



EASTER 2014

Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life.
He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;
and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.'

John 11:25-26 NIV



IN THIS ISSUE

- › Welcome to a Jesus-centred Easter
- › 60th Anniversary under way
- › Meet Karen & Caroline
- › We celebrate a Pioneer
- › Books worth reading
- › The Ripple Effect
- › Project Funding
- › Translate the Bible - Transform a Community

WYCLIFFE TODAY
April 2014
Vol 2 / No 1

Published by
Wycliffe Bible Translators Australia
70 Graham Road
Kangaroo Ground VIC 3097

ABN 22 004 705 953



www.wycliffe.org.au
www.facebook.com/wycliffeaustralia

Enquiries:

Editor, Wycliffe Today
Ph. 03 9712 2777

E: communications_australia@wycliffe.org

Contributions:

Jenny Austin, David Tilbury,
Douglas Bennett, Kobus Conradie,
Deb Tan, Barry Borneman, Bill James

Design and Print:

Classic Press

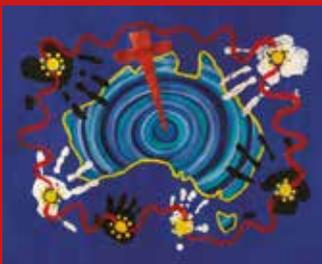
Articles may be freely reproduced.
Please acknowledge *Wycliffe Today*
or its sources as indicated in this
publication.



Member of Bible Agencies Australia

COVER PICTURE

The Ripple Effect of Forgiveness, by
Safina Stewart. See article on p9



EDITORIAL

Missionaries are sent by the Church

Wycliffe Australia believes itself to be a part of the Church. For this reason, we highly value our relationship with the local church. The local church sends out workers to the harvest field. We are facilitators enabling that to happen. As an organisation we are therefore committed to a strong, ongoing connection with local church leaders and have established Wycliffe leadership teams in every state. Their purpose is not only to recruit to the cause of Bible translation, but also to understand how the local church ticks and to help it fulfil the mission of God. We can do this through some of the missions and outreach courses we run, such as Operation Encounter or The Journey or Probe. Or we can come and share in your church on matters pertaining to God's mission in God's world. But most of all we just want to come alongside your leadership and hear what God is doing in your neighbourhood. It might be that we can add value to your outreach aims in ways that you don't anticipate. For example, we have cross-cultural experience that may help you as you seek to reach your neighbour for Christ. So please, give one of our regional offices a call. We are keen to serve the local as well as the international church.



Rev Julian Holdsworth, Church Relations and Ministries

**Wycliffe Bible Translators
Australia**

VIC / TAS

Ph: 03 9712 2712

E: vicro_australia@wycliffe.org

SA

Ph: 08 8322 0246

E: saro_australia@wycliffe.org

National Office

70 Graham Road, Kangaroo
Ground VIC 3097
ABN 22 004 705 953

NSW / ACT

Ph: 02 8014 6487

E: nswro_australia@wycliffe.org

WA

Ph: 08 9243 0486

E: waro_australia@wycliffe.org

Ph: 03 9712 2777

Fax: 03 9712 2799

www.wycliffe.org.au

QLD

Ph: 07 3256 1803

E: qldro_australia@wycliffe.org

60TH ANNIVERSARY WELL UNDER WAY

We are excited about the responses we have already had to our 60th anniversary year.

Celebrating
60 YEARS.
1,919
LANGUAGES
TO GO!

Almost 100 churches have let us know that they want to celebrate the occasion using some or all of our new video clips, Sunday school and sermon material. One church leader emailed us, 'We have got all the presentations together for this coming Sunday. Please pray that we will do a good job of presenting Wycliffe to our congregation.' Another church is presenting one of our Anniversary video's each week. How are you celebrating?

The three major components for the celebration are the church celebrations, 60 projects, and 60 days of prayer later in the year. Some of the 60 projects are mentioned in this edition of *Wycliffe Today*. The remainder can be viewed on our webpage.

The 60 days of prayer will be introduced in the mid-year edition. We are deliberately being ambitious in our celebration because we believe it is worth celebrating ordinary Aussie Christians and the Australian church doing the hard slog to achieve some amazing results.

