



20  
14 | ANNUAL  
REPORT

ywam   
medicalships





YWAM Medical Ships - Australia Ltd ABN 45 070 160 904 is a company limited by guarantee. Its registered office is located at 215 Walker Street, Townsville, Queensland.

#### **Charitable status, tax concessions and fundraising**

YWAM Medical Ships – Australia Ltd is registered as an Income Tax Exempt Charity. YWAM Medical Ships – Australia Ltd is registered under applicable fundraising legislation as required in each state where it raises funds as follows:

Western Australia – Registration No. 21248

South Australia – Registration No. CCP1693

Tasmania – Registration No. F1A342

Australian Capital Territory – Registration No. 19000353

Registration is not required in Victoria, Northern Territory, and New South Wales and YWAM Medical Ships is exempt from registration in Queensland.

YWAM Medical Ships - Australia's auditor is  
Jessups North Queensland







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CHAPTER ONE

2014  
AT A GLANCE

# 1.1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The year 2014 was yet another exceptional period for YWAM Medical Ships as we have continued to serve in Papua New Guinea (PNG). Tens of thousands of people have been assisted in some of the most isolated and difficult places in the world to access. We have built capacity and made training support possible; we have delivered services via ship in 2 additional provinces and via land-based teams in 2 others; and then, on the 4 December, purchased a new ship, the culmination of 5 years of planning. What a year!

This body of this report includes 2014 statistics and remarkable stories of program development, our many generous partners and, most importantly, lives transformed throughout this year. For a brief introduction to who we are, read below.

## Working Together to Address Critical Challenges

In a nation where forty three percent of the population is under the age of 15, one in four Papua New Guinean children will not live to celebrate their 40th birthday. One among a series of similarly sobering statistics, a grim picture emerges of critical human suffering confronting a beautiful nation, just a few hundred kilometres off Australia's coast.

Delivering basic services in PNG poses enormous challenges with 80% of the population living in remote, rural areas. These communities are scattered over rugged terrain, complex river systems, vast expanses of ocean and an extensive coastline.

YWAM Medical Ships – Australia (YWAM MSA) has demonstrated success in engaging isolated communities through the use of a Training and Medical Ship.

The first vessel deployed in PNG, MV *Pacific Link*, has reached the limits of its service capacity with YWAM MSA but will be usefully re-deployed with a sister organisation serving for a period in other parts of the Pacific.

In its place, the much more modern MV *YWAM PNG* has been secured to serve throughout PNG's Southern Region and Huon-Gulf. With its vastly improved service specifications, this vessel provides an opportunity for a staggering 500% increase in operational capacity.

Stage 1 of the refit to transform this former boutique cruise catamaran into a Training and Medical Ship is currently underway, with a much anticipated maiden voyage into PNG waters planned for April – June 2015.

## YWAM Medical Ships – Australia (YWAM MSA)

YWAM MSA is part of Youth With A Mission, a worldwide Christian movement operating in more than 180 countries since its establishment in 1960. The YWAM community has a 30 year history of operating ships for humanitarian activities around the world.

YWAM MSA has been operating health care and training initiatives in PNG since 2010, in partnership with health sector lead National Department of Health (NDoH) and respective provincial governments.

The program is guided by key local policy documents including PNG's National Health Plan: 2011-2015 and the PNG-Australia Partnership for Development: Health and HIV/AIDS Schedule, along with a shared commitment to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ken Mulligan".

**Ken Mulligan OAM**  
Managing Director







# 1.2 MILESTONES AND HIGHLIGHTS

2014 was another incredible year for YWAM Medical Ships - Australia (YWAM MSA). Selected milestones and highlights are listed below.

## STRONG GROWTH IN FIELD ACTIVITIES

Since its first short pilot in Gulf Province in 2010, YWAM MSA has increased its field activities year on year. Outputs (field activities) conducted in 2014 were up 35% on the previous year as the MV *Pacific Link* was pushed to capacity prior to its retirement.

## PILOT SHIP VOYAGES INTO MILNE BAY AND ORO

September saw pilot voyages by a YWAM MSA Ship-based team into both of these Provinces. The MV *Pacific Link* spent its final months in Papua New Guinea (PNG) serving in the new waters of Oro Bay, Tufi, Milne Bay and the Trobriand Islands.

## OVERCOMING THE IMPOSSIBLE - AUSTRALIA EAST COAST TOUR

The MV *YWAM PNG*, the replacement Training and Medical Ship for the retiring MV *Pacific Link*, undertook a successful tour along the East Coast of Australia to raise awareness regarding partnership with PNG and the work of YWAM MSA. Over 18,000 people toured the vessel during this time and many more heard the message via school programs and a media campaign.

## PRESENTATION AT PNG MEDICAL SYMPOSIUM

YWAM MSA had the opportunity to present to the PNG Public Health Association meeting whilst attending the 50th PNG Medical Symposium in Goroka in September. Representatives also attended the Ophthalmology Association meeting.

## YWAM MSA – INTEROIL DOCUMENTARY AND GALA EVENT

InterOil Corporation, one of YWAM MSA's Platinum Foundational Partners, funded the production of a short documentary profiling the organisation's work in the Gulf Province. The global premiere of this documentary was held at a prestigious Gala Event in Port Moresby and hosted by YWAM MSA Patron, Sir Rabbie Namaliu. More than K6 million PGK (\$2 million AUD) in cash and pledges was raised.

