

# Wycliffe *today*



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*Time to take the next step.  
Will you join us?*

SPRING 2016

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Member of Bible Agencies Australia

**COVER PICTURE**

*Elyse Patten*



## EDITORIAL

The Wycliffe Board recently asked me to consider extending my term as CEO. I had previously indicated that after 10 years of service, it was perhaps time to provide opportunity for others to lead this very unique organisation. The Board asked me to reconsider because the world of Bible translation and cross-cultural ministry is undergoing significant change. Experienced leadership is critical at this stage in order for Wycliffe Australia to continue to adapt to these changes and take up new opportunities.



*Barry & Marg  
Borneman*

As I prayerfully considered the request, I felt that any extension of my term needed to be for a very specific purpose. So, for my next phase as CEO, I will focus on specifically connecting prayer, funding, and the development of Bible translation organisations and local translators in the countries where we work. With this in mind I have accepted the Board's request. In this edition of *Wycliffe Today* I share with you further on my thoughts on the direction the Lord is leading Wycliffe.

*Barry Borneman*  
*Wycliffe Australia CEO*

## Wycliffe World Day of Prayer: 11 November



On 11 November 1933, Wycliffe founder Cameron Townsend and his friend L.L. Legters were finally able to cross the border into Mexico after God answered their specific prayers for entry. Since then, Wycliffe has set aside 11 November to remember the integral place prayer plays in all that we do.

Join us this November by praying personally or with your prayer group. Prayer material is available at [wycliffe.org.au/world-day-of-prayer](http://wycliffe.org.au/world-day-of-prayer)

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# LIGHTING A FIRE

## through Prayer, Funding & Developing People

By Barry Borneman

**B**ible translation is a worldwide work of the church that has been gathering pace over the last 60 years. It is a fire that has started to burn but still needs an accelerant to fan the flame further.

In the countries where Wycliffe first sent translators and literacy workers, our people have not only helped translate the Bible but have also developed local colleagues and shared the vision for Bible translation. We are now entering a time when the capacity of local churches and national organisations to lead the Bible translation movement in their own country has steadily grown. The flames are burning, but more can be done.

So what should Wycliffe Australia's response be? What is the unique role that Australia can play in fuelling this fire?

### First: friendship

We need to make genuine friends with the country leaders of the Bible translation movement. Without strong personal relationships, funding training projects often results in a limited

agenda, a simple transaction about money and return. This is an inadequate model for cross-cultural mission and Bible translation. Building strong relationships in Christ means we share encouragement, vision and often suffering. Wycliffe Australia has these precious friendships with national colleagues and together we want to build on them.

### Second: training

We need to significantly increase our efforts in developing local translators, literacy workers, project managers and administrators so they can do the job God has prepared for them. Australians understand the value of training perhaps more than most. I am confident the Australian church will endorse this emphasis of developing the people and organisations we work alongside.

### Finally: prayer

Praying has been part of the Wycliffe story from the start. It's essential to what we do and how we operate. We must now unite in focussed intercessory prayer for the leaders and the God-given aspirations of the national organisations to which Wycliffe Australia is connected. If the very best thing we can do is pray, then we must pray.

By funding training, investing in capacity building, and prayer, we all stand together fanning the flames for generations to come.

As part of this prayer initiative, I have committed the best hour of each working day to the Prayer Chapel at Kangaroo Ground to pray for our national colleagues and organisations. (See Next Step Development appeal page 5)

These are the priorities that will drive Wycliffe Australia over the coming years: friendship, training and prayer.

*"The flames are burning, but more can be done."*



# Taking the Next Step: WYCLIFFE AUSTRALIA'S NEW INITIATIVE

By Barry Borneman

**I**n recent years I have been asking my colleagues, 'What is the next step that you, your staff or organisation must take to continue your contribution to the Bible translation movement?' It's a question that lies at the core of Wycliffe Australia's Next Step Development initiative.