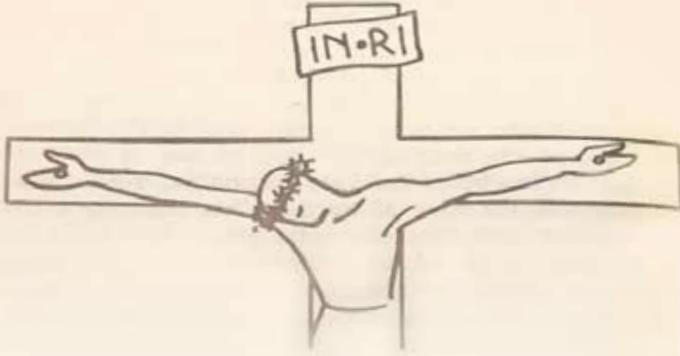


Barry Borneman, CEO

GOOD
NEWS
FOR
MODERN
MAN

Welcome to a Jesus-centred Easter

Easter is always special to me because it was Easter of 1970 that I was first given a Good News New Testament by school friends. As I read that New Testament I felt I was being personally introduced to the central character, Jesus. The more I read, the more enamoured I became of the man from Galilee.



Swiss Artist Annie Valloton's line drawings in the Good News were striking in their simplicity, as was the language used

I was drawn into the pinnacle of the story, which all happens around the Jewish Passover and the first Christian Easter. There I found triumphant celebration, betrayal, false accusations, scourging and death for the one who loved me and whom I had come to follow. In the darkest hour the curtain between heaven and earth is ripped apart as resurrection triumphs, sin and death are defeated, opportunity for personal repentance is offered, and a new life in the Spirit is given to restore and reconcile a hurting world.

It is an amazing story, and an amazing reality that lives on and on in individuals and communities across the world. Welcome to a Jesus-centred Easter. Welcome to the power of His story available in the everyday language of the people of this world.

Good News then, Good News today

On 1 January 1966 the American Bible Society published a humble paperback - *Good News for Modern Man: The New Testament in Today's English Version*.

The Good News contained Scripture in easy to read, modern English. The translation was thought for thought rather than word for word. Although not above criticism, the Good News significantly impacted its generation and triggered a flood of new English translations, mostly seeking to portray Scripture in language which people can understand best.

Proving immensely popular, by 1969 the 599-page *Good News for Modern Man* had sold 17.5 million copies. By 1971, that number had swelled to 30 million. In 1976, the Old Testament was completed and published as the *Good News Bible: The Bible in Today's English Version*.

Today, language workers still work tirelessly on new translations in languages without Scripture, or on revising existing translations. Please pray for this work and for our members as they pursue the objective of Wycliffe Australia: **Good News in Anyone's Language.**

Before I was formed inside my Mummy's belly, God knew me

By Bill James and Barry Borneman

When the Solomon Island Pijin Bible was dedicated and released in 2008 the then Prime Minister, Dr Derek Sikua, said that the Bible in Pijin was foundational for building the character, ethics and values of the nation.

He received the Bible as a major focus in their 30th year Independence Day celebration. A copy was placed on display in parliament house. It would not be long before the Prime Minister's words would transpire in the life of a young Solomon Islander lady.

The same year that the Pijin Bible was dedicated, Wycliffe literacy specialist Karen Hopping was making her way to live in the Solomon Islands, hoping to make an impact in the lives of Solomon Island ladies who had missed the opportunity to go to school and learn to read. Her basic tool would be the new Pijin Bible that was held in such high regard. Karen's heart and soul was to see God changing lives through people reading his Word for themselves.

It was during one of Karen's short term visits to the Solomon Islands in 2003 that she came to know Caroline Siuna, a young lady who had a familiar story.



Karen Hopping (above left) with Caroline (above right) and Bible-based literacy class graduates (below)





Caroline didn't have the opportunity to go to school. Her family made the difficult choice of having one child stay home to clean, cook and wash, as well as to work in the garden and sell its produce in order to help pay for the school fees of the other children. This lot fell to Caroline.

As Caroline blossomed into adulthood she felt the shame of her illiteracy. She recalls, 'I was like a blind woman who could not do anything for herself.' Karen and Caroline spent time together working through the skills of reading. Their personal friendship deepened and Caroline delighted in learning to read portions of the Pijin Bible for the first time. With encouragement and acceptance from Karen, her confidence and ability to read went ahead in leaps and bounds. In 2009 Caroline was recorded on the national census as literate for the first time in her life. She had been given a new freedom. She explained it this way, 'Now that I know how to read and write it is like my eyes are open.'

Caroline's new freedom also led to bigger dreams. She wanted others to have the same opportunity. In 2010 she teamed up with Karen as a colleague and fellow teacher to establish new Bible based literacy classes in Pijin and other local languages around the Solomons.

As her teaching skills have grown, so has her influence.

