

TEHILLAH NEWS

September, 2004

Number 4

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus!

The Tehillah Ministries team would like to thank you for your support and encouragement. We believe that nothing can progress forward and bring honour to God without God first drawing together all of the gifts and talents he has given each one of us. It's great to have you as part of what is happening in Bougainville.



'Special Effects' anchored at Tung Village

It has been a very busy year and the season in Bougainville for this year is quickly drawing to a close. As we go to print, Ernie and Marilyn Gunders and Don White are preparing to set sail from Bougainville on 30 September. Please continue to uphold them in prayer for a safe passage back to Bundaberg and for good weather.

You may ask *"What has been happening since Ernie and Marilyn and Paul Hazelgrove set sail in May and Shane and Karen Cavies flew up to Bougainville in June?"* Read on to find out more.

PAUL'S IMPRESSIONS & HIGHLIGHTS....

This year I was privileged to join the Tehillah team of people who have been building bridges, laying foundations and establishing credibility with the People of Bougainville. It has been a combination of Visions that has brought this journey about, and it hasn't happened by chance. God has a work to do with His People in Bougainville, and we have been blessed to be involved with this.

There was nothing like seeing for the first time the faces of the people you know God has brought you to. A 10 day passage was an excellent method for transition from a very busy lifestyle to a culture of "it happens when it happens". But nothing was to prepare me for the emotion of seeing people lining the shores eager to greet and meet you. This was truly a privilege.

Seeing first hand the distribution of school bags to a remote Island school that has been isolated for the past 8 months. It was a privilege to see these school bags from my home church being distributed to children who really could appreciate these valuable resources.

In late August I had the privilege to yet again visit Bougainville after returning home to my family. This visit I flew in for two weeks, during that time we surveyed the land made available to Tehillah to build a training and resources centre.

It has been a wonderful experience in which I have seen my involvement as being a small part in a bigger picture that has involved many people. Living with, eating, and learning a new culture and language can't be done listening to other peoples stories or via the internet or even watching TV, you have to experience it first hand. It's something that you will never forget.

Before I left on this trip I thought I was open for any opportunity to learn by what God had to show me. I had ideas of what I was capable of and willing to achieve and found them to be limiting. For me the most important teaching was understanding that despite our best efforts, and mistakes we make, He will show His love to His people through those that are willing to be used for His service. It's called Grace.

In my account I can truly see and understand the vision that has brought Tehillah to this land, and have seen first hand many events that have shown God's desires coming together in his plans as he chooses. I'm grateful for now that I've been a small part of this bigger picture.



Delighted children receive schoolbags

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PRAISE & PRAYER POINTS:

- * *Pray for safe travel and good health for Ernie, Marilyn & Don as they sail back to Australia.*
- * *Pray for work visas to be completed quickly so the Tehillah Team can return to Bougainville for an extended period.*
- * *Pray for the proposed Training Centre to be established in Bougainville and finances to achieve this.*
- * *Praise God for the generosity of His people in support of the projects and our missionaries.*
- * *Praise God for the great things He has already done.*



SHANE & KAREN CAVIES' EXPERIENCES...

It has been great to return to Bougainville again this year and continue to walk beside our brothers and sisters in Christ. We arrived in Bougainville on 5 June, two weeks before 'Special Effects' and her crew. Our first task was re-establishing contacts with friends from the visit last year as well as sourcing local information and preparing for the arrival of the yacht. Fuel for the yacht was purchased and a storage shed organised to house the generously donated items that were to be distributed in Bougainville (School Bags, Baby Bundles and other projects).

We were generously provided accommodation in a village which was a close walk to the main town. Much time was spent settling in to village life — watching, listening, learning and integrating (some people call it networking). News spread quickly that we had arrived and that

'Special Effects' would be arriving soon. Many people were enquiring about the arrival time of the yacht and what its program would be. Not many people go back to Bougainville a second time so everyone was excited to see that Tehillah Ministries had returned.

'Special Effects' arrived after a 10 day crossing from Townsville. We helped to unpack everything and restock so that they could sail to the Mortlock Islands, a 2 day sail from Bougainville.

Karen was able to do some typing for a local Church on her laptop computer powered by a generator. Shane was kept busy fixing generators, cars, guitars, amplifiers and fridges. In between these tasks we spoke with many local pastors about Bougainville's future and started to build relationships with some of the young men who drink on the

beaches — a growing problem.

We walked to several villages (one was 35 kms away) to help distribute school bags and other project materials.

We were unable to extend our visas so our time in Bougainville was shorter than expected and we returned to Australia on 1 August. We look forward to returning to Bougainville as soon as our work visas have been processed.



Ernie, Marilyn, Shane, Karen & Paul

TEHILLAH MINISTRIES INC
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SATURDAY OCTOBER 30, 2004
2:00PM
HERVEY BAY BAPTIST CHURCH

Don't forget to check out our website!

www.tehillah.org.au

See the new photos from this years trip.

Have we got your email address?

It can reduce costs if we can contact you through email.

TEHILLAH BOARD MEMBERS

Ernie Gunders (Chairman)

Dot Vincent (Vice Chairman)

Marlene Clifford
(Treasurer/Secretary)

Geoff Vincent

Rob Ellem
Roger Brown

NEWS FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR...

Hello to everyone. I would like to thank you for your prayers and support in so many different ways for Tehillah Ministries. As you can see by the newsletter, exciting things have been happening for Shane and Karen Cavies and Paul Hazelgrove. We can truly say the Lord is using them and blessing the people they come in contact with in a special way.

Shane and Karen have had a huge impact on the people of Buka again. They have the ability to relate to the local people easily and they are able to help them in many practical ways too.

As mentioned previously, Ernie and Marilyn are planning to depart Buka on 30 September to return to Australia. Don White from Brisbane has

flown up to Buka to help sail 'Special Effects' back. We have been so blessed to have these experienced sailors, Paul Hazelgrove and Don White to help sail 'Special Effects'. Thank you guys for being available to be used by the Lord.

Ernie and Marilyn will have lots of exciting news about their time in Bougainville and the opportunities that are available for future ministry there. Just to give you a brief outline (as we do not know full details as yet), there is the possibility of building a Pastors Training Centre and providing ongoing support and training for local pastors on a permanent basis (the property being provided for building etc) and the re-establishing of the plantation on site to become fully workable again.

Also there is a demand for transport between islands and that is another ministry area as well.

The Annual General Meeting is being held on Saturday October 30 2004 at 2pm at the Hervey Bay Baptist Church, I would encourage you to attend if possible and become a member if you are not already one.

Please continue to uphold Tehillah Ministries and all the team in prayer as we continue to seek and fulfil God's will for us. There is still a need for more continual financial support as this will continue to grow as we expand the ministry but we know that the Lord will provide through each of us in different ways.

Thank you again and may God bless you.

In His Service
Marlene Clifford