## MEMBERSHIP OF EYE HEALTH STAKEHOLDER FORUMS

YWAM MSA was officially invited to join the PNG Prevention of Blindness Committee and also joined the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), recognising the organisation's efforts to improve eye health and correct reversible blindness in rural PNG.

## JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY (JCU)

An exciting opportunity opened for final year medical students studying at JCU in 2014. YWAM MSA provided supervised medical electives in remote rural PNG for a select group of graduating doctors interested to learn more about PNG and get hands-on serving in the Pacific healthcare context.

## EXPANDED 'SAFE WATER' PROJECT

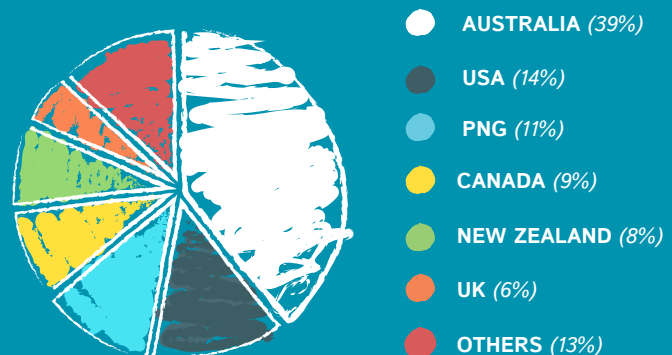
Expanded activity surrounding safe drinking water was developed in 2014 which saw more than 175,000 litres of clean water 'on tap' in Gulf, Western, Oro and Milne Bay Provinces. YWAM MSA volunteers collaborated with locals to see water tanks in disrepair brought back to useful purpose.

## ACQUISITION OF MV YWAM PNG

Alongside ongoing dedicated field work by the MV *Pacific Link* and team, the year 2014 was dominated by the campaign to purchase the MV *YWAM PNG*. And a successful campaign it was, with possession of the vessel taken on December 4th.

## OUR PEOPLE IN 2014

283 volunteers from 21 nations including: 32 PNG nationals and 109 Australian nationals.







## 1.3 SUMMARY STATISTICS

### Clinic Outreach Statistics

Primary Health Care Patients .....	9,109
Immunisations Given .....	9,833
Dentistry Procedures .....	2,960
Optometry Clinic Patients .....	2,810
Ophthalmology Procedures .....	109
Attendees at Health Promotion Sessions .....	36,167
Professional Development Educational Services.....	889
Preventative Health Resources Distributed .....	19,882

**Total health and training services provided..... 81,759**

### Water, Sanitation, and Small Engine Activities

Attendees at Basics of Electricity/Generator Training.....	33
Generators/Outboard Motors Collaboratively Serviced.....	42
Attendees at 'Safe Water' Training.....	240
Number of Collaborative 'Safe Water' Projects*.....	44

**Total water, sanitation, and small engine activities ..... 359**

**TOTAL OUTPUTS..... 82,118**

\*Litres of water put 'on-tap' through collaborative projects .....175,000L







CHAPTER TWO

# WHO WE ARE







## 2.1 WHO WE ARE

Youth with a Mission (YWAM) is a worldwide Christian movement operating in more than 180 countries since 1960. YWAM is decentralised in structure; each centre is financially and legally autonomous, allowing locations to adapt and serve the specific needs of the community.

YWAM Medical Ships – Australia (YWAM MSA) is a Christian charity that aims to care, connect, serve and build with individuals and communities.

YWAM MSA values individuals' rights to quality of life. The shared motivation is to provide people with the following:

- Access to quality health care
- Food, clean drinking water and shelter
- Opportunity for education
- Expression of culture, arts and entertainment
- Healthy relationships
- Exposure to Christian faith and values
- Fair and productive government
- Opportunity to work and develop

YWAM MSA is actively developing communities by addressing health care and training needs in Papua New Guinea (PNG) in partnership with the relevant national and provincial government administrations. The program is guided by the vision and priorities of key policy documents including PNG's National Health Plan: 2011-2020 (NHP: 2011-2020). It also honours the





PNG - Australia Partnership for Development: Health and HIV/AIDS Schedule and a shared commitment to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

YWAM MSA implements its program, in association with key stakeholders and partners, via use of a Training and Medical Ship (in a 'mother ship' role) and land-based teams deployed in rural PNG communities. Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) are in place with a number of sector leads including the National Department of Health (NDoH) and provinces engaged. All of YWAM MSA staff, including senior project managers, are full-time volunteers.

YWAM MSA is a signatory to the World Relief Australia Code of Conduct and a registered project of Australian Mercy (ACFID member).

## VISION

YWAM MSA's vision is based on the need for a respectful and collaborative partnership with the people of PNG and Australia. The aim is to see major, sustainable health improvement in PNG while simultaneously seeing relationships strengthened between Australia and PNG.

## MISSION

To see improved quality of life for the people of PNG through development-focused programs, with current emphasis on the health sector, while also building Australians' capacity to serve through volunteering.

## 2.2 HISTORY

The retiring YWAM Training and Medical Ship, MV *Pacific Link*, came under the management of YWAM Australia in 2010. The vessel was previously managed by YWAM Marine Reach New Zealand, primarily conducting its work in Fiji and Samoa before it began working in PNG with YWAM MSA, based out of headquarters in Townsville.

