

Dear Friends,

Greetings once again from Papua New Guinea! We just want to update you with what's been happening in our lives since our April newsletter. Thanks for upholding us in your prayers! We've seen those prayers answered.

I've posted some of the info below on our Facebook wall. So those of you on FB may have read a bit about these things already. But there is more detailed info below.

- **Village trip 12 April - 3 May:** our time in Kalamo village went very well. When we arrived, we were warmly greeted by the entire village (dancers, welcoming song, people lined up in 2 rows for us to shake everyone's hand, and even a 'red carpet' - a red shirt placed on the steps to our house - not sure where they learned that from!). That afternoon, there was a community-wide meal (similar to a pot-luck) to welcome us back and also to give thanks to God for answering their prayers for restoring Kerttu's health from cancer. It was great to be welcomed so warmly after having been away for 2 years. During the 3 weeks in the village, we did not see a single rat in our house. They had chewed some insulation, but nothing else was damaged. Translation work went very well; the translators were able to get back into the swing of translation quickly even after being away from 'the translation desk' for 2 years. Kerttu also worked with the elementary school teachers, helping them with some school related things. She also worked with them collecting words for the Odoodee dictionary. Our new radio worked well, and we were able to send & receive emails with it. During the last week in the village, a 10-year-old boy died of a snake bite. That was a sad time for everyone. On our last day, I killed a very long snake in our house (it was not poisonous).
- **Niko's time in the children's home:** while we were in the village, Niko boarded at one of the children's homes in Ukarumpa. He adjusted very well there, and even enjoyed it so much that he does not mind staying there longer next time Kerttu and I are in the village later this year.
- **May 7 - June 3:** two Odoodee co-translators (Martin & Terence) came here to Ukarumpa for translation work. We are thankful that they stayed healthy, except for mild colds. We were drafting John and 2nd drafting Matthew. The work went very well, but it was hard on the old brain - really exhausted at the end of the day! Kerttu continued to work on the dictionary with them (for about 2 hours a day) - she collected several hundred more Odoodee words. Martin & Terence also had lots of shopping to do for their families & friends in the villages. That put extra stress on them, but they got it all done without missing work.
- **Upcoming trip to Australia - June 22 - July 8:** mostly for Kerttu's medical checkup (routine cancer check). We are thankful for having received our PNG visas. Please pray that Kerttu's medical checks will go well, and that no further tests will be needed, except for the routine ultrasound and blood test. Kerttu has been doing well, though she does have some joint aches, which is probably from the anti-hormonal treatment she is on.
- **Niko has been doing well** in his freshman year in high school. Last day here in June 21. Next week he has 5 semester exams, so he's studying hard for those. "Summer break" is not as long here - he'll begin his sophomore year on July 20.

Blessings on your summer. We'd love to hear from you when you get a chance.

Love,
Darrell, Kerttu & Niko