Sparky and Tradies needed in Noro

Tradies and Handy People needed during 2019 to finish off the duplex staff house. Great news with direct flights from Brisbane a two week trip is now approx. $1750 (subject to Saturday flights being available). Contact awsom@wwm.org.au if you and some mates can come help. Next trip planned for July 7-24th. Other times to suit can be arranged.

NORO VILLAS

Great opportunity to pre book cheap holidays in paradise and help support the Noro Training Centre, through funding for the site, training in business and hospitality.

Why not get a group of up to five from your church to buy the 10 week allocation at $2950. See the link at wwm.org.au to get full details. Now with direct flights from $800 return to Brisbane, it makes a great opportunity all round. When the Noro Villa is built, commercial rates would be around $150-$200 per night. Contact wwm@wwm.org.au

WORLD UPDATE

MARCH 2019
Over My Head

But

Not Drowning

“If you aren’t in over your head, how do you know how tall you are?”
– T. S. Eliot

A Facebook friend (Joel Heron) quoted this author recently and questioned his followers regarding where we were pressing onward toward significance. My first thought was; “you already know where we live!”

But the response I posted relates to the ongoing challenge of realising Jesus’ joy in both knowing and serving Him in this world; it seems to me that we all witness almost innumerable opportunities to affirm the presence and purpose of God in our lives. Though trusting Christ does not equate with fully understanding what’s about to happen in the foreseeable future.

Since arriving back in the Solomons last month, we’ve encountered some big challenges. First, we’ve had more break-ins and thefts, involving two houses, highlighting our ongoing vulnerability in living in the Pacific Rim’s second poorest nation. Second, (as I write this) we’ve now encountered more than two weeks of gale force, almost cyclonic, winds such that we’ve had very little Internet and been unable to travel on a boat away from our island to attend to offshore work activities. Third, just this last week, our long-serving site development foreman (Graham Tiokopitu) suffered a life-shattering stroke leaving him partly paralysed and bedridden in our local hospital.

Moss March Update

Alister and Elaine Moss Volunteer Project Manager– Noro

A New Year and new challenges

First we want to give thanks and praise to our Lord and Saviour for His continuing grace and mercy. Second we give thanks for those of you who uphold us in prayer, support in all areas is so valued.

The beginning of 2019 has brought with it new challenges. We have had 3 cyclones, bringing strong winds and several metres of rain. We have been protected from any major damage, we give God praise for that. I have managed to get Stumpy(our Nissan Patrol) bogged a couple of times. With the assistance of the Green Machine(tractor), we were able to pull the Patrol out to continue our journey into the bush where we were trying to cut timber with our saw mill as we battled the weather and a couple of minor breakdowns.
We have built the roof trusses for the new duplex, but due to bad weather we were not able to put them up.

Many of our onsite residence went back to their family islands for Christmas, it and was the end of January before they returned and all the onsite programs commenced.

One of the things that is special to us, is the family community feeling on site. We have 5 separate household families, we share so much together, we pray together, we worship together. Elaine and I have been so blessed with the time we have with our Solomon Island family.

We again give thanks for your continued support.

Contacts

National Director:
Dallas Thomas
PO Box 5436, Alexandra Hills
4161 QLD
Mobile 0424223333
dallas@wwm.org.au

Financial Officer:
Rose Richardson
89 Princes Highway,
Trafalgar Vic 3824
03 5633 3223
finance@wwm.org.au

David Collins
C/- PO Box 5436, Alexandra Hills
QLD 4161
Solomons:0011 677 7351953
david@wwm.org.au

Alister Moss
Wesleyan World Missions
(Australia), C/- PO Box 5436,
Alexandra Hills, Qld, 4161
Solomons: 0011 677
7156497
Email: alemoss@bigpond.net.au

Wesleyan World Missions;
World Update is produced quarterly
by Wesleyan World Missions, a ministry of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of Australia.

https://www.facebook.com/ wesleyanworldmissions/

David Collins
https://www.facebook.com/ DavidCollinsSolomonIslands/
Graham has been my right hand man since we arrived to take up the position as Project Manager of the Noro Training Centre in 2017. On the 14th February 2019, Graham had a stroke on site, and is now in Munda hospital recovering. Graham has been at the forefront of the development of the training centre, firstly volunteering his time, then, from 2015 he became a fulltime paid worker. He has been a tremendous support for us onsite, with his soft heart and captivating smile. He has helped me so much with local information and nothing was a problem for him.

Pray for Gema Zio. It was my privilege to meet with Gema Zio at her home on the island of Kolotepe in the Vonuvonu Lagoon. Gema Zio was married to Eames, who died five years ago. She is now 81 years old and has her cousin sister to care for her. Gema is a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. She donated a building to the training centre at Noro, which was disassembled and reconstructed at the college as a multipurpose building, housing a classroom, library and principal’s office. Recently, Gema suffered a stroke and today (as I write this) was admitted to hospital. She needs our prayers.

