

The Journey of Hanna Joy

Hanna Schulz
hanna_schulz@wycliffe.org.au

PO Box 1 (158), Ukarumpa, EHP, 444
Papua New Guinea

Hello All,

Happy Reformation Day! May you remember the freedom we have through the good news that in Christ alone, by faith alone, we are saved by grace alone. It's not our *doing* that saves us, but our *being*, being beloved, and being in Christ.

As this grace is revealed to us through the Word alone, and as the translation and distribution of the Bible into the languages of the people was one of the big features of the Reformation, today is also a good day to celebrate the work of Bible Translation.

I recently returned from seven weeks in Gulf Province, back working alongside the Kope people on their translation, literacy and dictionary work. Having been away for a year, it was good to be back in the village, but there were also **many challenges**.

While I was away there were some interpersonal problems in the Kope translation team. This meant that little translation work happened, and that my house was not looked after. The lack of care meant that the thatch roof rotted and rain came in, so the floor also rotted in many places. The interpersonal problems, the lack of work, and the rotten state of my house made a challenging combination to return to. On top of that it was rainy season, and the mud does get a bit much sometimes.



Most of the Kope Translation Team (there are more!). It is a privilege to work alongside them.



Working with an umbrella over the blackboard to keep the rain off.



Repairs happening to the verandah roof.



Strengthening the verandah floor.

While I was in the village, we were able to work through some of the interpersonal problems among the team. I say that my work in translation is primarily about discipleship, not about a printed Bible product, and this trip was very much about discipleship, as we worked through what the Bible has to say about the role and characteristics of leaders, what it means to be the family of God, and what reconciliation looks like. It was good, but tiring work. Please **pray** that the conversations that were had, and the reconciliation words and meals that were shared, will be genuine, deep and lasting.

There were also **many good things** that happened while I was in Ubuo, and I was daily reminded of how blessed I am by the people that I work with, their faith, and their commitment to their community through the work of translation. Not only did many repairs happen on my house, to make it liveable again, but we also drafted and did the first checks on Luke 18-21, meaning that **87% of Luke** is now through those stages. My hope is that we will finish the first draft in February 2020, and be ready for checking all of Luke with a consultant by August 2020. **Pray** that the team will be able to work well together both while I am there, and when I am not.

We were also able to spend time working on the Kope **dictionary**, and on **literacy materials** that I hope to finalise and print for the new school year. As part of both the translation checking process, and to keep the wider Kope community aware of and involved in our work, we visited Buri village for an overnight stay, and did a **community check** of Luke 10. It is always good to go and visit the other villages. These community checks are an important stage in the translation process, and where we are furthest behind. **Pray** that the team will be able to do a number of these checks while I am away.



Arriving in Buri to do community checking

Hopes and Dreams:

Translation and Literacy Training Centre

In the four and a half years that I've been working with the Kope people, we have used the verandah of my house for all our translation work. When we have held workshops, they have been held in the church. For several years, the team has been talking about building a translation and literacy training centre, where there will be office space dedicated to translation and literacy work, and a large classroom where we can hold workshops that bless not only the Kope people, but neighbouring groups as well.

After much prayer, I have decided to help the Kope translation team pursue this dream, as it is also my dream to be able to reach out to neighbouring language groups, and to equip and support them in their own translation, scripture use, and literacy efforts. I am in conversation with the building department at Ukarumpa to draw and price plans, so am asking you if you would **pray** about contributing financially to this project. I do not yet know the amount needed, but it will be a lot!

My hope is that we can build in October 2020.



In gumboots and meri-blaus, ready to wade to church



The muddy rugby field that I cross to get to church



Measuring the land where we plan to build the training centre



Spring tides, heavy rain and lots of flooding meant paths and bridges were challenging to use →



Things I hope to use the building for;

- Literacy Teacher Training
- Writers' Workshops
- Vernacular book production
- Scripture Use Workshops
- Translation training
- Translation and Literacy Work
- ...other!



Translator Training Workshop class photo

Since my return to Ukarumpa, I have attended a **Translator Training Workshop**, an in-service training for translation advisors like me. It is always good to get together with my colleagues, and learn from their experiences. I've also been drawing on my colleagues' experiences in

cluster projects, where they work with multiple languages at once, to help shape my ideas of how the planned training centre might be best used for the group of languages in our area.

I will be in Ukarumpa over the Christmas season, and return to Gulf on January 20. By then, my house should have a new tin roof, and no more leaks! While here, I have a long to-do list of translation, literacy and work related tasks.

Thank you to each of you for your prayers, gifts, and support. I could not do this work without you.

Blessings,

Hanna



Dates

Nov 22-26: Holiday in Madang

Dec 4-11: Executive Committee (EC) of SIL PNG meetings

Jan 20 – Mar 10: return to Gulf Province

Prayer Points

Praise for the Kope translation team, and for the work we achieved together

Pray that the reconciliation meals and words will result in lasting reconciliation, and that the translation team will work together well in my absence.

Pray for the people who are putting the new tin roof on my village house, and repairing the remaining rot.

Pray for wisdom, and for the needed resources, as we plan towards building a training centre in Ubuo in October 2020

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast

Eph 2:8-9



Wycliffe Australia
70 Graham Rd
Kangaroo Ground, Vic, 3097
03 9712 2777
info@wycliffe.org.au

To give, visit
wycliffe.org.au/hanna

In partnership with

