

MCCAYS' PRAYER LETTER

June 2020

PNG Mailing Address: Garry & Faith McCay
c/o New Tribes Mission
Kimbe, WNBP 622
PAPUA NEW GUINEA
garry_mccay@ntmpng.org

Temporary Australian Address:
Garry & Faith McCay
3/43 Crusoe Road
Kangaroo Flat
Victoria 3555
AUSTRALIA

For financial support:
BSB: 033618 Account no: 158767 (GG & FM McCay)
For E-mail Updates: mccay.mailout@gmail.com

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT...

LOONYEE'S ORDEAL

"I'm dropping the machetti!", Mantuu called from a branch somewhere high up in the kapiak tree. He had been cutting breadfruit stems, causing the large round starchy fruit to plummet to the ground.



Loonyee

13-year-old Loonyee was at the base of the tree collecting the fruit as it fell, and placing it in a pile to one side. She heard the warning call and knew that it meant that the next thing that fell would be the blade. However, she wanted to quickly finish what she was doing before she moved away from the tree. Mantuu released the machetti and it speared downwards.

Loonyee had just taken a step forward as the machetti was about to harpoon the ground. Thankfully, the step was in a direction that shifted her torso out of the path of the falling knife. However, there wasn't time for a second step which would have removed her right leg as well. The point of the blade pierced the back of the bare leg a few inches below the knee. It then sliced through the soft calf muscle apparently embedding itself in the flesh.

An hour or so later, Loonyee arrived at our house. Someone had 'piggy-backed' her from the other side of the gorge where the accident had occurred. She sat on the concrete step beside the office. A large crowd stood around looking on in silence.

The first thing to do was to untie the vine that had been strapped around her leg as a type of tourniquet. That wasn't difficult. Next we needed to cut smaller vines which were wrapped around moss that had been packed into the wound. The moss was moist with blood and was extracted easily. This exposed the laceration and the

bleeding recommenced.

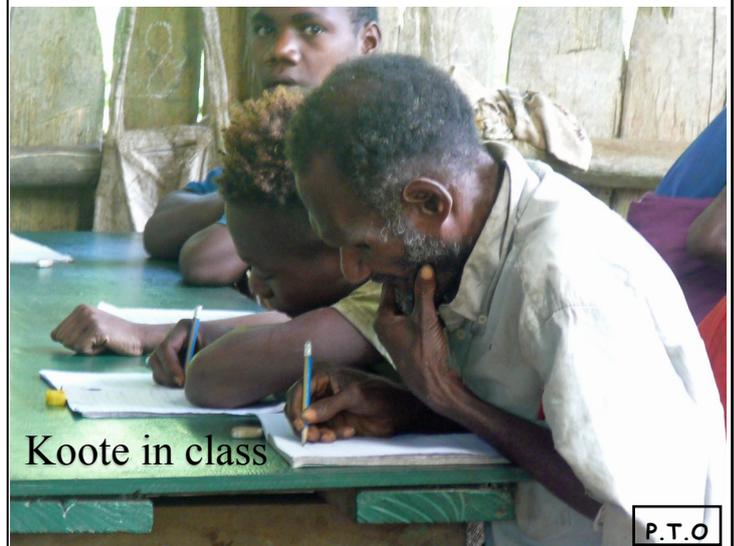
We flushed the wound with a solution of water and iodine but could barely keep ahead of the fresh blood that was constantly appearing. We then filled the wide gash with Savlon, pulled both sides as close together as we could and fastened it with strips of Elastoplast. This was then covered with thick wadding and wrapped tightly with a couple of long bandages. We hoped that the bleeding would congeal and not seep through the dressing. Finally, we commenced Loonyee on a course of antibiotics and gave her Panadol for her pain as well.

The LORD in His providence kept us from a lot of stress on this occasion. That was because the accident occurred on the day before a helicopter was due to arrive to take us out to Hoskins for a Translation check with a consultant. (It normally only makes one trip to the Islands region every three months.) We e-mailed the pilot that afternoon and requested that a change be made to the flight plan. The deviation was permitted and on the following morning we were able to fly Loonyee and her father to the regional medical aid post located about a 6 hour hike to our south.

Owing to the circumstances that arose associated with the Covid-19 virus, we were unable to return to Ora and see how Loonyee recovered from her ordeal. Contracting an infection in the wound would have been the greatest threat that she faced in her recovery.

