

The Journey of Hanna Joy

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Hello All,

Thank you for praying for the dedication of the Gospel of Luke in Kope on October 23! It was a day of celebration, one of Kope people from all seven Kope villages coming together along with special guests. It was a day of worship and prayer, and of thankfulness. It was also a sunny day that was perfect for an outdoor celebration.

After the long and complex process to get Luke to the stage of a printed book, 20 small coloured picture books, a recording and apps, one day to celebrate did not seem sufficient. Instead, I see it as a pause on a mountain peak, before we continued on our way. It was good to stop and thank God for how far we have come. Pray for us as we continue! Pray that people will read and listen to Luke, and that it will bear fruit in their hearts and lives. Pray for the Kope team as they continue with the translation of Acts and of Genesis, and for me as their translation advisor.

Thank you for being part of this journey with me. It is twenty years this month since I first visited PNG, got a taste of Bible translation and decided it was what God was calling me to. It took until 2012 for me to return, and I pray that I will be able to continue to serve here for many more years. Thank you for being my fellow pilgrims on this journey.

Blessings, *Hanna*



Twenty Luke picture books and the Gospel of Luke, ready for the dedication. (Photo: Hans Beukers)



Presenting Luke to Tompink Aumarie, Upper Kope Paramount Chief and Kope Translation Project Coordinator, for him to present to the community and the church. (Photo: Debbie Petterson)



Standing with the nineteen households who worked to translate Luke into Kope, in front of the table of newly dedicated Luke. (Photo: Hans)



Kope team practising a story with trainer Daniel

Oral Bible Storytelling

Sept 7-21 was our first OBS workshop at Ubuo and it went well, praise God! We had seven language communities attend, and most of them learnt all four stories that we studied. Pray for the participants as they tell these stories. The workshop was a time of learning new skills, building new relationships, and coming together to understand God and God's word much more clearly than before. The team of five trainers who came from the Sepik region of PNG did a wonderful job training and mentoring the local teams through the process.

Five language communities that we invited did not attend. Pray that they will send participants to the workshop in February, as this is their last chance to join this series of workshops.

Pray for me and the rest of the Gulf Delta team (Hans, Hollie, Nate). We each have challenges in our own lives that make it hard to commit to each workshop, even while we are passionate about the work that is happening. Pray for all the logistics that we need to manage.

Robbie and Debbie are also part of the Gulf Delta team, and although not part of OBS, keep them in your prayers too! It was wonderful having them back in Gulf while I was there, and very special that they could attend the Luke dedication.



Listening to Andrew teaching about OBS skills.



(Left) OBS group photo, including 11 staff from PNG, Canada, USA, Netherlands and Australia, and 27 participants from 7 language communities in Gulf Province. Pray for them as they tell their communities the stories they learnt.

(Below) Waving farewell to dedication guests, but I also waved farewell to boatloads of OBS trainers and participants from this bank. Travel is complex in our swamp, so please continue to pray for logistics, safety, good weather and patience with change.





OMTC with Commonwealth flags at half-mast following the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

Dorm Building

We are planning on building a dorm in January!

Thank you to everyone who has given so far. What you have given means that while I was in Ubuo, we were able to upgrade ablution buildings before the OBS workshop began. We upgraded an older composting toilet, built two new three-cubicle wash-houses, and built a special dry composting toilet using plumbing from the Sago Network. The land we are building on is a tidal flood zone, so we need to be creative in our toilet solutions. We were also able to install two 9000L tanks that had been part of the original OMTC building project.

The current status on the dorm is that we have received enough money to place the materials order from Port Moresby, and a large part of it has already come on the barge to Gulf. We also have sufficient funds to have placed the order for locally milled timber, which means the local mill operator has time to fill the order. Praise God for getting us this far, but this is where the funds currently run out!

In faith we are still planning for the building to start in January. We have cut back everything we can to reduce costs, but will still need to pay for the transport, food and labour for the builders in January and February. If you are able to give to this need, and support the ongoing work of training in Bible translation, vernacular literacy and Scripture use in the delta region of Gulf Province, we would be very thankful. The details for giving are at the top of the page. We have eleven weeks of workshops planned for 2023, and being able to provide on-site accommodation for participants and staff will be a great benefit for all involved.

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



It takes a team to move an empty 9000L water tank! One of two, it was a relief to finally have them arrive after a series of complications.



The line of water containers and smiles on faces reflect the need for clean accessible water that these tanks met.



(Left) Constructing the two wash-houses and new toilet building for the OMTC.

(Right) The completed ablutions buildings. The building on the far left is an older toilet that had repairs done as part of this work.



Prayer Points

Kope Translation: **Pray** for the Kope translation team as they work together on Acts and Genesis. **Praise** God for the successful dedication of Luke, and **pray** that people will now read it, listen to it, and allow the Spirit to use it to change their lives.

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

Training Centre Dorm: **Praise** God for the successful completion of the small ablutions building projects, and that we have been able to order the materials and timber for the dorms. **Pray** for the remaining funds to come in time for the building to proceed in January.

Health: **Praise** God for generally good health while in Gulf, but continue to pray that my chronic headaches would go away. **Pray** for a time of renewal and healing while on holidays over Christmas. I'm tired!!

Travel: **Praise** God that all the travel for myself and for the workshops came together, even if there were stressful patches. **Pray** for smooth holiday travel, and for all the travel planning for building and workshops in 2023.

Transitions: My life is full of transitions: both my own travels back and forth, as well as the coming and going of friends. There have been a lot of departures of good friends lately, as well as some arrivals. **Pray** for my heart to remain soft, and that I will continue to welcome new people, and will be able to balance keeping in touch with letting go.



My Ukarumpa Advent Calendar, made of small bilums. Bilums carry everything in PNG, including babies. These ones carry different names and titles of the baby who we celebrate at Christmas.



Dates

Nov 30 – Dec 6: Executive Committee meetings, with the responsibilities of Chair

Dec 8: Language teams Christmas Party: Praise God for all the translation and literacy work that is happening in languages and communities across PNG!

Dec 9 – Jan 9: Holidays in Australia! I am looking forward to spending this Christmas with my family in Perth, as together we have our first Christmas without Clare.

Jan 9: Builders fly to Ubuo to start the dorm work. Hans will be going with the builders as a community liaison.

Jan 25-ish: A quick two week turn-around after holidays, and I will return to Gulf and join the building project.

Feb 15: Builders leave, OBS trainers and participants arrive.

Feb 15 – Mar 3: Second OBS workshop

Mar 8 – Mar 31: Vernacular Path to English (teacher training) workshop

Early April: Return to Ukarumpa

“...She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” which means, “God with us.”

Matt 1:21-23



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