The English Immersion Experience run at our Kangaroo Ground National Centre for our Indonesian partners was a direct result of that question. More recently, the same question was asked of the director of the Bible Translation Association (BTA) of Papua New Guinea, Tony Kotauga. Tony requested that Wycliffe Australia invest in mentoring a PNG university graduate, Barton Maino.

When Tony Kotauga asked Barton to join BTA as Business Manager, the challenge was straightforward. Could he help put BTA on a more stable financial footing? BTA property had become a financial drain and BTA was almost solely dependent on external international funding.

With support from Wycliffe Australia under our Next Step Development initiative, Barton visited our National Centre to look at how we managed our accommodation/conference

business and financial accounts. He took some ideas back with him and hatched a successful business plan that saw the BTA centre generate income to cover maintenance and contribute to administrative costs.

BTA then launched a 'Friends of BTA' fundraising campaign and organised an ambitious fundraising event in August this year. It was a hit. They had hoped to raise 40,000 kina: they raised 110,000 kina that day. BTA had just taken its next step in its desire for the PNG church to stand alongside the international Christian community as a financial contributor. A strong BTA can bring the strength of the Melanesian way to the remaining Bible translation task.

*Barton says, 'I am grateful for the support and development given to me by Wycliffe Australia. Such investment into BTA capacity building has and will continue to develop BTA into a financially independent organisation so that BTA can be a blessing to other translation organisations.'*

This is just one example of what we hope to achieve through Wycliffe Australia's Next Step Development initiative. I am genuinely excited by the impact this initiative will have on strengthening the Bible translation movement and on the

development and encouragement of international colleagues.

This is an abridged version of the full story. To read more, visit [wycliffe.org.au/barton](http://wycliffe.org.au/barton)

By Deb Tan

**E**ducation and training opportunities abound in Australia, so we may find it hard to imagine the challenges faced by minority language communities around the world. These include low literacy levels, constant health issues due to inadequate medical care and education taught in a language other than your own.

We are so grateful for our many supporters who have helped resource our friends with training opportunities. Here are some responses from young people of the T\* team who participated in the recent July training workshops in literacy, community health and Bible translation in South Asia.

# NEXT STEP DEVELOPMENT *Appeal (Project 8801)*

## GOALS:

- 1000 INTERCESSORS
- \$300,000 IN FUNDS

**T**he vision for Bible translation is growing in the very countries in which Wycliffe Australia members first went to serve. An enlarged shared vision has emerged for local people to take the lead on the Bible translation movement in their own country and language.

What was once a dream of Wycliffe Australia is now becoming a reality. Our role now is to come alongside, mentor, and encourage local people and organisations.

This strategic new initiative combines intercessory prayer and financial support for our partner

organisations and churches working to translate God's Word in South Asia, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and several other countries. This includes 200 current translation projects!

We are inviting people to be a part of it in one of two equally important ways. Firstly, we seek 1,000 people with a heart for intercessory prayer to receive regular updates and commit to praying for our family in Christ who represent the new advance in Bible translation.

Secondly, based on the high priority of this initiative, Wycliffe Australia has assigned an ambitious budget of \$300,000 to this project for 2017. We are inviting those who believe that mobilising and strengthening national translators and organisations is the way forward, to partner with us.

**To sign up, fill in the order form or go to [wycliffe.org.au/nextstep](http://wycliffe.org.au/nextstep)**

## INVESTING IN PEOPLE: *The Impact of Training*

**Joy:** *'[I learnt] Computer, English, Bible culture and our own T culture. But the most important thing I learnt was how to develop my own spiritual life.'*

**Jon:** *'I never learnt anything about the culture of the Bible before I came here. I had only heard preaching. Now I realise how important Bible translation is into my T language.'*

**Kesh:** *'I never understood before what the Bible was about. During these weeks I've understood the Bible for the first time. I also learnt the importance of our own T nation.'*

**Bon:** *'Before I came here I never read the Bible. Here I learnt how important it is and now I'm reading the Bible. Before I was very nervous in praying;*

*now I can freely pray. In my church it's always outside people who lead worship; but here I learnt how to lead worship myself.'*

**Please continue to pray for the T team:**

- › Pray for these young people as they work on their assignments for upcoming workshops.
- › It is a huge commitment to be a part of the team, both in time and resources. The training takes place over a few weeks three times a year, which makes obtaining a regular job difficult.

