

Kiri at Monash University



God's grace on Kiri has allowed her to settle into Monash University in Melbourne studying for a BSc majoring in Psychology. This week is her last week before exams start, then she returns to home to Gove for almost 3 weeks break

Imogen at Peace Lutheran College, Cairns

Similarly, Imogen recently underwent a stomach investigation and thankfully nothing sinister was found. She has been experiencing recurring stomach pains for some time now. She will be coming home to Gove for what is our dry season. We do not have winter

and summer, just dry and wet.

The Boys

Aaron and Tristan have joined a soccer club after hours at school. Aaron and Paul play Volley Ball on a Tuesday evening, but we are having problems winning anything. Perhaps next season will be better.

Clare Fishing



Paul flew everyone the main MAF maintenance facility in Mareeba near Cairns where Imogen boards at School. This was an opportunity for Clare and the boys to get airborne and visit Imogen. The flight each way is eight hours. On the way back, we flew a newly rebuilt



aircraft to Gove. It is a great way to see the outback.

Leadership

Paul has recently joined the Gove leadership team focusing on culture and outreach. This takes up just one day per week. This is an important role. Paul also studies in the evening for a diploma in Yolŋu language and culture at Charles Darwin University by distance education.



Woodington, Gove, Australia, Newsletter May 2010



Clare Stuck on a Fishing Trip

In the recent heavy rains, getting around can be tricky. Here Clare and

her friend, Angela, are stuck in a small billabong whilst on a local fishing trip.

Cyclone Paul

A category two Cyclone named 'Paul' recently devastated the homeland of Yilpara. Our flying fleet was grounded for almost five days. We flew emergency food, people and equipment at the tail end of the Cyclone to Yilpara in difficult weather; storms were forcing us to land away and high winds caused difficult landings on weather damaged airstrips. I have written an article on Cyclone Paul which will be sent out in the next week or so. - Paul



Bremer Island

For the last year we have been ministering to the 'Naughty Boys' on Bremer Island. Each week we fly out on Thursday evening and return Friday morning. The boys have been sent there for various offences instead of a Darwin jail. Earlier this year, the boys were released to the mainland. The good news is that two of the six boys are doing well; both have jobs and are staying out of trouble.

The bad news is that four have fallen short of what God would want them to do, and how the authorities would like them to behave. They are all being held in custody. I have been working alongside their lawyer in an attempt to get them back to the island. I wrote a character reference to the Magistrate for a hearing last Friday resulting in Remo being sent to the island instead of Jail.

The magistrate said, "There are clearly two sides to Remo" after he read my letter. He will be on the island for eighteen months in which time he can complete his education and we can be there for him. I also wrote to the Jail requesting that Dominic have a parole hearing. Dominic left during the evacuation of the island but failed to return in time. He is a great guy and benefitted greatly from being on the island. The prison indicated they would review his case this July. - Paul

Extract from Cyclone Paul



With full power at low level, the noise is deafening on the ground. We could see the anxious Yolngu panicking at the thought of the aircraft not able to land, meaning no water, no food and no electricity. I felt for them. I could imagine the disappointment and was pleased to give it another go.



Once the wheels touched down, the crowd surrounding the plane wanting food and news was extraordinary. Our immediate task was to unload the food and provide some protection for the consignment until local leadership could organise an orderly distribution. My first reaction when looking at the homeland was, 'that's new', pointing to an enormous lake which once had been a field with a flagged lined path though it for the Garrangali band visitors. I remember a drop-dunny toilet around here too – I did find it later on elsewhere.

Financial News

To stay on the mission field, MAF require our support to be AUD\$65,000 per annum of which we need to raise 40%. This equates to \$26,000 per year or £15,201. We are short about \$10,000 dollars right now or £6,000. In the past, this money has come in by individual donations, but due to the economic downturn, things are uncertain this year.

Prayer Points

- That Imogen's recurring stomach aches are healed
- Ramo; that he settles on Bremer Island and we can minister to him
- The other *naughty* boys are returned to Bremer Island
- Support finances are forthcoming to keep us on the mission field.

Thanks

It is great to hear from you. Please do send us feedback and points of interest you would like to hear about.

We are thankful you are our supporters.

In Him We Trust.



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No Fuel

Last week Gove airport ran out of fuel. This is not unusual as it comes in on a barge and sometimes the barge does not arrive. MAF has several remote fuel storage tanks. This one is in Numbulwar where we have a remote base. There is a lawnmower style engine on the side and once running, the fuel gushes out. This fuel is in the middle of nowhere. When I held the metal nozzle of the fuel hose, my hand was scolded by the high temperature of the fuel in the pipe. – Paul



Both Paul and Clare have been suffering from Ross River fever, a mosquito spread disease. We are mostly over it, but the fever made us lethargic with aching joints for the first four months of this year.

Tristan's Birthday

