

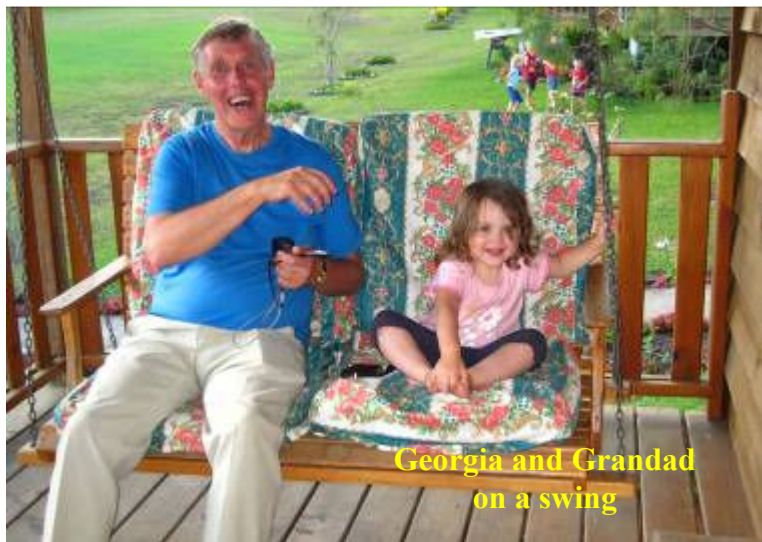
Oct '08

The Hulley Herald

Psalm 31:24 *Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD*

Dear friends, We are all keeping well here in the Highlands of PNG. A lot of things have happened since we last wrote. We praise the Lord for not only opening up the roads again, but also for the work done in improving them. Even the road going to our village has been graded and levelled which makes for more pleasant travelling and is not so hard on Rachel's back. We thank the Lord for safety going out to Goroka for a break and back again. Even though we had a tyre puncture a man appeared to help with some others and he was actually married to someone from our village so told us we would be safe there with him and his people. We were so grateful to the Lord for this as we could have met some more unsavoury people along this road. Most of you will be aware that Rachel's breast lump result came back benign for which we also praise God. Ben's ears did heal after his op but there is now a re-opening of the sinus so this may need a further small op while we are back in the UK.

Our co-workers the Wilson's left for furlough in June so we have been in the village by ourselves for a few months. Being on our own sometimes has difficulties especially with regard to how we should act within this culture. Our people come



Georgia and Grandad on a swing



At Goroka Show

Dan's Dad's Visit

After 5 months of being in the bush it was a welcome relief to pick Dan's Dad up in Mt Hagen and start our family break. When we brought dad into our village about 30 people came to welcome him. Dad was able to see first hand where we live and meet the folks that we have come to reach. Some highlights in the village were getting to see a bird of paradise and experiencing an earthquake. We travelled by road to Goroka and flew down to the coast in one of our mission planes. Madang is beautiful unspoilt coast that has some amazing reefs and fish. One day we took a boat trip out to a local island and snorkelled around the reefs. We must have seen about 40 different kinds of fish. The coastal life is very different from the Highlands and people are far more laid back. We had some wonderfully relaxing days by the ocean swimming and rowing our little dingy around. From Madang we headed back up to Goroka in time to see the famous Goroka Show. Groups from all over PNG come to take part dancing and singing in traditional dress. Another highlight for Dad was to fly by helicopter into one of the tribes where some of our missionaries work. The only access is by helicopter or several days hike. There was some cargo going in on the chopper and enough room for Ben and dad to fly in. They had a cup of tea and a quick chat before being whisked back to the hangar in Goroka.

Every year at our mission base they celebrate PNG Independence Day on 16th September. The day starts with the PNG national anthem and is followed by various events and fun activities to raise money for the school. We had a great day meeting folks that we hadn't seen for ages and going round the various stalls with the kids. All in all we had a fantastic break and were sorry to see Dad go back. It was kind of weird to drive back home along the stretch of road where we were held up, but we got through without any bother, praise the Lord!

Other News

We are now settled back into village life and have got back into our routines of language study and home schooling. It's good to be back. Dan has another language evaluation in November so is working hard to polish up what he has learned so far. We have a South African family staying with us in the Wilson's house for a couple of weeks. The lady is expecting her 4th child and plans for the birth to be at the Nazarene Hospital not far from us so it's nice to have some people around to fellowship with. They have 3 girls so Ben and Georgia are also enjoying the time.

I (Dan) was able to walk up Mt Wilhelm the highest mountain in PNG with 10 other people the other week. At 14,500 ft we really felt altitude sickness and there was actually ice and freezing conditions at the top. But we all made it and the view was incredible!

Meet our language helper

This is John Mike one of Dan's language helpers. He's probably in his 70's but doesn't know his exact age like many people in PNG. He does remember seeing Japanese war planes flying over his village when he was a boy during World War 2. He has seen vast changes in his country in his lifetime. When he was young the people didn't have any clothes but used to make aprons from a bush vine. They also didn't travel into villages belonging to bordering clans as there was fear of being killed by rival groups. In those days he said, there was a lot of fighting between neighbouring clans and many people were killed on both sides. Some of the important people were not buried in the ground when they died but were placed in trees in a sitting position. When the body finally rotted the remains were buried in unmarked graves. It's great to sit and listen to his stories and to think that only 60 or 70 years ago, these people had not seen white people and were cutting down trees with stone axes and living like Stone Age people. Much of the old way of life and strong tribal beliefs have since disappeared since white people came into the Highlands in the 1930's. Today people travel extensively throughout PNG and can be seen walking around with mobile phones and going to the local Haus Piksa (place to watch TV). Please pray that he would live to hear God's story in his own language!



Ben's Box



Just Georgia



We had a great time when our Grandad came to visit. We had a holiday near the seaside and we went swimming every day. The second day, I put on a snorkel and mask and was able to see all the tropical fish in the sea. My favourite was the clownfish we found by their anemone; there was a Dad and a baby just like in Nemo and they kept swimming out and going back in. The next day I took my arm bands off and snorkelled away! We also saw some starfish like the one in the photo and bright blue ones too.

We went to a PNG Independence Day celebration in the mission school out at the base and I paid to have my Grandad put in the stocks so I could throw wet sponges at him! There was also a water slide made from a large piece of plastic on the side of the hill which they hosed water down. All of us kids lined up to go down as far and as fast as we could. I also won a guessing jar competition and the prize was a large pizza from a restaurant in town. I did share this with my family, although I would have given it a good go on my own! I also got to go on the helicopter with Grandad for a ride and absolutely loved it!

My Mam says that I am growing up fast. I am now toilet trained day and night and I sleep in a big bed too. I slept on the bottom bunk in Ben's room when Grandad stayed in my room. I enjoyed his visit too although I was wary at first. I liked flying in the little plane down to Madang and looking out the window at the clouds. It was my first time at the seaside and I loved swimming in the sea and also going in the dinghy with my Dad. I enjoyed using my bucket and spade on the sand and finding shells and coral. I got to try my first ice cream cone which I was very happy about!

At the Goroka show, there were a lot of PNG people dressed up with their faces painted making a lot of noise singing and dancing but I wasn't scared at all as I am used to what our people do. I wore my PNG blouse and hat and waved a PNG flag too.

Pray for John Mike to one day hear the good news and trust the Saviour

[Praise for a great break with Dan's Dad](#)

Pray for the Wilson's to have a good furlough time.

[Praise for improved roads and continue to pray for safety when travelling](#)

Pray for Marie to have a safe delivery of a healthy baby

[Praise for more consistent help from our people with language and pray that this would last](#)

Pray for our language evaluation late November

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