She now runs these same literacy classes out in the village even when Karen is back in Australia on leave. She has become a gifted teacher of reading and a missionary to her own people, leading Know Your Bible (KYB) classes, and even preaching from the Pijin Bible in village churches.

This shy village girl who only a few years before was confined to the village garden and feeling shame

because of her illiteracy, found in the Pijin Bible a foundation for her life that the Prime Minister spoke about. Personal transformation inevitably leads to further transformation. Now Caroline offers other women in the Solomon Islands a new freedom that comes through the gift of reading and a confidence in God who cares about the forgotten people. Caroline says in her story, 'I would like to thank God. Before I was formed inside my Mummy's belly, God knew me'.

The joys of writing a song of praise in your own language



The Life and Achievements of a

Wycliffe Pioneer



Lynette Oates (above left) seen here with colleague Barbara Sayers in 2005. Lynette was one of the first five missionaries sent out by Wycliffe in 1954. Lynette and Barbara were both part of the Wycliffe team which started work in Australian Aboriginal languages in 1961 (see pamphlet opposite). Sadly Lynette passed away shortly before our 60th anniversary. Barbara still regularly attends Wycliffe events.

Lynette Oates, Australian Wycliffe Pioneer (1921- 2013)

Lynette Living was born in Wangaratta, country Victoria, where her father was a solicitor. She later graduated from Melbourne University at a time when female students were a distinct minority.

While working as a secondary teacher in 1944, she was converted under the preaching of John Ridley.

After the war she studied at Melbourne Bible Institute (1946-7).

In 1950 Dr Kenneth Pike, WBT/SIL's top linguist arrived from America to teach a three month course to prospective missionaries.

Lynette was one of those he introduced to the mysteries of phonemics, morphology and semantics, inspiring

her to complete an Honours MA in Anthropology and Linguistics.

Following her marriage to Bill Oates, a farmer, the couple spent 1952 in Oenpelli, Arnhem Land, studying the Gunwinggu language.

The Australian branch of Wycliffe/SIL was set up in 1954, and commissioned Bill and Lynette to serve in the Philippines.

After a time in Manila with SIL literacy education, they began language work with an aboriginal pygmy Negrito group called the Agta, in the northern Philippines.

Using a mixture of mime, gesture, intuitive guesses and good rapport, they were able to compile an alphabet and a thousand-word vocabulary within months.

Despite the hardships Lynette could later write, 'Looking back, it was to be the highlight of [our] life's work.'

Out of the blue, they were directed to the new Wycliffe/SIL work in Papua New Guinea, and in 1956-7 helped set up the base at Ukarumpa and begin village translation work in the area.

Then it was back to Australia to set up the Wycliffe/SIL program of Bible translation into Aboriginal languages. This new venture was encouraged by Billy Graham, who was in Australia in 1959 for a crusade, and soon Bill and Lynette were able to study the Kuku-Yalanji language in northern Queensland.

In 1961 the Oateses were the driving force behind the establishment of the new Australian Aborigines Branch of Wycliffe as well as the

The Wycliffe Bible Translators introduces ...

Translating the Word of God for Australia's Original Inhabitants

Brian and Helen Geytenbeek (S.A.), serving with the BANDIALANG people (Northern New South Wales).

Hark and Ruth Herabberger (U.S.A.). One year in Mexico. Studying the GUGU-YALANI language (Cape York Peninsula).

Mrs. Elbreda MacDonald (N.S.W.), Secretary to the Director.

William and Lynette Oates (Vic., Howard, Marcus and Elisabeth). Previously served in Philippines and New Guinea. Director.

David and Kathy Glasgow. Previously served in New Guinea. They are studying a MANINGRIDA dialect (Arnhem Land).

Barbara Sayers and Marie Godfrey (N.S.W.). One year in New Guinea. Working with the WIKMUNKAN people (Cape York Peninsula).

It is a fact that ...

- There are still 300 distinct Aboriginal languages spoken in Australia today.
- These are dying out at the rate of ten annually.
- Approximately 70 of these require a Scripture translation if their speakers (whose knowledge of English is so very limited) are to be effectively reached for Christ.
- Little Bible translation work has been attempted in the past in Australian Aboriginal dialects. Little is being attempted today.

The translation of the Bible into these languages is an urgent matter.

THE ENTRANCE OF THY WORDS GIVETH LIGHT: IT GIVETH UNDERSTANDING UNTO THE SIMPLE.
Psalm 119: 130.

