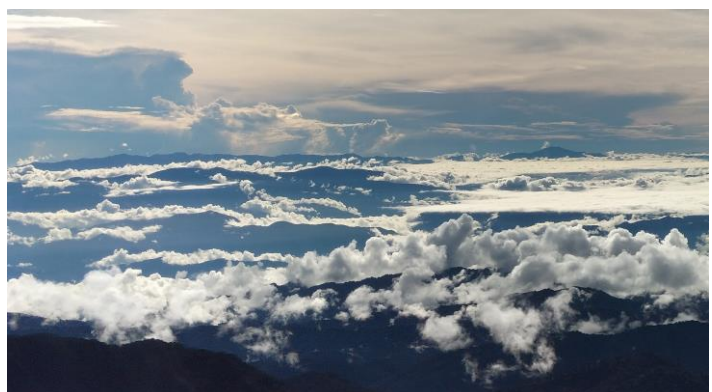
Log balancing is still part of my PNG life!

**God is doing many exciting things in the delta area of Gulf Province**, and I am privileged to be part of it. Thank you for your part in the work, as you give, pray and encourage.

Blessings,

*Hanna*

God's creativity and goodness knows no bounds, as I am reminded by morning light on clouds -->



## Prayer Points

**Kope Translation:** **Pray** for the Kope translation team as they work together on Acts and Genesis. **Pray** that Kope people will read and listen to Luke in Kope.

**Oral Bible Storying:** **Pray** for those who attended the course as they tell their communities the stories they learnt and for them as they attend the second workshop. **Pray** for those language communities who did not attend, that they will join us at the February workshop.

**Vernacular Creative Phonics:** **Pray** for the trainers as they teach at VCP, for all the participants who come, and for all those helping with course administration.

**Training Centre Dorm:** **Praise** God for the start of the building of the dorm! **Pray** for a safe building process and good relationships among the building team.

**Health:** **Praise** God for a healing and refreshing time in Australia. **Pray** for good health during these weeks in Gulf Province.

**Travel:** **Pray** for all the travel that is coming up for myself, builders, trainers and workshop participants.

**Praise** God for all that has happened in the **Onobasulu translation project** and pray for the translation team as they work to complete the New Testament in Onobasulu.



The first wall of the dorm is in place. (Photo: Hans Beukers)

## Dates

**Jan 25:** Travel to Ubuo Village, Gulf Province (plane + dinghy)

**Feb 14:** Dedication of the OMTC dorm

**Feb 15 to Mar 3:** Second Oral Bible Storying (OBS) workshop

**Mar 8 to Mar 31:** Vernacular Path to English literacy training workshop

**Early April:** Return to Ukarumpa

**Apr 19 to 25:** Executive Committee (EC) meetings

The scripture says,  
“No one who believes  
in him will be put to  
shame.” For there is  
no distinction  
between Jew and  
Greek; the same Lord  
is Lord of all and is  
generous to all who  
call on him. For,  
“Everyone who calls  
on the name of the  
Lord shall be saved.”

Romans 10:11-13



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