**More info here:** <http://projects.wycliffe.org.au/8812-t-training/>

*\*name omitted for security reasons*



# WALKING IN THEIR SHOES

**A**s we wandered through the local market, the weight of hopelessness hung thick. Many stalls had recently been displaced for renovations and, in the process, the people's hope seemed to have been displaced too.

Our agenda was simple: to share the love of Jesus. As we made our way slowly past stall after stall of women with downcast faces, we just smiled and shook each one's hand. But the effect was powerful - like a ripple of hope washing over them.

During September we set aside time for focussed prayer and worship here in the Indonesian province of Papua. We saw amazing answers to prayer. A murderer repented of his actions. The government office door was literally opened for us to enter



*Visiting the local market*

By Belinda Fox

and pray. God provided another person for our translation team with the exact skills we had been seeking over the last two years!

Yet what impacted me most was that day at the market. Never before had I felt such a burden for the lost in this place. By walking among them, we were able to put ourselves in their shoes.

It is easy to become absorbed in the ministry of Bible translation, with targets to make and goals to meet. But the truth is, people are our ministry. They are the reason we are here. We are translating the Bible for those destitute women at the market, that God might speak to them in their heart language.

Pray with us as we seek a greater love and burden for the people we serve. Pray that in his strength, God would guide us to his tasks.

*Belinda Fox is a project management consultant for the Papuan Malay language in Papua, Indonesia.*

*'People are our ministry.  
They are the reason we are here.'*



*Praying and worshipping God in Abepura*

The Nimboran translation team:  
Nehemiah, Regina, Agustinus



## FOCUS ON TRANSLATION: WHAT IS THE KINGDOM & how does it come?

By Philip Swan

O NGAYO SUAP, KO KEKI-  
HANGGLANG DE SIP HO DEBEI.

AMAI HO SKIETENDÚ KOMBE  
SÚ HO KIE KWANDÚM;

MA, KO ILAM DELI  
NGAMNANG BLONG NE,  
NGO NEMBWO TIILENDI.

KO DEBEI DE SIP KANSAM,  
KOMBE NGGLENG DÚNG NE  
KEBÚEM, KU MAP NE N'SAM  
TABE KELÚM.

*Matthew 6: 9,10 in Nimboran*

**A**s the Nimboran mother-tongue translators drafted the Lord's Prayer together, they had to grapple with what each line actually means in order to express it clearly in their language - a 'literal' translation would make little sense. The compressed language of 'your kingdom come' proved difficult.

A kingdom typically features a king, a people and a country. There is no word for kingdom in Nimboran -

they have no king, but many chiefs, each chief having jurisdiction over one clan. Furthermore, a Nimboran 'chiefdom' (there is no word for that either) is not entirely geographical since more than one clan can live in one area.

So what does that line mean, and how can it be translated? When we speak of God's kingdom coming, we mean the full realisation of his kingly reign on earth. So their first draft read 'Come on, you become chief!' But does that adequately convey the

original meaning? Over whom are we asking God to reign? Just his clan, or all people? And where, and when?

The current draft (including 'your will be done' too) says 'Come on, you become chief over us, you say the word!'

What do you mean when you pray those familiar opening lines?

*Philip Swan is a translation advisor to the Nimboran people in Papua, Indonesia.*

## Wycliffe Global Alliance Partners: UPDATE FROM KARTIDAYA

By Angela Leong

**K**artidaya, an Indonesian organisation of the Wycliffe Global Alliance, is currently overseeing Scripture translations into the heart languages of 44 people groups. Another 10 language communities are waiting to have translation started in 2016, with 81 to go to reach 125 languages for Kartidaya's Vision 2020.