Before YWAM MSA commenced operations in PNG, leaders met with the then PNG Secretary for Health, Dr Clement Malau. During this 2009 meeting, Dr Malau gave his endorsement to the project and invited YWAM MSA to operate in PNG. Dr Malau's advice was to initially focus on the Gulf and Western Provinces where healthcare services were most lacking.

YWAM MSA launched operations in February 2010 with a 16-port public relations tour along the East Coast of Australia. During this campaign, 7.6 million people heard the 'I WANT TO LIVE' message of hope for both PNG and Australia, through a Ship Tour, school presentation, civic reception, or media campaign. The tour was beneficial in building YWAM MSA networks across Australia, as well as strengthening the partnership between Australia and PNG.

The MV *Pacific Link*, under YWAM MSA management, made its maiden voyage to PNG in August 2010 to commence a three-month pilot program in the Gulf Province. Building on three years of surveys and assessments, YWAM MSA found the model to be successful and was invited to return the following year by the Gulf Provincial Government, village leaders and rural healthcare workers.

In 2011, YWAM MSA expanded its operations and conducted a total of eight two-week outreaches across the Gulf Province, Western Province and National Capital District of PNG. In addition to this, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between YWAM MSA and NDoH (National Department of Health), formalising the relationship.

The year 2012 was YWAM MSA's third set of outreach voyages in PNG and grew in strength again, with an increase in overall project output volumes of 24% in comparison to 2011.

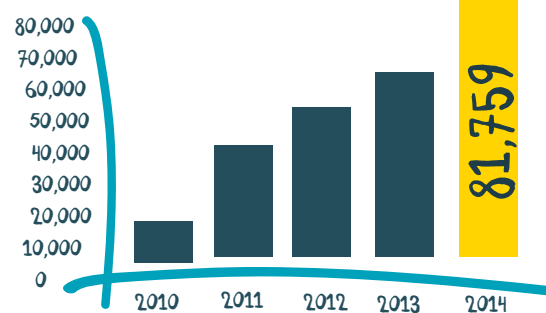
The journey continued in 2013. In addition to conducting outreaches in the Gulf Province, Western Province and National Capital District (urban settlements), land-based Advance Teams engaged Milne Bay and Oro Provinces on invitation by these provincial administrations.

The year 2014 has seen the growth pattern continue with Training and Medical Ship outreaches to all major areas of Gulf and Western Province engaged to date and further land based teams to Oro and Milne Bay Provinces, followed by pilot Ship outreaches. A relationship was also forged with Morobe Province, with the signing of an MOU and land-based advance work commencing and partnership with Central Province was also strengthened.

All the while the pursuit of a new vessel to replace the retiring MV *Pacific Link* and expand training and medical services continued, culminating in a lease-to-buy contract being signed on the former boutique cruise catamaran, MV *YWAM PNG*, in July. This was followed by an 8-port public relations and fundraising tour in Australia and advocacy campaign in PNG, spreading the message of 'Overcoming the Impossible' and seeking to raise the \$6.5 million AUD required for purchase.

The vessel was purchased on December 4th 2014 and renamed MV *YWAM PNG*, reflecting the core mandate of the vessel. MV *Pacific Link* has officially retired from service and YWAM MSA now enters the new vessel's refit phase ahead of 2015 deployment in Papua New Guinean waters.

TOTAL TRAINING & MEDICAL OUTPUTS







## 2.3 WHAT WE DO

### PAPUA NEW GUINEA

YWAM MSA has the capacity to overcome isolation and lack of infrastructure through the use of a ship, allowing local health workers and other volunteer personnel access to many communities which currently struggle to receive basic service delivery. Both Ship-based and land-based (usually deployed from the Ship to reach further in-land) activities occur. The focus is largely on primary health care, particularly the health of women and children, health promotion and preventative medicine. Oral health, correcting reversible vision loss and cataract blindness have also been major areas of activity to date.

The acquisition and refit of the MV *YWAM PNG* will allow further expansion of the work with additional procedural capacity aboard, a radiology suite and laboratory facilities plus extended training areas. The vessel provides a supportive platform to mobilise outreach services ('patrol') to otherwise very difficult to access areas.

Important collegial support and in-service updates for rural health care workers are incorporated alongside clinical work. In addition, training sessions on generator and outboard motor maintenance and repair plus safe drinking water projects are important elements of the program, influencing logistical and environmental determinants of health.

Papua New Guinean nationals play a special role on YWAM MSA outreach teams. For example, young PNG medical and dental graduates come aboard and benefit from opportunities to receive close mentoring from YWAM colleagues whilst experiencing their skills making a significant difference to remote rural communities. Young PNG general volunteers also have valuable international exposure and coaching as they are welcomed to serve their nation as part of a YWAM MSA team.

### AUSTRALIA

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade leads Australia's development relationship with PNG. "PNG is our nearest neighbour. Improving the lives of poor people and promoting stability are central to Australia's interests. Australia is the largest donor to PNG. Australia's role as PNG's leading bilateral donor is globally recognised. Australian aid is having an impact on the lives of Papua New Guineans, and Australia will continue to play a leading role in supporting PNG's development, including through aid." <sup>1</sup> "Our aim is to help the people that need to be helped now whilst helping the government strengthen its ability to deliver essential services in the future." <sup>2</sup>

YWAM MSA seeks to support the principles of the PNG – Australia Partnership for Development. One of the organisation's major goals is to educate Australians on the valuable partnership between the two nations and build on person-to-person connections. Practical action occurs through volunteering opportunities as well as the collection of donations and gift-in-kind contributions. YWAM MSA actively engages schools, churches, service clubs, businesses and various community groups across Australia and PNG to foster positive development relationships. Together, we provide assistance now and also help strengthen service delivery for the future.