KOOTE AND TOLONG'S ACHIEVEMENT

There are six long tables in the literacy section of the church building – three on the left side of the room and three on the right. From the teacher's perspective, as he looks out over the class, four students sat at the front table on the left-hand side. 16-year-old Tioti sat on the far left against the wall. 15-year-old Timmo sat next to him. His 16-year-old friend Lawwa sat beside him. And then 60-year-old Koote sat on the other end of the table next to



Koote in class

him. That's right, Kooto ('Core-teh') is about 60 years old. Some of the boys are older than what they look and so Kooto did look somewhat out of place as he sat in the class. However, his determination to learn to read was just as strong, if not stronger, than that of any of his younger classmates sitting beside him.

It has been interesting to observe that the writing ability of adults becomes apparent after only a week or so of literacy classes. Students who are able to write in a neat manner at the conclusion of the course, normally do so as well, in the initial weeks of the program. And this was also the case with Kooto. Even when he could only write a limited number of symbols, his writing was neat and orderly.

He found learning to read more difficult though. It normally took him about the same amount of time to finish reading a page of the primer, as what it took Tioti, Timmo and Lawwa to read the same material in sequence. But whereas the three classmates to his left did little homework once the class had concluded, Kooto practiced reading over and over in his hut in the afternoons, after he had returned from working in his garden. And so he managed to keep up as the weeks rolled by. Though he perspired profusely as he completed the oral reading task for his final assessment, he 'passed'.

Shortly after the final class we asked Kooto if he would be willing to present the public reading of the Scripture portion that was assigned for an upcoming church service. He was hesitant at first but agreed to do it. He was given about a week to practise and on the morning of the service, though somewhat anxious, read the verses well. Although we chose not to clap as he resumed his seat, it was a very significant occasion and a wonderful achievement.

Throughout the literacy program, three females sat at the back table on the left-hand side of the class - two teenage girls and Tolong. Tolong is in her mid-40's. Like Kooto, she too, had a strong desire to learn to read and faced a formidable challenge as she pressed towards that goal. Her challenge involved not only her age, but also her eyesight. Many years ago she got an infection in her right eye which was left untreated. The eye turned white and, later, shrivelled into a hard pale stone. So Tolong only had the use of the left eye as she participated in the literacy class, squinting slightly as she read. But, like Kooto,



Tolong (middle) with her husband and 5 of her 6 children

she too completed the program and will be receiving a certificate of achievement not long after our return to Ora.

PRAYER POINTS

*** Please pray that the leaders in each of the four locations (Ora, Mogoo, Peli and the Ikoy River) will provide effective leadership to the churches there. They will need to decide what Biblical material to present at services after they have completed the series that they were provided with. They will also need to be willing to handle different issues that arise as well – the people at Peli, in particular, were facing some serious issues at the time of our departure.**

*** Two young men recently began to assist Mooyal and Temele with the teaching program being presented at Mogoo. Their names are Siilee ('See-lair') and Liika ('Lee-kah'). A young man also began to assist Teeriina and Kaapwori at the Ikoy River. His name is Toomaas. Please pray that these young men will develop in their abilities to read and teach. Siilee, in particular, is quite anxious as he stands before people to read.**

*** Garry is scheduled for cataract surgery later this month in Bendigo. Please pray that the procedure would go well and would produce a good result. Monday, June 15 and Tuesday July 7 are the dates scheduled for surgery on the right eye and left eyes respectively.**

*** Please continue to pray for Kade's neck to improve.**

Sincerely, *Garry, Faith and Kade*

****We are currently in Australia due to the pandemic. We hope to return to New Britain and Ora later on in the year after international flights to PNG resume and NTM leadership in PNG give a clearance for us to return.**

****Please note the following regarding our email addresses:**
 1. garry_mccay@ntm.org is no longer valid.
 2. Use garry_mccay@ntmpng.org **OR** mccay848@gmail.com
 (Note: We can't access the gmail address when living in Ora.)

**** 'Crossview' contacted us recently and notified us of an important alteration that needs to be made by the end of June with respect to the banking of our missionary support. In the past, donations to our ministry have been sent to Crossview where they have been recorded, placed into a holding account and then forwarded to our account in PNG at the end of each month. Due to recent changes in government regulations though, Crossview is now requesting us to inform our supporters to place their donations directly into a personal account. We have an account set up with Westpac that we will use for this purpose. From now on, please direct any financial gifts directly into this account. The details are as follows:**

BSB: 033618 Account number: 158767 (GG & FM McCay)

If you are **unable** to do internet banking, then any cheques or money orders for our ministry may be posted to Claire's address: 3/50 Mistletoe St, Golden Square, 3555 and they will be placed into our account. NB. Cheques should now be made out to "Garry & Faith McCay" not to "Crossview". Thank you.

****Please do not post any of this material on social media.****