SUMMER INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS, "GUNBALANYA",
BARNAWARHTHA SOUTH VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA,
AND 915 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE

Announcement of Wycliffe's work among Australian Aboriginal languages in 1961.

secular Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies (AIAS), with Bill acting as linguistics consultant.

In 1966 Bill took leave of absence from Wycliffe to resume farming, causing Lynette to write: 'I felt so out in the cold... a nobody away from the action'.

After Bill's death from a farm accident in 1968 his work *A Revised Linguistic Survey of Australia* was finished by Lynette. AIAS published it under their joint names, describing the book

as 'listing all indigenous languages known at the time and giving basic descriptions of most with references to research done and geographic location of each'.

During the seventies and eighties, Lynette took trips into remote areas 'salvaging' nearly extinct indigenous languages, and also returned to the classroom as an English teacher.

Retirement was followed by challenges ranging from serving

on the Wycliffe Board, to learning computing - and writing!

On top of her linguistic works, Lynette became a published author of six books, which were mainly biographical.

She and Bill had four children, and they, the grandchildren which they produced, along with the innumerable friends which she had accumulated over the years, were a great source of blessing in her later years.

BOOKSTORE

Dear Reader

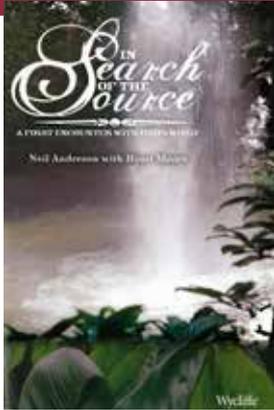
Below is a list of books, some by Australian authors, about translation work in Papua New Guinea. I trust that you will enjoy reading them and find them informative and inspirational.

To order an item simply fill in the enclosed form and return it in the addressed envelope. You can also order some of these books along with other resources online at: www.wycliffe.org.au/resources.

Receive a free copy of our photo book *To the Ends of the Earth* with every order.

Christine Franklin, Wycliffe Bookroom

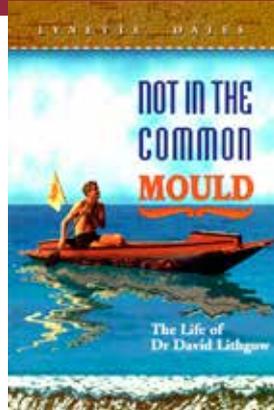
The BOOK TREE



IN SEARCH OF THE SOURCE

By Neil Anderson with Hyatt Moore

This is the compelling story of Bible translators, Neil & Carol Anderson, who lived and worked among the Foloqa people of Papua New Guinea. It is a reminder of the power of God's Word to wrench human lives from darkness and flood the heart with light, understanding and peace. **Price \$12.50**

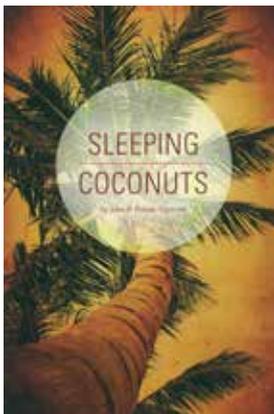


NOT IN THE COMMON MOULD

The Life of Dr David Lithgow

By Lynette Oates

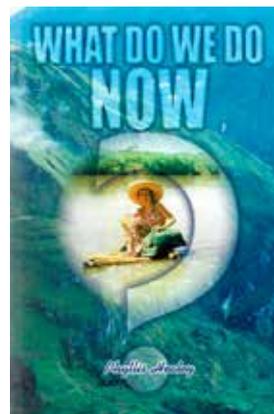
The study of Medicine and then Bible translation was not the path David Lithgow had planned for his life. A mixture of illness, failure, persistence and reward were some of the experiences that God took David and his family through as they lived among the people of Papua New Guinea. **Price \$12.00**



SLEEPING COCONUTS

By John & Bonnie Nystrom

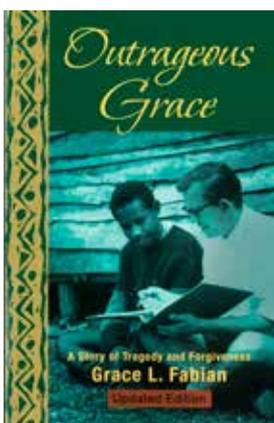
In the late 1980's, John and Bonnie Nystrom came alongside Pastor Peter and several other men from Arop village in Papua New Guinea, to translate the Bible into the local language. This book is a story of tragedy, teamwork and transformation and the incredible way that God used a Tsunami to change the face of Bible translation in Papua New Guinea. **Price \$18.00**