#### REFERENCES:

<sup>1</sup> Australian Aid, 2013a, "Why we give Aid to Papua New Guinea", <http://aid.dfat.gov.au/countries/pacific/png/Pages/why-aid.aspx>; Accessed Dec 2014.

<sup>2</sup> Australian Aid, 2013b, "How we give Aid to Papua New Guinea," <http://aid.dfat.gov.au/countries/pacific/png/Pages/how-aid.aspx>; Accessed Dec 2014.

## 2.4 HOLISTIC, ASSET-BASED APPROACH TO OUR PROGRAMMING

YWAM MSA takes a holistic, asset-based approach to developing its programs, currently focused in the health sector but with considered diversification underway. The overarching goal is to empower communities to achieve long-term, sustainable development outcomes.

**YWAM MSA's holistic approach involves engaging all spheres of society:**

- **Family** (nuclear and extended)
- **Economics** (research and development, science and technology, business, and health care)
- **Government** (executive, legislative, judicial)
- **Religion** (local church and mission)
- **Education** (preschool, primary, secondary, tertiary, and vocational)
- **Celebration** (arts, entertainment, and sports)
- **Communications/ Media** (print, digital, broadcast)

YWAM MSA believes that all of these spheres are key building blocks in sustainable community revitalisation and development. Program design seeks to actively engage each of these and to collaborate with communities to exchange skills and experience in order to empower the pursuit of their development aspirations.

YWAM MSA's community development philosophy uses the asset-based community development (ABCD) model.<sup>1</sup> This approach focuses on building relationships, honouring authorities and appreciating and mobilising individual and community talents, skills and assets. This direct focus on strengths helps to empower communities by instilling hope and a positive vision of themselves and their collective future. This encourages self-mobilisation for change.

### REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup> Asset Based Community Development Institute, Northwestern University, 2009, "About Us", <http://www.abcdinstitute.org/>; Accessed December 2014

## 2.5 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM

### Board of Directors:

Mrs. Rebekah Hoover – Chairperson  
Mr. Ken Mulligan OAM – Managing Director  
Mr. Steve Aherne – Director  
Mr. Jared Hoover – Director  
Capt. Jeremy Schierer – Director  
Mrs. Anna Scott – Director (Secretary)  
Mr. David Stevenson – Director

### Project Management Team

Mr. Ken Mulligan OAM	Ms. Kara Medlock
Mrs. Robyn Mulligan	Ms. Hannah Peart
Mr. Netani Bolatolu	Mrs. Jennifer Rentsch
Dr. Sarah Dunn	Mr. Philip Rentsch
Mr. Jared Hoover	Capt. Jeremy Schierer
Mrs. Rebekah Hoover	Mrs. Anna Scott
Mr. Ben Hudson	Mr. Matthew Scott

YWAM MSA administrative and logistical support office is based at YWAM Townsville, Australia. The Board can be contacted via this office. See details backcover.













## 2.6 MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIRPERSON

What a tremendous year it has been for YWAM Medical Ships – Australia (YWAM MSA).

The theme, “Overcome Impossible” could not have been more appropriate and what a privilege it has been to help overcome impossible in the lives of so many people.

Delivery of health care, community development and training services in some of Papua New Guinea’s extremely isolated areas has been deemed impossible at times, so how rewarding it is to partner with provincial health authorities, community health workers, village leaders and volunteers from around the world to deliver over 249,000 outputs since 2010.

I am delighted to report a 35% increase in our field activities in 2014, as the program strengthens year on year. But behind the statistics, is the real story of individual lives touched in an enduring way. For example, overcoming impossible odds to bring a simple light source to a remote delivery room (story page 29) makes a tremendous ongoing impact for health care workers and the communities they serve.

To see all of this achieved requires a remarkable investment of passion. Operating two Ships this year was an exciting feat for our team and they certainly rose to it. While the MV *Pacific Link* engaged communities and delivered services in PNG (including YWAM MSA’s first visit to Oro and Milne Bay Provinces), the MV *Ammari* embarked on the “Overcome Impossible Tour”.

Over the course of this awareness raising and fundraising voyage down Australia’s East Coast, over 18,000 people toured the Ship and more than 1000 people registered interest to volunteer.

Thursday 4 December was a milestone day, during which we finalised the “impossible” \$6.5 million purchase of the MV *Ammari*. Now re-named MV *YWAM PNG*, the vessel can step into her new role to help PNG overcome some of the formidable health challenges faced particularly in rural areas.

What a joy and a privilege to Overcome Impossible with so many amazing partners, donors, volunteers and of course, our incredible Patrons, Managing Director and Board of Directors. My hope is that as you read the pages to come, your heart will be filled with joy and inspiration to continue to overcome impossible.



Rebekah Hoover

**Rebekah Hoover**  
Chairperson

## 2.8 MESSAGE FROM THE PATRON - PAPUA NEW GUINEA

It is my pleasure to have stood as the Papua New Guinea Patron for YWAM Medical Ships – Australia (YWAM MSA) in this my third year.

Along with my co-patron based in Australia, Honourable Mike Reynolds, we are immensely proud of our organisation – its philosophy and its people. The impact of this work is immense as YWAM MSA partners with the National and Provincial Governments of PNG to both help bridge a critical current gap in basic rural health service delivery and also contribute to broader efforts to sustainably strengthen the sector at the coalface.