Graham Tiokoptu

Graham has been my right hand man since we arrived to take up the position as Project Manager of the Noro Training Centre in 2017.

On the 14th February 2019, Graham had a stroke on site, and is now in Munda hospital recovering. Graham has been at the forefront of the development of the training centre, firstly volunteering his time, then, from 2015 he became a fulltime paid worker. He has been a tremendous support for us onsite, with his soft heart and captivating smile. He has helped me so much with local information and nothing was a problem for him.

Graham lived on site Monday to Friday, going home to Munda on Friday night, returning Monday morning. Graham is an active member of the Dundae church. His wife Moreen is a school teacher. They both have a passion to see the church grow in S.I.

We covet your prayers and support for Graham as he recovers, we pray for a recovery to full strength. Also for Moreen as she becomes a career and looks after the family home.

Alister Moss.

As you can imagine, this has left our small training centre community reeling given the conditions and uncertainties our situation presents. This set of circumstances has reminded me, however, perseverance is not a given; as James 1:3 states, “When your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.”

The New Testament Writer adds (v. 4), “So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.” My perseverance in my setting is a choice. And this adds meaning to why God has allowed for me to physically place myself right where I am.

Anyway, James goes on to say, “If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.” (vv. 5-8)

So I’d appreciate your ongoing prayers at present and into the future. More than anything, we need God’s help to make wise choices in enduring, in believing, and in not wavering like the sea around us! This life, in this place, is our opportunity and I’m grateful for the chance to grow!

David Collins
Richard Soto and Family back in the Solomon

Soon after our graduation from the Christian Leaders Training College in PNG on the 2nd of December last year, we came to and spent our Christmas and New Year Holiday with our home church in Nakalo’s, Ranongga Island. Since then we have shifted to the Noro Bible College.

Thinking about helping Rev D. Collins to train students here is quite a challenge. One thing that I know well is to be a teacher in a Bible College needs a higher training for higher theological knowledge in order to impart better biblical knowledge to students. I am still looking forward for further training in the future with others to teach in our Noro Bible College.

Here on site, how much the Australian Church has contributed on buildings and other facilities to help the infant Solomon Islands Wesleyan Methodist Church is so fascinating. I see this as a living plaque of faith for Solomon Islands Church for this generation and the next.

To be in this Bible College is clearly God’s calling for me. This makes me so eager to teach our Christian brothers and sisters the knowledge of God from the Scriptures. I am looking forward to helping them in training.

Richard Soto

Worth the Wait
From our USA Co Workers ‘Global Partners’
Author Tim Gallant, Missionary to Cambodia

Traditional North American methods of learning do not work well with Cambodians because they come from an oral society. By creating an oral pathway of training, Khmer leaders will be better equipped to minister and lead the church and believers.

I was recently asked about the progress of the education program that we have been working on in Cambodia. I answered, “We wait . . . and learn . . . and work . . . each and every day.” That was the answer that came.

The creation of the Oral Curriculum Project—a theological education initiative in Cambodia that is based upon oral learning methods, obedience-based assessments, and practical ministerial and Bible study skills—has been an experience of constant learning, hard work, and patience. When we dreamed of the program years ago, we did not anticipate the arduous work of adapting principles of spiritual growth to be contextualized and crafted into Khmer lessons and then moving from those lessons to live performances and well-produced videos. But we have learned. With the help of God, trial and error, and, of course, YouTube, the videos are rolling onto our own oral curriculum program channel.

When we began the video project one year ago, we anticipated that the videos would be produced quickly and without great difficulty. Today, remembering those moments of naïve ignorance make us laugh, and we appreciate all that God has done in our midst. He has brought together a team of individuals, both Khmer and international, with varying talents, quirks, and abilities, to be a cohesive team of servants and professionals. We prepare lessons that combine times of teaching, translated Bible project videos, listening to Scripture, and hearing testimonies and spiritual songs—then recording the lessons, doing the narration, and editing graphics, videos, and subtitles. In the midst of this, we always anticipate the future students in the villages around Cambodia, both from The Wesleyan Church and other organizations, who will learn to be obedient to God and study the Scriptures using the videos of the oral curriculum program.

Our prayer is that God continues to give us passion, defending us when the Enemy attempts to steal our hearts and perseverance as the moment of launch when students begin the program tarries. But even in the lingering interval, we know that what we do in the moments of waiting and working matter—that learning and praying matter—and we thank the Lord for providing us the ability to work on the oral curriculum program, for it truly is a blessing to be working on something that is worth the wait.