WHAT DO WE DO NOW

By Phyllis Healey

Alan & Phyllis Healey were involved in translation in the Telefomin area of Papua New Guinea. Phyllis says, 'On the path God took us, we constantly ran into situations that were far beyond us and we kept asking, What do we do now? We learned first hand that we couldn't cope without Him.' **Price \$10.80**

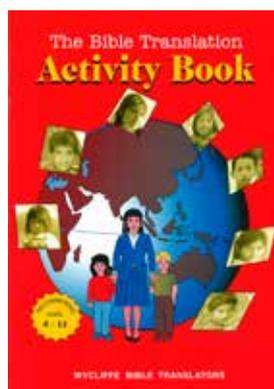


OUTRAGEOUS GRACE

A Story of Tragedy and Forgiveness

By Grace and Fabian

Close to the end of the translation of the Nobak New Testament in Papua New Guinea, someone murdered Grace's husband Edmund. Grace tells of the couple's life story, their separate journeys and their shared life. Then how she and her family of four children wrestled with grief and looking for answers, to finally finding redemption and forgiveness. **Price \$23.00**



THE BIBLE TRANSLATION ACTIVITY BOOK

Fun pages of activities for children aged 5 to 12, which give a taste of what is involved in translation and language learning in different countries of the world. **Price \$1.00**



**WYCLIFFE USB2
MEMORY DRIVE, 8GB**

Price \$8.80



TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

A photographic essay dedicated to all the wonderful people Australians have encountered while sharing God's Word through translation, literacy and compassionate service. **Free with every order.**

**FREE
WITH EVERY
ORDER**

THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF FORGIVENESS

Written in consultation with artist
Safina Stewart

The death of Jesus on the cross was the ultimate act of forgiveness. This is what Easter is all about: Jesus choosing to forgive us our sins by dying on the Cross. His death is the ultimate act of reconciliation and forgiveness.

Australian society has a desperate need for forgiveness – forgiveness of self, forgiveness of others, reconciliation, letting go of hurt, embracing the restoration and regeneration that comes through the Blood of the Lamb.

A stark reminder was the recent documentary on ABC 'Who do you think you are?' which traced the family tree of Rove McManus, well-known interviewer. McManus appeared visibly shocked and distraught as he learnt the horrific details of sentences meted out by his paternal great grandfather, a magistrate in the Kimberley's in the early 1900s. In commenting on the legal system of the day the program showed image after image of Aboriginal men – some old and frail, others merely boys – all chained around the neck, sentenced to years of forced labour for often fabricated charges or petty offences that today might attract fines or community service.

Our challenge is that without the grace of forgiveness, bitterness over past wrongs will live on through generations. Forgiveness goes hand in hand with justice, recognition, repentance, and restitution. Australia has made some progress on the road to recognising and repenting from injustices committed towards our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander brothers and sisters. However, this journey is far from over.

The need for healed relationships lingers on in the hearts of many Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. In 2009 at a women's conference in Katherine, NT, two



Ripple Effect of Forgiveness by Rachel Kendini, Mavis Jumbiri and Safina Stewart (www.artbysafina.com.au). Used with permission.

Aboriginal ladies from Manyallaluk community, Rachel Kendini and Mavis Jumbiri, shared a Holy Spirit-inspired vision of forgiveness across Australia. Christian Indigenous artist Safina Stewart (nee Fergie) was asked by the ladies to paint their God-given vision:

- › **Australia is a country with a hard heart – characterised by unforgiveness, disobedience and bitterness.**
- › **The water reminds us of the bitter waters of Marah. The cross reminds us of the log God showed Moses to throw into the bitter water of Marah to make it sweet (Exodus 15:22-26).**
- › **The cross of Jesus needs to be central – piercing the hard heart, demonstrating cleansing, forgiveness, hope, complete healing and unity through His power and love.**
- › **The red ribbon represents the Blood of Jesus, streaming God's forgiveness (John 3:16).**
- › **The black and white hands portray the different races who call Australia home.**
- › **The smaller handprints represent the next up-and-coming generation.**

- › **The yellow campfires reflect good warming relationships – defined by unity, care and hospitality.**
- › **The appropriate response to this Vision for all Australians is repentance – to God and each other.**
- › **The ripple effect represents the prophetic theme of the vision: Forgiveness starts at home and then pushes out as ripples impacting communities and the Nation.**

Virtually every society impacted by Bible Translation needs forgiveness for past wrongs inflicted on them by other cultures. Justice is needed. Repentance is needed. Forgiveness is needed. As Bible translators our joy is in knowing that as people gain access to God's revealed Word in their own Heart Language they will find it easier to understand and experience the liberating reality of forgiveness available through Jesus' sacrificial death on Calvary's cross.