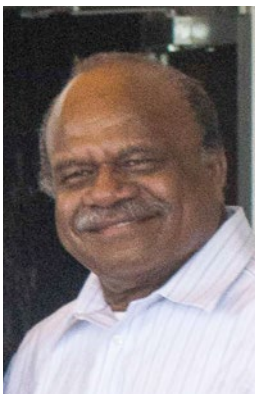
Over the past five years, our retiring Training and Medical Ship, *MV Pacific Link*, has brought together thousands of volunteers from across the world to serve under this remarkable program, led by Memoranda of Understanding with both national and provincial level leadership. Together, we are focused on assisting PNG to achieve the goals our government has established for health. In particular, the aspirations of the National Health Plan: 2011-2020 and also attaining progress on the Millennium Development Goals.

And this is indeed a story of team. With our ship, the support from our partners (in both the government and corporate spheres) and the sheer grit of our volunteers, we have been able to accomplish incredible things in very difficult to access locations. It is most inspiring to see lives literally being transformed in ways we have not seen for a long time in these areas. And the story has only just begun.

After significant financial contributions from Minister Charles Abel, PNG Department of National Planning and Monitoring, and also from the Governors of the Southern Region and Morobe, plus many other notable capital donors from Australia and further afield, the *MV Ammari* been purchased.

The *MV Pacific Link*, having reached the end of its operational capacity, can now be retired and this vastly improved replacement vessel brought into service in PNG. I can vouch that the campaign throughout 2014 to purchase this Ship has been a very worthy cause. And indeed, not the cause of one organisation but rather a vital opportunity for PNG itself, now reflected in the renaming of the vessel: *MV YWAM PNG*.

It brings me great excitement to consider what is to come in 2015 through the refit of this new Training and Medical Ship dedicated to our nation. I look forward to journeying forward with many of you as we see a new chapter in the YWAM MSA story unfold.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rabbie Namaliu'.

**Sir Rabbie Namaliu GCL KCMG CSM**  
Patron - Papua New Guinea



## 2.9 MESSAGE FROM THE PATRON - AUSTRALIA

The year 2014 was indeed an outstanding year for YWAM Medical Ships - Australia (YWAM MSA) with two major objectives being achieved. Firstly we have seen the multi-million dollar redevelopment of the former TAFE building in Townsville's CBD, now restored to become a first class location for the headquarters of YWAM MSA in Australia.

Co-located with YWAM Townsville's 'City Campus', the dual use of this site so wonderfully honours the strong Sister City relationship between Port Moresby and the City of Townsville. This Campus has undergone rejuvenating works during 2014 through the dedicated labour and generosity of local volunteers and Townsville's commercial and industrial sectors and is a credit to the people-to-people connections between the nations of Australia and PNG.

Secondly we have achieved what many saw as impossible, in securing the \$6.5M MV *YWAM PNG* (formally known as *Ammari*). YWAM MSA's new Training and Medical Ship will service six provinces of PNG from 2015 and provide critical training and health service opportunities to hundreds of thousands of PNG residents in the years to come.

As the Australian Patron of YWAM MSA I want to particularly congratulate our Managing Director Ken Mulligan for his vision, hope and leadership in achieving these two major goals in 2014. It is a great credit to Ken, his wife Robyn and every member of his hard working, committed and professional group of volunteers. What a great team they have been and it has been an incredible privilege to work with them in achieving these outcomes!

All of the hard work in 2014 and everything that has been achieved builds an excellent platform for the ambitious program that is planned for 2015. As Australian Patron, I am incredibly proud of this stage of development of YWAM MSA in our service to our nearest neighbour and indeed achieved less than six years from when all of this was just a vision.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Reynolds'.

**Hon. Mike Reynolds AM**  
Patron - Australia

# 2.10 ADVISORS

## **RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR RABBIE NAMALIU GLC, CSM, KCMG**

The Right Honourable Sir Rabbie Namaliu has served a distinguished political career, including as the fourth Prime Minister of PNG from 1988 to 1992. In 2012 he became Patron - Papua New Guinea for YWAM MSA, providing valuable insight in regards to operating in PNG and helping the nation reach its aspirations.

## **HONOURABLE MIKE REYNOLDS AM**

The Honourable Mike Reynolds is the former Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland and represented the electorate of Townsville. He served as Mayor of Townsville for nine years and established the sister city relationship between Townsville and Port Moresby in 1983. Mr. Reynolds has served as YWAM MSA's Patron - Australia since 2009 and offers advice and expertise when engaging government, business and the media within PNG and Australia.

## **IVAN BAXTER**

Mr Ivan Baxter is a lawyer and partner at O'Shea & Dyer Solicitors in Townsville and has over 20 years experience in litigation. He advises YWAM MSA on legal matters as operations continue to expand.

## **DANNIELLE BROUGHAM**

Ms Danielle Brougham, with ten years experience as a qualified senior dental assistant, is heavily involved in clinical training of support staff for 1300SMILES Ltd. She has participated in multiple YWAM MSA outreaches and is currently pursuing studies at The University of Adelaide. Ms Brougham provides dental industry insight to YWAM MSA, contributing to continuous improvements enhancing the experience of dental volunteers and also the standard of dental care provided on outreach.

