



Laura with Sis Paitadra from Fiji, standing in front of some crabs claw flowers

December 2008 Newsletter:

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Oh dear, how the months swiftly pass! Two months gone since my last newsletter update! I do apologise for not writing sooner. The good news is; it's not because I'm lazy, it's because I'm busy!

Things have been very busy since we arrived back in PNG after Andrea's operation. It was immediately back into the work, no time to warm up into it. Some of the many good things happening over the last two months have been the Sunday School and Ladies Conferences. We were privileged to have Bro & Sis Paitadra from Fiji as our Guest Speakers at the Ladies Conference, the first joint-venture for PNG and Fiji. It was great to catch up with the Pais; as we spend 10 years working together in Fiji for the furtherance of the Gospel. We look forward to more close cooperation between the two countries in the future. [Read more about it.](#)

We also experienced a month of sickness; Andrea, Laura & Timothy were stricken with a mysterious rash with eerily spread around their bodies, starting on the face, then moved around the body, spreading to the extremities. Andrea was also laid very low with food poisoning, which debilitated her so badly that she had to go to hospital for rehydration. This was all while she was trying to take care of our visitors, Bro & Sis Pai and Mum & Dad!

Eastern Highlands Conference



Timothy asleep after a long conference weekend! The lady on the right used to look after me when I was a child also.

We had a wonderful Eastern Highlands Conference in November. The highlight of the Conference was a message from our General Superintendent, Richard S. Carver. He preached on "Unless a seed die". In his message he preached how some ministers and leaders spend much effort protecting their position, guarding their power base, and manipulating circumstances to ensure their continuance, or guarantee a succession of leadership. He explained that people who do such things do so because they have never fully died to self. Self is still alive, looking after self. But we must "die daily", die to self. Only then can God work in the Church as He wants to.

It was a beautiful message. Almost every day for the last two weeks, I have had ministers and congregation members alike come to the Office and rave about the message. Every comment is the same: that PNG needs this type of teaching more than ever before.

It was a shame that Dad had to return to Australia the next day, because the people were keen to hear more. It fell to me to finish the last two nights of the Conference, and each service was a blessing, and a great opportunity to input needed teaching to the saints.

Office Equipment



Just a small part of the many "goodies" that arrived in our latest shipment. Power tools, computer, high-volume laser printer, office equipment, and most valuable of all - a red Honda generator!

*All thanks to Dad and Dad's supporters. Thanks for helping!
We're planning to get some work done!*

A special "thank you" must be said to my father (Richard S. Carver) and his supporters, because through their support, the HQ Office has been blessed with some needed equipment. New in the office is a duplexing Laser Printer for Bible School, new office equipment, power

tools, and most valuable of all, a Generator! No longer do we have to sit around for an hour or two waiting for the power to come back on each day; the Office Staff can continue working in spite of the frequent power failures! This has boosted our morale (not to mention productivity). It arrived just in time. The day that we picked up the generator from the ship, a tree fell on the powerlines and we had no power for three days! Not only that, but when the power goes off, so does the water pump, so that means no water for three days too. But the generator saved us a lot of heartache and preserved our sanity. Thanks Dad! Thank you for the many thousands of dollars invested in Papua New Guinea! Your investment of time and money will transform into an investment in souls!

Also a blessing was a good second-hand computer donated by Rick & Rachel VanSant. A few days after arriving, the main office computer blew up in bright flashes and smoke (literally). Fortunately, I was able to replace the burnt out computer with the new one, and things have never been so good.

Visit to Lae

While Bro & Sis Pai were here, we visited the port city of Lae to pick up the goods shipped by Dad, and also to buy other essentials for work. While we were there, Bro Pai preached for the churches of Lae in a combined service, and it was a wonderful occasion. The members enjoyed it thoroughly, and felt very privileged to have the honour of an overseas speaker coming to Lae. The Pais were amazed at the size of PNG, and the immensity of the work still to be done here. We look forward to Bro Pai coming back to minister to the good people of PNG again.



Looking from the Highlands to the Lowlands, Kassam Pass, on the road to Lae

Andrea's Dad

In the midst of all the bustle of the work here, we heard the bad news that Andrea's father had a life-threatening heart problem. He was admitted for open-heart surgery on the 4th December, and the surgeons remarked that, had it not been discovered, his valve would have ruptured within a few days, and probably would have died.

It was very hard for Andrea to be so far away from her family at this time, but it was not financially possible, so we entrusted him to the Lord's care. We are happy to report that he came through the operation successfully, and is now recovering, and in a good state in hospital. Thank God!

End of Year

As we draw to the close of 2008, we want to say a special thank you to all those who have so faithfully supported financially us during this year. It is only because of your sacrificial giving that we are able to remain in PNG and help the wonderful saints of God here. We ask the Lord to bless you all abundantly. Your name and your giving is unknown to others, but it is known to God, and an eternal reward awaits you, a crown of glory which will not fade away.

As we peer over the 31st December into the new year, I see greater things ahead. PNG is

crying out for help, and we are here to answer the call. It will be a very busy year of seminars, teaching, travelling, Bible School and administration. These are the necessities of the present hour in Papua New Guinea. Please pray that God would give us the strength and the courage to "work the work" while it is day. Please pray also for strength and health for PNG's General Superintendent, Richard S. Carver; and for PNG's missionaries, Peter & Robyn Gration on their Deputation Travels, particularly in these financially challenging times. They are needed back here urgently! Thank you in advance for your continued support for us too, which makes it all a possibility.

May our God bless you,

- Richard & Andrea Carver, Laura & Timothy

[Contact the Carvers](#)

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