Director Marnix Riupassa believes in a holistic approach to Bible translation. He says, 'When we look

at Bible translation, it's not just about how we translate the Bible but about the mission to create a fruitful impact.'

'Bible translation is more than the result... we have to incorporate activities that will help create the momentum for people to use the Bible.'

'Scripture engagement is one element to bridge the gap between the translated Bible and the language group to bring about transformational impact. Community development is another that can produce fruit. So the question of how we can use Bible translation,

Scripture engagement, community development, health care, etc. in relation to God's mission is important, with Bible translation as the foundation upon which the other elements are built for transformation to take place.'

'We are trying to help every community realise that they are the subject, not the object, of God's mission and in the Bible translation project.'

*Originally published in 'More than Words', May 2016 (Wycliffe Singapore). To read the full interview, visit [wycliffe.org.au/more-than-words](http://wycliffe.org.au/more-than-words).*

# NEW WYCLIFFE MEMBERS

## *you can partner with*



### **Apryl Huglin**

Apryl has lived in Greensborough, Victoria with her husband Paul and four children (Liz, Aaron, Tom and Steph) for the past twenty years. Paul is a pastor at Diamond Valley Baptist.

Apryl provides member care through the Personnel Department at Wycliffe's National Centre. This includes offering encouragement, support, practical and spiritual guidance and debriefing to members both on the field and whilst on furlough. Member care begins from the time people express interest in joining Wycliffe, right through to retirement.



### **Aidan and Alfinda Herman**

Aidan came to Christ after searching the Scriptures as a young adult. He enrolled for a Greek unit at Trinity Theological College in Perth in 2006 and continued on to finish the Bachelor degree. Through college he was convinced that he would give his life to the ministry of God's Word.

Alfinda grew up in Indonesia and excelled in language learning throughout her schooling. She became a Christian in high school and went to Perth in 2010 to study at Curtin University, where her faith grew exponentially through university ministry. She was compelled by the gospel and desired to be part of God's kingdom work.

Aidan and Alfinda married in 2012 and are pursuing their call to Bible translation work in a minority language. For the next two years they will engage in linguistics training.



### **Peter and Fleur Boal**

With their combined experience in teaching, emergency services, welfare, counselling and chaplaincy, Peter and Fleur are committed to working with the broader team to assist the global work of Bible translation. They will do this by leading 'Into Africa' and other short-term trips designed as taste-and-see and service

opportunities. As part of their training they expect to have several months of field experience in Africa or the Pacific, with a view to gaining cross-cultural experience and building relationships for their future ministry.



### **Nathan and Elizabeth (Libby) Binns**

Nathan and Libby live in Perth. They are planning to be involved in Bible translation somewhere in southern Africa. They are both currently studying; Nathan is doing his Masters in Bible translation through the University of the Free State (South Africa) and Libby is completing a Graduate Diploma of Divinity at Trinity Theological College, Perth.

## *I know a place to go and pray* **WYCLIFFE PRAYER CHAPEL**

By Emily Willetts

**T**he prayer chapel is set aside so that you can come and focus on Jesus. Barry's vision for this beautiful space was to create a warm, welcoming place that exudes Jesus' presence.

The home office team was enthusiastic about the vision. Jenny Willetts says, 'When the Holy Spirit prompted Barry, the time was right to convert that old run-down, full-of-junk recreation room

into the beautiful tranquil place of prayer that it is now.'

You don't have to stay here to use the prayer chapel: the door is open. However if you do wish to stay a few nights on-site while visiting the chapel you can contact [Retreats@Wycliffe](mailto:Retreats@Wycliffe).

There is also opportunity to get involved in developing the

surrounding grounds. The vision is to now extend the place for prayer and reflection beyond the walls of the chapel and create a sanctuary garden. Please contact us if you want to join this project.

For further details about the prayer chapel please contact reception on 03 9712 2777 or email [retreats@wycliffe.org.au](mailto:retreats@wycliffe.org.au)