## **MATTHEW COLWELL**

Mr Matthew Colwell is an administrator and policy analyst with many years experience in community development and finance. After a successful career in the Australian Government, he has served for the last 20 years in various leadership roles within YWAM. Mr. Colwell has been of great assistance to YWAM MSA on various projects and programs.

## **REVEREND BRUCE CORNISH**

Rev. Bruce Cornish is past-Chairman of the Uniting Church, North Queensland. He has a long association with PNG and has been instrumental in connecting YWAM MSA with United Church ministers in the nation.

## **BRUCE COUTTS**

Mr. Bruce Coutts has accumulated a wealth of experience and knowledge during his career of 25 years specialising in accounting and business administration. As a Director of Coutts Redington, Mr. Coutts has provided invaluable expert advice and specialised accounting services to YWAM MSA over a number of years.

## **BRETT CURTIS**

Mr Brett Curtis is the Director of YWAM Ships - Kona, Hawaii. Mr Curtis has had extensive experience operating ships in aid and development programs in different parts of the world and is an invaluable source of knowledge in the maritime field.

## **DR. PETER DAVIES**

Dr Peter Davies is the founding ophthalmologist of Newcastle Eye Hospital, The Eye Hospital Research Foundation, and Hunter Eye Surgeons, Newcastle, NSW. He is a Clinical Lecturer with the University of Newcastle and a Visiting Medical Officer for the Hunter New England Area Health. In addition to subspecialty interests in vitreoretinal surgery and macula disease, Dr Davies also investigates modern surgical techniques for pterygium surgery and cataract surgery and will be extending his knowledge and expertise to YWAM MSA's ophthalmic program.

## **PETER DAWSON**

Mr. Peter Dawson is the director of Dawson & Associates Ltd, a specialist maritime law firm that provides legal advice to national and international clients on all aspects of maritime law. Peter has over 20 years experience in this sector, with particular strengths in vessel registration and flagging, drafting of complex international sale contracts, asset restructuring and crewing issues. Mr Dawson acted as YWAM MSA's lawyer on matters associated with the acquisition of the MV YWAM PNG.





### **CLIVE DODD**

Mr. Clive Dodd, Townsville native and Project Manager at Henry Schein Halas, has played a key role in Australian dental education through his involvement in new schools in Charles Sturt University, James Cook University, Holmesglen, and smaller ADA Training Centres. A particular highlight has been the establishment of the University of Queensland Oral Health Centre. Mr Dodd brings his years of expertise to assist with the fit-out of the dental clinic on board the MV *YWAM PNG*.

### **GEOFF DUTTON**

Mr Geoff Dutton is Executive General Manager of Ratch Australia Corporation, continuing a successful career in executive leadership of power and mining projects in Australia, China, South-East Asia and PNG. Mr Dutton has provided valuable advice on the acquisition of a new medical ship.

### **GARY ESDAILE**

Mr Gary Esdaile is an economist and naval architect. In 2000 he formed a dynamic consulting team with Mr Ray Toman. Together they have provided YWAM MSA with valuable advice in respect to selecting a new vessel for PNG's Southern Region.

### **DR JAMBI GARAP**

Dr Jambi Garap is a senior ophthalmologist at Port Moresby General Hospital. She is very active in the development of eye care services in PNG and founded PNG Eye Care in 2008. Dr Garap also played a major role in the development of the PNG National Eye Plan 2011 - 2015. Since 2010, Dr Garap has acted as host ophthalmologist to YWAM MSA's ophthalmic teams as they serve in the nation.

### **LYNETTE GRUBWINKLER**

Mrs Lynette Grubwinkler is a theatre nurse and Infection Control Coordinator at Queensland Eye Hospital and ophthalmic nurse at the Northside Eye Specialists in Brisbane. She has assisted in the development of the YWAM MSA ophthalmic program and helped source equipment. Mrs Grubwinkler has extensive experience in ophthalmic outreaches and a strong passion to see PNG nationals trained in the area of eye health.

### **APRIL HARPER**

Ms. April Harper trained in Genetics at The University of Georgia before joining the Complex Carbohydrate Research Center for ten years. During this time, she discovered a novel protein interaction that initiated an immune response in plants. Her current research, with the University of the Nations, is in the field of rapid diagnostic testing between strains of tuberculosis. She is providing YWAM MSA with expert guidance on the medical laboratory science aspect of its program.

### **DR DARYL HOLMES**

Dr Daryl Holmes is the founder of 1300SMILES Limited and serves as Managing Director. Formerly a Royal Australian Air Force dentist, in 1991 Dr Holmes established his private practice in Townsville. He now serves as a key advisor to YWAM MSA's dental services and assists in networking with dental companies within Australia and overseas. He has also volunteered on several Ship outreaches as an expert trainer to the PNG dental workforce.

### **PETER HONEYCOMBE**

Mr Peter Honeycombe is the Managing Director of Honeycombes Property Group which he founded in 1996 after working in Townsville on several tourism and large commercial projects. Mr. Honeycombe places huge value on the Townsville community and plays a pivotal part in establishing a home-base for the Ship in North Queensland.

### **HIS EXCELLENCY CHARLES W LEPANI**

H/E Charles Lepani is a long serving Papua New Guinean diplomat and current High Commissioner to Australia, a post he has held since 2005. A strong advocate for YWAM MSA among his networks both in PNG and Australia, he was Guest of Honour at a major fundraising event for the MV *YWAM PNG* in Townsville in 2014 and lent his expert advice to YWAM MSA's senior leadership during a program development forum.

