

The Journey of Hanna Joy

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Hello All,

I have had a few full and challenging months of looking at language areas to discern where to work long term.

When I returned to PNG, I started meeting with some of the other linguists in a similar situation. Together we looked at various language areas (allocations) and invite our various regional directors to come and share with us about the possibilities and priorities in their area. As we heard about all the work needing to be done, different projects came to the fore. We followed up on these by hearing from others working in that area, reading reports and finding out whatever information we could. This information gathering included a trip to Lae to meet with church leaders. Sometimes this led to the area becoming more interesting, sometimes to it becoming less so. The unofficial list of interesting places has been very fluid, gaining and losing project ideas several times over the last few months.

At the moment, we have two areas we are looking at more seriously. The first of these is in Gulf Province, where the Pettersons (NZ) work with several languages. They have established a good foundation and are hoping for people to join them to expand and continue that work. This area includes the Koriki people, where I worked over Christmas. We will be going down for a three week 'pre-allocation trip' to test if that is the area for us to work long term. While there we will be assisting with literacy and translation work.



Discerning 'where' is like walking this slippery path!

The second area we are looking at is in north New Ireland, primarily with the Tigak and the Tiang. These are people I worked with briefly in June last year. We hope to organise a trip to that area in October and will probably be involved in a Sunday School materials production workshop.

Along the way the 'we' has expanded. Our meetings to investigate language projects gained the name TEA: Translators Exploring Allocations. As we met, shared, prayed and drank a lot of tea, we found that we formed a team and are now looking at the option of allocating together in one multi-language project. We do not yet know how this would work, but are excited about the possibility. The current TEA ladies are Catherine Rivard (US), Susie Pederson (US passport, but grew up in Suriname and PNG), Rebekah Drew (Canada), Inga Glissmann (Germany) and myself.

Thank you for joining me on this journey. Although the road to settling into a project long term has been windy, often foggy and of unknown length, it has also had its blessings. Growing into a larger team has opened up possibilities for where and how we could work. The friendships among us are also a blessing. I'm sure there are many more unexpected turns on this road before decisions are made and plans settled, but I will keep you posted!

Hanna



TEA ladies: Inga, Rebekah, Susie, myself and Catherine



Robbie and Debbie Petterson travelling on the rivers of Gulf Province.

Helping with the final typesetting checks for the Kandawo New Testament. It is now at the printers and will be dedicated next year.



Jesus said:

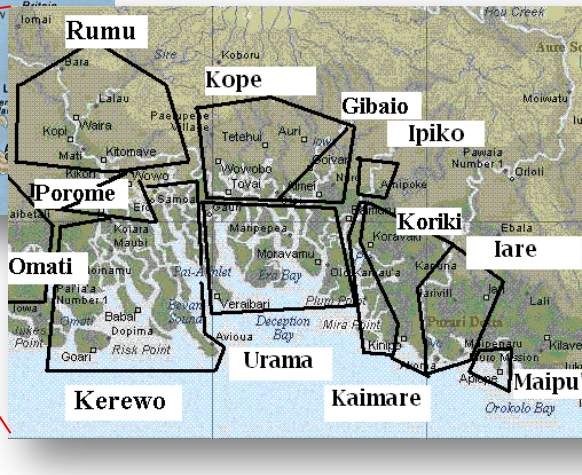
“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Your trust in God, trust also in me.”

John 14:1



Tigak and Tiang area in New Ireland

Ukarumpa, where I am based in the Highlands.



Prayer Points

Gulf Province Trip: for Catherine, Rebekah, Susie and myself as we join Robbie & Debbie in their work in Gulf Province, July 30 - Aug 18. Please pray for good relationships in the villages we stay in, good work times and wisdom in discerning if this is where we should work long term. Please also pray for safe travel. It is the very wet season, there has been flooding and there will be LOTS of mud.

New Ireland Trip: for all the details that need to be worked out before this trip can happen and for wisdom in decision making.

Join me in giving thanks for **TEA: Translators Exploring Allocations** and the friendships and opportunities this has meant.

Health and Safety: as we travel by small planes and boats, pray for our safety. We go to villages prepared to face health challenges, but please pray that we don't have to because we stay healthy.



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