

The Journey of Hanna Joy

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Hello All... and a huge THANK YOU!!

Thank you for your prayers and support as I recently spent eleven weeks in Gulf Province, including getting very close to the completion of a significant stage in the drafting and checking of Luke, and completing the **Oroi'io Madei Training Centre** in Ubuo village! It was a long and busy time, but one in which many good things happened. I am now looking forward to some rest over the Christmas break, as the last few months have left me very tired.

John writes that *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."* (John 1:1-4, NRSV)

This Word is both who (Jesus) and what (Bible) brings life now and eternally, and it is what defines and inspires me. It is also who I named our Ubuo Training Centre for, as Oroi'io Madei can be translated as both 'Word of Life' or 'Living Word'. It is my prayer that this building will be used for people for encounter the Word in their own language, and in their own life, and so know life in all its fullness, both now and eternally.

This Christmas, after a most unusual year in which many have had to encounter their fear of death, may you each encounter this Living Word, as we remember his entry into our world as a humble baby, dwelling among us.

Blessings,

Hanna



The finished Oroi'io Madei Training Centre on the day of the Opening (Nov 15, 2020). Photo: Rachel Jasper



Dressed up and ready to celebrate on the day of the opening. Photo: Rachel Jasper

Checking Checklist

- ✓ First Draft
(started Jan 2016)
- ✓ Team Check
- ✓ Advisor Check
preparations
- ✓ Advisor Check
- ✓ Community Check
(except Luke 22)
- ✓ Back Translation
(waiting on Luke 22)
- Read Through
(preparation: Jan '21
to do: Feb '21)
- Consultant Check
(June '21?)
- Final Changes
- Record
- Typeset
- Print
- Dedicate

Luke

As we work on translating Luke into Kope, we go through several stages of checking. The first draft is written by one or two team members, then checked by the whole team. This is a thorough and time consuming process. Once this team-checked draft is in the computer, I spend time looking over it and comparing it to the original text, and what commentators and translators have said about it. I then sit with the team and we do the advisor check, addressing the questions that have come from my study of their draft. This is my main work when I am in the village. The advisor checked copy then goes out for a community check, where the team sits with parts of the Kope community who have not been part of the drafting process, to confirm that it is clear, accurate, natural and acceptable. Following this, the Kope is translated back into English, ready for a consultant (who does not know Kope) to look at for the final check. I look at this back translation, confirm it is accurate, and address and questions it raises for me before giving it to the consultant.

While I was in Ukarumpa for six months due to covid travel restrictions, the Kope team finished the community check of nine chapters and the back translation of ten chapters (Amazing work! Praise God!!). While I was in Ubuo, they finished the team check of the last chapter of Luke, and we advisor checked the last three chapters. Alongside our major building project, more community

checking and back translation happened, meaning that we now have *one* chapter left for community checking and back translation. Praise God for this progress and this milestone! My task before I return to Ubuo in February is to go over all the back translation so that together we can read through all of Luke in Kope, answering questions I have, and getting ready for a consultant check, hopefully in June 2021.



Squeezed onto the verandah of my house for a committee meeting when I arrived...
...enjoying the luxury of space in the new classroom for a committee meeting on the day I left.



The first meeting in the new translation office ☺
Photo: Matt Young

Oroi'io Madei Training Centre

Thank you to everyone who prayed, gave and encouraged, making the building of the Oroi'io Madei Training Centre in Ubuo village possible! Here are a collection of photos, and a link to a video by Matt Young, the lead builder: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pirWuU4xneY&t=34s>



On Sept 27, the local minister dedicated the land on which we would be building.



The first of several boatloads of buildings arriving and being offloaded. Thank you to my friends at Kapuna Mission Hospital with their logistics help with ordering, shipping and delivering materials. I could not have done it without them!



Kokoi Aita, a member of the translation team, supervised the local volunteers, from the collecting and installing of the foundation posts, through to the final touches.



On Oct 22 a team of five builders from SIL arrived and set straight to work. It was amazing to see how quickly the building grew!



Raising a wall.



Looking back at the crowd at the opening.
Photo: Rachel Jasper



Walls were framed, then wrapped (white), then insulated (green), and then clad with metal (pale yellow). The long ladder suggests that the electricians were on the roof installing the solar.

Discipleship

What is the hardest part of my work? Not language learning, although that continues to be very hard. Not being off-grid and remote, although that is certainly challenging. It is discipleship. The challenges of living and working alongside people broken by sin (myself included!), and with humility and love working through what the Bible is saying to us in a given situation is the hardest part of what I do. It is a prayer-soaked challenge, to work past my own biases and hurts, as well as through the cultural expectations and readings of both Australia and PNG, to get to the heart of how we are to live and love in this time and place.

After I arrived in Ubuo on Sept 12 I wrote three goals on the blackboard on my verandah; Finish the team and advisor check of Luke, build the training centre, and glorify God in all things. These are big goals, but we achieved the first two, and the third is a life's work... but we made good progress. This progress can be hard though, so please pray for me as I work on the challenges of discipleship. I have one or two relationships that are particularly confronting, so please pray for me to have grace and wisdom for each day.

Dates

December: Christmas in Ukarumpa, followed by a week of holidays in Madang.

Jan: Read through the Kope back translation of Luke, finalise accounts from building the training Centre, and prepare to return to Ubuo in February

Feb 5 – Mar 10: Gulf Province

March: participate in SIL PNG branch conference in Ukarumpa, including organisational responsibilities as an Executive Committee member.

Prayer Points

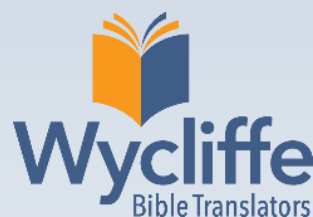
PNG continues not to be heavily affected by covid-19. Praise God for this protection, and pray that it will continue.

Kope translation team: Praise God for the work we achieved together, and pray that the last chapter of Luke will be finished soon.

Oroi'io Madei Training Centre: Praise God for his provision!

Executive Committee: August and December meetings went well, and I am thankful for this team. Pray that we will continue to make wise decisions, and for all the leadership of SIL PNG.

Ukarumpa: Praise God that colleagues have started to return, although international travel continues to be difficult. Pray for us all to have a restful break over Christmas, as it has been a stressful year on many fronts, and many people have been carrying extra work loads.



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