### **DR KEITH MASLIN**

Dr Maslin is husband to Shona, father to four children, and an avid marathoner from New Zealand. He is the oversight and educator for optometrists providing diabetic screening in the greater Wellington area and consultant for the Wellington Hospital paediatric and strabismus ophthalmic service. Dr Maslin has a busy private practice including subspecialties of paediatric ophthalmology, strabismus, and diabetic retina. He has a passion for training and ophthalmology in developing nations. Dr Maslin has volunteered with YWAM MSA since 2010 and played a key role in the development of a SICS surgical procedure manual as a resource for PNG ophthalmologists.

### **CRISTI MORF**

Ms Cristi Morf is an international development and program management specialist with over 13 years experience in the delivery of aid in several developing countries. She worked for nearly a decade with the United Nations in PNG and is a valuable advisor for YWAM MSA's program planning.

### **PAUL NERAU**

Mr. Nerau is Board Chairman of the Independent Public Business Corporation. This major PNG entity includes a portfolio of 12 major corporates. Mr. Nerau has been an active advocate for the work of YWAM MSA and the importance of effective corporate social responsibility initiatives.

### **DR DOUG RANDALL**

Dr Doug Randell is a general practitioner whose interests include international health as well as military and aviation medicine. Alongside GP responsibilities in Canberra, he serves as Senior Contracted Clinician at the Royal Military College, Duntroon, and as an Aviation Medicine Specialist with the Australian Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA). Dr Randell's previous work has included primary healthcare projects in Australian Aboriginal communities, Afghanistan, East Timor, Indonesia, PNG, and Vanuatu. He advises YWAM MSA regarding primary healthcare outreach clinics.

### **CHEY SCOVELL**

Mr. Scovell is CEO of the Manufacturers Council of PNG and long time advocate for sustainable development in the nation. He has been a strong support to YWAM MSA, providing expert advice on corporate affairs in the PNG context.

### **DR BILL TALBOT**

Ophthalmologist, Dr William (Bill) Talbot, has been practicing in Townsville, Queensland since 2000. Dr Talbot came on board as an advisor and volunteer with YWAM MSA's ophthalmic program in 2012, and has been a great asset to the team with his passion to bring vision to PNG and ability to engage the Townsville ophthalmic community to get involved.

### **PETER TAPIOLAS**

Mr Peter Tapiolas is a Director of Parkside Development Group, a family business associated with a quarter of all new housing development in the booming Townsville and Thuringowa region. Mr Tapiolas has played an integral role in rallying the Townsville community in supporting YWAM MSA as its operations significantly expand.

### **RAY TOMAN**

Mr Ray Toman has been a practicing naval architect for the last 40 years. Ray is a member of Royal Institution of Naval Architects (RINA), and up until his recent semi-retirement in 2011, was a long-time member of Institution of Engineers Australia. Ray played a key part in selecting a replacement ship for the MV *Pacific Link* and continues to advise YWAM MSA on the refit of the new vessel.

### **PETER TOWERS**

Mr Peter Towers is the Managing Director of Enterprise Support Systems and creator of ESS BIZTOOLS and ESS BIZGRANTS. Mr Towers' career has included 23 years as Principal of a public practice in Townsville and ten years in commerce, including six years as Chief Financial Officer/Company Secretary of an Australian Listed Public Company. Mr Towers provides YWAM MSA advice on best quality management practices.

### **CARL VALENTINE**

Mr Carl Valentine, partner in PwC Townsville, is a business and taxation advisor with over 16 years experience in Australia and PNG. He is a registered tax agent and a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia. Mr. Valentine advises YWAM MSA on establishing, managing, and growing operations in Australia and PNG.

### **JEFFREY WALL OBE, CBE**

Mr Jeffrey Wall is a political consultant and has served as Advisor to the former PNG Prime Minister, Sir Rabbie Namaliu. He has played a valuable role as advisor to YWAM MSA in engaging with various stakeholders within PNG and Australia.





#### **STRAHAN WALLIS**

Mr. Strahan Wallis is the Managing Director of Porter Novelli's New Zealand division. Prior to joining this top-tier public relations consultancy firm, Mr Wallis was the National Communications and Marketing Manager of KPMG and has also held the role of Vice President Corporate Communications for Credit Suisse. He acts as a key media and public relations advisor for YWAM MSA, most recently helping develop YWAM MSA's public awareness 'Overcoming the Impossible' campaign.

#### **DR JEFF WARNER**

Dr Jeff Warner is a Senior Lecturer at James Cook University. He has conducted extensive research in infectious disease epidemiology and made strong contributions to strengthening health systems, laboratories and science professional skill-sets in the developing world, particularly PNG. Mr Warner has spent time working in Western Province, PNG, developing medical laboratory services and engaging in research.

#### **DAVID WISSINK**

Mr. Wissink is the CEO of large resource company, Morobe Mining Ltd. He also stands as Board Chair of Angau Memorial General Hospital (AMGH), PNG's second largest hospital, currently undergoing a multimillion dollar rebuild. Mr. Wissink has been an advisor to YWAM MSA's engagement in Morobe Province and also signatory (on behalf of AMGH) to the MOU between Morobe Provincial Government, AMGH and YWAM MSA.

#### **YWAM PAPUA NEW GUINEA ELDERSHIP TEAM**

The Eldership of Youth With a Mission in PNG has worked closely with the YWAM MSA program. Key leaders have sailed and participated in field activities. YWAM MSA Managing Director, Mr. Ken Mulligan, is among this grouping and is in regular contact with other elders in various parts of PNG. Mr. Winterford Barua is the current Convener of the Eldership.

