

Longwe Liklik

Mission News from the Sprau Family

May 2019

Dear friends,

It's hard to believe, but it's already been a good three months since our last update. It's been a busy period for us working towards work permits, visas and medical clearance to deploy to PNG. We have also been busy presenting at local churches and connecting with many of our partners and supporters in this mission. So unfortunately, we won't have exciting pictures of putting on plaster or stories of blood, sweat and tears in our struggles to get ready for PNG this time. This newsletter is instead very much about celebrating how much headway we have made towards going to PNG, thanks to you, our faithful supporters! God's grace has been evident to us in so many ways and it's always exciting to see who He sends out for us to cross paths with and then share about our ministry. At this point, let us also tell you how much we enjoy hearing about what tasks and projects God has put onto your hearts to be involved in. We love hearing about who you are and what you get up to!



Thanks to your generosity, we have now secured a good 70% of the necessary funds to go to PNG. This is a fantastic development, seeing as we are aiming to start in Ukarumpa in mid July 2019. However, as the cultural introduction course, which was planned for that time, will now not be held until January 2020, we are more flexible with our departure date. While our Medical registration and work permit have now been approved, we are still waiting for our visas and Patrick's dual citizenship, which he will need to secure his return to Australia once our time in PNG comes to an end. So, there's still a few things cooking before we can set sail for PNG.

Ask someone in PNG how far it still is to your destination and chances are the reply in Tok Pisin will be 'Longwe liklik' – 'a little long way'. It just takes as long as it takes! We feel like that sometimes about our mission goals: as much as we would love to see things happen more quickly, they will happen in God's own timing.

What else has been happening?

Despite the busyness of the last few months, there was room for some fun activities. The boys have been making the most of the last days of summer, riding their bikes and the waves at the beach. As a family, we managed to spend a few days in the Grampians, where Patrick participated in an adventure race (trail running, kayaking and mountain biking). In a whirlwind action, Anke uprooted half of our garden plants in one day and re-arranged the garden within another two. So, you see, there's still time for fun despite the pressures to get ready.



What's next?

Since our departure date is very close now, we need to finalise our budget and, once we have reached our financial quota, notify the PNG branch that we are ready to go. So if you have pledged to support us or have been thinking about doing so, now would be a great time to let us know the details of your commitment. That way, we will know exactly where our finances are at, as we will only be able to book our tickets once we reach 90% of our support and will only be able to leave for the mission field once we reach 100%.



We often get asked 'How much money do you still need?' and get told that potential supporters would find specific targets helpful, so here is a breakdown of our current targets to get to 100%:

- 3 people giving \$ 100.- per month
- 8 people giving \$ 50.- per month
- 15 people giving \$ 25.- per month
- 20 people giving \$ 10.- per month
- 20 people giving \$ 5.- per week

Praise & Prayer

Thank you once again for partnering with us, for taking an interest in our project and for getting involved in so many different ways. We look forward to sharing more of our journey with you soon!

Please praise for:

- Meeting new people and the opportunity to share our plans with them
- Our team of supporters who prays, encourages and financially supports us. Through you God continues to reveal his amazing love.
- Having received medical clearance from Ukarumpa Clinic
- Having received professional registration and our work permits for PNG
- Our supportive work places and school

Please pray for:

- Visas to be granted and financial support to grow to 100% in time for a July departure
- Dual citizenship for Patrick to be approved in time
- Patience and trust in God's timing
- Calming Jeremy's and Benjamin's worries over leaving friends and familiar circumstances behind
- Efficiently completing upcoming Tabor College assignments

God bless,

Yours in Christ,

Anke & Patrick Sprau

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Cheques can be made out to Wycliffe Australia, with a note 'for the ministry of A & P Sprau' and sent to Wycliffe Australia, 70 Graham Road, Kangaroo Ground VIC 3097.

Support through website: www.wycliffe.org.au/member/patrick-anke/