This Easter, will you join with us at Wycliffe in reaffirming our commitment to keep on doing all it takes to bring Jesus' message of forgiveness and reconciliation to language groups still without the Scriptures.

CELEBRATE BY FUNDING A PROJECT

As part of our 60th anniversary, Wycliffe Bible Translators Australia are trusting God for funding of 60 projects. As you read about these projects you will get a better understanding of the scope of our work and insight into our world. We invite churches, small groups, prayer groups, or friends to prayerfully consider funding a project - in full or in part. We hope to attract sufficient funding for all 60 projects to proceed, thus enabling Bible translation initiatives around the world. You can read about some of our projects here. To look at more projects, please visit our website www.wycliffe.org.

PROJECT NO. 8321 KON BIBLE TRANSLATION

East Asia **\$15,560**

East Asia? Wow, that covers a huge area, and countless people... but we can't say where.

However, this language project which goes by the pseudonym 'Kon', focuses in on a language group of half a million speakers, and aims to complete translation of the New Testament and parts of the Old Testament. Rural churches, many quite isolated, will not just have God's Word in their own language, but will be provided with tools to encourage their use and understanding of the Scriptures.

This is a co-operative venture, involving close consultation between expatriates and local Christians. It requires \$15,560.

PROJECT NO. 8329 BUNONG NEW TESTAMENT TRANSLATION

Cambodia **\$5,800**

The Bunong people are a minority ethnic group in Cambodia, who live in more isolated areas of the country. They were traditionally animists, who led a peaceful agricultural way of life.

However, their lives were disrupted by the violence of the 1960s-1980s, and today they are slowly moving into the mainstream of Cambodian life, and even being introduced to Western consumerism. As well as its spiritual blessing, God's Word in their own language

could contribute to their stability and identity in this time of transition.

God willing, the Bunong New Testament should be printed and dedicated by the end of 2015. Funding of \$5,800 would cover the checking of translated Scriptures by a committee of church leaders, workshops to promote the reading of Scripture, and voluntary teacher training.

PROJECT NO. 8507 SOLAR PANELS FOR TRANSLATION OFFICE

Cambodia **\$3,500**

A new translation office and training facility is not much use without reliable electricity. The solution is to install a 560W solar system for use by the 3 or 4 language teams doing Bible translation projects as well as for meetings and workshops. On cloudy days a backup generator will keep things moving.

PROJECT NO. 8501 GURUNG TRANSLATION

Nepal **\$18,150**

In 1982 Australian members Warren and Jessie Glover took part in two dedications of the Western Gurung New Testament in Central Nepal, in the only two churches existing in Pokhara.

In those days it was illegal to change one's religion from Hinduism and baptism made one liable to being jailed for a year, while those who baptised were sentenced to six years in jail. Nevertheless, the gospel flame spread - thousands of Gurung now name Christ as Saviour, and the 1982 New Testament (1,000 copies printed) has long been out of print.

Recently a group of Gurung Christians asked for a new translation targeting, this time, those who live further east than the 1982 version was catering for. 'Help us make the Word of God available to people in our home villages for which the Nepali Bible is still a closed book,' they requested Warren and Jessie.

Consulting with a team of Gurung Christians, Warren and Jessie estimate the New Testament, plus Genesis and Psalms, should be completed within 5 years.

\$18,150 will cover several trips a year Warren and Jessie will make from Australia as consultants to the project over the next 2 years. They expect the project to take 5 years to complete.

PROJECT NO. 8509 THE AMAZING EXPANDING NEW TESTAMENT

East Timor **\$2,860**

Remember East Timor?

Twelve years ago we were excited when East Timor became independent from Indonesia, with Australian support. The young nation still suffers from poverty and the aftermath of political instability, but one bright feature is the ongoing translation of the Bible into the widely spoken Tetun Dili language.

Over half of the New Testament as well as Genesis have been completed. Now, a Bible translation consultant is needed to check Philemon, Hebrews, 1 and 2 Peter, Jude and Revelation. Stop and think about what they contain. Then try to imagine the excitement of being able to read those books for the first time!



Jessie Glover with Gurung speakers Ganga and Lakshmi



Saul and Rebecca Thurrowgood and children (see project 8619).

