

The Journey of Hanna Joy

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Welcome to my first
ever newsletter!

My Story...

The idea of working in Bible translation had been in my heart and mind for several years before I went to Papua New Guinea on 'work experience' in late 2002. Spending six weeks in a remote village with a translator was an opportunity to test out the real thing.

On Jan 1 2003 I was privileged to witness the dedication of the Gospel of Mark in the heart language of the people, the first scripture in their language. Seeing the faces of people light up as they heard God speaking their language was a great joy. After every verse that was read, they would clap and cheer in excitement. It was also a confirmation for me that Bible translation and I were a good fit.

Having completed my BTh in 2010, I am now studying a Graduate Diploma in Language Recording and Description through Equip training. The course is tailored to teach the skills needed for translation and literacy work in indigenous languages. As all our teachers have worked in the field, what they teach us is practical and relevant. I am loving the study which I take as further confirmation that I'm heading in the right direction.

When?

I hope to be in the field next year sometime. Currently I am focussing on the academic learning as well as the personal and spiritual preparation for such a big change. Developing a supportive team of partners who will journey with me, pray with me and invest in the task of Bible translation is also a key part of preparing to leave.



Where to?

The Pacific region has long drawn my interest—partly because of my PNG experience, partly because as a sailor I feel more at home by the ocean. In conjunction with Wycliffe Australia and LBTA we are working out where I can best serve. There is an extensive database of projects waiting for people to partner in them. It is narrowing the field that is the challenge. At the moment a PNG project seems more likely, but as it is the most language rich country in the world, there are still plenty of places and projects to look at!



Walagu Village, where I did work experience

Will you join me?

If you would like to know more about Bible translation and my plans, contact me and I would be happy to run a meeting in your home, church or school.

If you would like to support me financially please contact LBTA or Wycliffe Australia (details on the next page).

I'll be sending out regular prayer updates, let me know if you want to be on the email list.

Please let me know if you want to be added to or removed from my newsletter mailing list. Would you prefer to receive newsletters by email or post?

A Story...

It was one of the busiest harbours in the world, so I was thankful to arrive at 2am when things were quiet. The skipper was stressed, and forgot that I did not speak Danish. I was on the helm, in the dark, being given instruction in a foreign language... yet we found our way safely in to port.

Two things allowed this to happen. The first was that I can read navigational markers and follow the different significance of each. The second was that a friend would translate to English when I was uncertain.

Bible translation is about being the friend that helps people understand the light and life of God's word in the language of their heart. It is lighting the navigational markers so that the way is clear.

*Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light for my path.*

Ps 119:105



STV One & All

Prayer Points

Study: That I will learn what I will need in the field.

Where? For discernment in deciding where to serve.

With whom? Translators work in teams with both nationals and other ex-pats. Finding a team which I can work well with long term is a daunting task.

Maritime Qualifications: that I will be able to complete the qualifications mentioned above, or know when to leave them be.

Family: Auntie Hanna is my favourite title! Pray that I may help nurture these little lives and find ways to remain connected to all my family even when at a distance.

Partnership: That people will join me on this journey and support me as the adventure unfolds.

What about sailing?

I doubt that I will ever truly leave sailing or One & All behind, but for now it is not the main focus of my time and energy. I have done some sailing with Enterprize while here in Melbourne, just to get my fix of salt air and sailing. I hope to do some voyaging before I head overseas.

I intend to maintain my maritime qualifications so that I can use them if needed, both in the field and when home on furlough. Before I head off, I would like to add a MEDII and a sailing endorsement to my Master V - these are complementary qualifications that open a lot more doors than just a Master V. To achieve that takes time, money, energy and a lot of paperwork, so I am not sure if it will happen or not.

WBTA? LBTA?

...that's a lot of acronyms!

I have a dual relationship as a member of Wycliffe Bible Translators Australia (WBTA) and as a member in training of Lutheran Bible Translators Australia (LBTA). LBTA is part of the LCA and connects me more closely with congregations and individuals. Wycliffe is a large non-denominational international organisation which has the ability to train, support and network in a way LBTA cannot. In partnership, these organisations are training and sending me into the field in a translation role. Both seek to partner with local people groups to translate God's word into their heart language.

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