The last consultant progress check not only reported that Tetun Dili speakers found the translation very accessible, but spoke of 'an obvious hunger for God's Word...they kept mentioning they couldn't get enough'. A consultant can travel from Australia for a fortnight in the capital, Dili, for \$2,860.

PROJECT NO. 8619

BIBLE TRANSLATION FOR THE DEAF

WORDSIGN Project \$40,000

Using Video Animation to spread the Gospel

Only 1-2% of deaf people around the world are believers, mainly because they have never 'heard' the Gospel in their sign language.

The first New Testament in a sign language (American Sign Language) was only released in 2005. Currently 50 sign language translation projects have started, with an estimated 200 further translations needed.

Australian members Saul and Rebecca Thurrowgood are deeply involved in the research and development of the 'WordSign Project'.

The WordSign Project will use the latest in animation and motion capture to produce translation for deaf communities around the world. It will also address critical issues affecting current sign language translation.

Saul brings 12 years of experience in computer vision research, while Rebecca understands the deaf culture, having grown up as the daughter of Christian parents who are deaf. Rebecca is also an experienced interpreter of Australian Sign Language.

Wycliffe Australia's goal is to raise as soon as possible \$40,000 annually for the research and development of the WordSign Project. The majority of these funds will go to supporting Saul and Rebecca as they work fulltime on research, development and implementation of this project.

PROJECT NO. 8515

BRINGING GOD'S WORD TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN DEAF

\$12,000

Any person learns best in their heart language; for most deaf people living in South Africa, this is South African Sign Language.

According to the Deaf Federation of South Africa some 600,000 South Africans use sign language as their primary language. 75% is functionally illiterate; the remaining 25% has a reading age of an eight year old. The written Bible is of little value to this community.

The South African Sign Language (SASL) working group is planning to produce a set of 110 Chronological Bible Stories translated and recorded in MP4 film format (DVD) using South African Sign Language. The Bible Stories are chronologically selected from Genesis to Revelation, giving the Deaf a basic overview and understanding of the Bible in relation to 'knowing God', 'following God' and 'serving God'.

This project has an annual budget of \$70,000. Wycliffe Australia in partnership with Wycliffe South Africa is looking to raise \$12,000 per annum towards this project. Your contribution will help open up a new world for deaf people.

Will you partner with us to make this possible?

PROJECT NO. 8130

ADVANCING NATIONAL TRANSLATORS

Bangladesh - \$30,000 per annum

Bible translation is a worldwide work of the church that has been gathering pace over the last 30 years. In many of the countries where Wycliffe Australia works, churches and organisations now have a vision for greater involvement in Bible translation. The Advancing National Translators Fund supports the training and development of local translators and the capacity of local churches and organisations to take the next step in Bible translation.

In Bangladesh keen Bangla Christians have stepped forward, ready to cross cultural barriers in their own country to facilitate Bible translation in three different languages. Wycliffe Australia participation is undertaken in partnership with local leadership with the goal of avoiding an overly reliance on external funding. The primary contribution from WBTA is in the form of providing necessary training and a small stipend to some local translators. Current need: \$10,000 per language program. Three languages; \$30,000.

PROJECT NO. 8517

JULIE MACKAY VILLAGE HOUSE, TEOP VILLAGE, BOUGAINVILLE

Papua New Guinea \$11,500

In 2009 the main Teop translator passed away, and his wife and daughter chose to continue the work, but requested assistance. In 2010 Julie MacKay from Australia joined the widow and her daughter and started learning the Teop language. Julie is determined to see the Teop translation through to completion. In accomplishing that aim, Wycliffe is assisting Julie to raise funds for having a house built that would also serve as an office.

Julie has been sharing a house with the widow's family since joining the project, but families also need their own space. She would benefit from having her own house in which to settle with her belongings, and also have a place where they can work as a team with ease on the translation work. It will be a huge advantage to be able to work on the computer in the village once she has solar power by installing panels on the roof of the house.

She will also be able to collect rain water in a tank for drinking, cooking and bathing, since there are no rivers close to the village. The current village tank is small, doesn't collect water well, and runs dry after a week with no rain.



Could you assist Julie in her plans for a place of her own?

To support a project, please complete the enclosed coupon and return in the addressed envelope.

Alternatively please go to www.wycliffe.org.au/donate or email david_tilbury@wycliffe.org

PROJECT NO. 8510

STRENGTHENING THE AFRICAN CHURCH'S OWNERSHIP OF BIBLE TRANSLATION

Africa \$66,000

For centuries European countries colonized Africa, culminating in the 'Scramble for Africa' in the late 1800s. These former colonies are now independent, but their official language is still often European. In fact, Africa has the second-greatest Bible translation need in the world. Thirty percent of the world's languages are spoken in Africa. More than 800 language

groups have Scripture translation needs. Mother-tongue Scriptures are crucial in Africa so that the church can continue to grow and thrive. The church in Africa grew from 10 million in 1900 to 360 million in 2000, and it is still growing.

In 2006, Wycliffe launched the 'Francophone Initiative' in former French areas of Africa. Church leaders, theologians and Bible agencies got together to incorporate Bible translation into the training curriculum of pastors at Bible colleges. Since then, 38 theological seminaries have adopted an introductory course on Bible translation.

Word has spread across Africa of this Initiative and plans are now in place to gather Christian leaders from Anglophone (English-speaking) and Lusophone (Portuguese-speaking) areas of Africa, to learn from the Francophone Initiative and establish similar projects in their own contexts.

Help from Western sources, such as through Wycliffe Australia, is intended to build capacity so the African churches will take greater responsibility for Bible translation in their contexts.

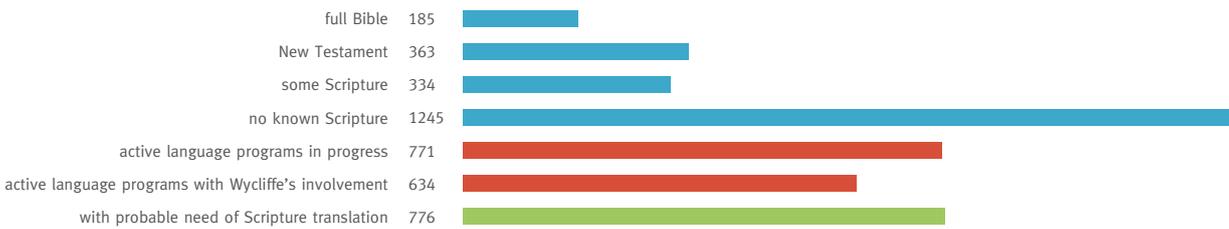
BIBLE TRANSLATION STATUS BY AREA

As of October 2013, estimates suggest around 180 million people speaking 1,919 languages are understood to 'likely need Bible translation to begin'. These estimates represent 1,576 languages with no known Scripture (98 million people) and 343 languages (81 million people) with some Scripture but no current activities in place.

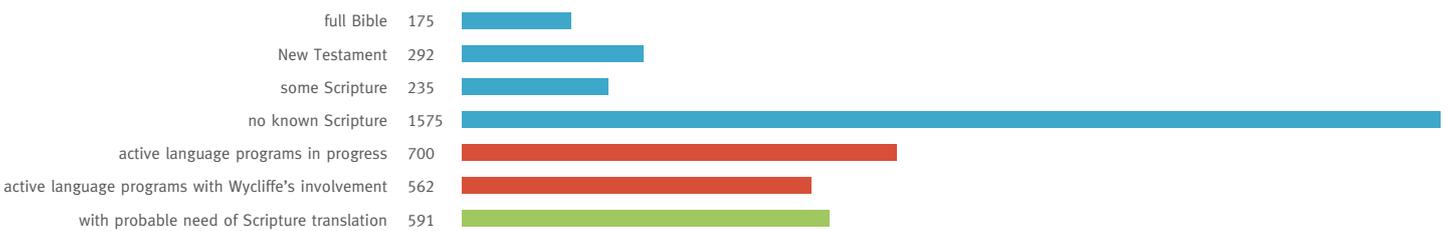
The biggest needs are in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, as is evident from the graphs below.

Africa

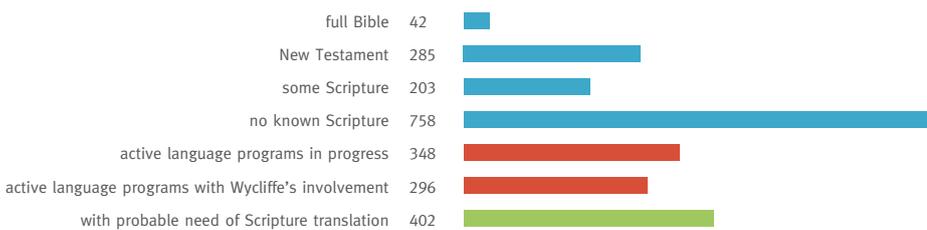
number of languages



Asia



Pacific



Wycliffe Global Alliance: Language & Translation statistics 2013



Good News in Anyone's Language
www.wycliffe.org.au