# 2.11 KEY PARTNERS

## PNG NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PNG National Department of Health (NDoH) signed a memorandum of understanding with YWAM MSA in 2011, setting up a collaboration in health, training and community development programs in some of the most remote regions of PNG. As health sector lead, NDoH oversees implementation of the PNG NHP: 2011-2020, the document to which YWAM MSA's programming is aligned. The department has provided strong support including provision of medication and immunisations and strategic advice on how to best strengthen rural healthcare delivery in PNG.

## PNG DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL PLANNING AND MONITORING

The PNG Department of National Planning and Monitoring has given and pledged K5.5 million PGK from the State Church Partnership Program towards YWAM MSA's new Training and Medical Ship, the MV *YWAM PNG*. An MOU was signed in October 2013 committing to work in collaboration in furthering the NHP: 2011-2020 goal of strengthened primary health care for all and improved service delivery for the rural majority and the urban disadvantaged.

## STEAMSHIPS TRADING COMPANY

Steamships' 95 years of experience in the Western Province of PNG, and the shipping industry overall, makes them an ideal partner for YWAM MSA. They are a Foundational Platinum Sponsor and have offered both financial and major logistical support including wharfage in Port Moresby, in-kind services, and valuable insights regarding shipping operations in PNG.

## INTEROIL CORPORATION

Oil and gas company, InterOil, has extensive experience operating within PNG, particularly in the Gulf Province. As a Foundational Platinum Sponsor, InterOil has supplied YWAM MSA's total fuel requirements 2013-2015. In 2014, the company sponsored a documentary film and fundraising gala for YWAM MSA's new Training and Medical Ship; K6.19million PGK was given or pledged on the evening.

## SOUTHERN PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

MOU's have been signed with the **Gulf, Western, Central, Milne Bay and Oro Provincial Governments** committing to work in collaboration to reach the rural majority with essential health and training services. Each MOU commits to work in collaboration to further provincial health plans in the respective provinces. Capital funding towards the MV *YWAM PNG* has been given by the Central, Western and Milne Bay Provincial Governments and ongoing operational funding has been committed by all Provincial Governments. Provincial Administrators and Provincial and District Health Advisors have been instrumental in developing an effective partnership with YWAM MSA.

## MOROBE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT & ANGAU MEMORIAL GENERAL HOSPITAL

YWAM MSA began its partnership with Morobe Province in 2014. A Partnership Dinner in Lae was hosted by the administration in June, followed by the signing of an MOU between YWAM MSA, Angau Memorial General Hospital and Morobe Provincial Government aboard the MV *YWAM PNG* in August. A multirepresentative steering committee provides guidance to this relationship.

## CURTAIN BROS

Major civil construction company, Curtain Bros, has a long history of working in PNG and Australia. Their experience and expertise in shipping in PNG has been of great value to YWAM MSA. Curtain Bros has provided logistical support and wharfage at their shipyard on Motukea Island in Port Moresby.

## ROTARIANS AGAINST MALARIA

Rotarians Against Malaria's (RAM) objective is to strengthen local and national capabilities in malaria control. With malaria affecting over 90% of the PNG population, YWAM MSA has partnered with RAM through assisting with the distribution of mosquito nets in remote villages.

## EMETI HEALTH CENTRE

Emeti Health Centre serves the catchment of the Bamur Rural LLG, Middle Fly District, Western Province. This is an area in which YWAM MSA has worked closely in recent years and partnership with the Health Centre staff and Middle Fly District Health team has been crucial to the success of field activities.





### **WORLD VISION - STOP TB PROGRAM**

World Vision in PNG leads the fight against TB with the Stop TB program. YWAM MSA personnel have undertaken training to utilise the official health promotion materials associated with this program and continues to collaborate with World Vision.

### **UNITED CHURCH OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

The United Church is one of the key health service providers in PNG's Gulf Province. YWAM MSA collaborates with United Church community health workers (CHWs), maximising the reach of services and providing collegial training to workers in their own rural setting.

### **GULF CHRISTIAN SERVICES**

YWAM MSA has been working with Kikori and Kapuna Hospitals since 2009. Gulf Christian Services staff have been helpful in providing on-the-ground knowledge and expertise as well as assisting with numerous patient referrals. They have also provided personnel to collaborate with YWAM MSA's outreaches in Kikori District.

### **LIVING LIGHT HEALTH SERVICES**

Founded in 2000, Living Light Health Services (LLHS) is an operation of Foursquare Church, Kaugere, Port Moresby. Under contract with PNG NDoH, LLHS provides a range of health services to desperately under-served settlement communities. YWAM MSA partners with LLHS during Port Moresby-based outreaches.

### **ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PNG**

Anglican Health Services are a major health service and training provider in Oro Province. A strong relationship has developed between YWAM MSA and St Margaret's Hospital, Oro Bay.

### **1300SMILES**

1300SMILES is one of the largest dental service providers in Australia. It has been a key partner of the YWAM MSA dentistry program by providing dental personnel, funding and advocacy amongst dentistry networks. The company has also facilitated the donation of supplies and equipment. In 2014, 1300SMILES launched their \$1/day Give Back Dental Program. Five percent of every customer's dental plan is donated to YWAM MSA at no extra cost to the customer when the promotional code "SMILES" is used.

### **HONEYCOMBES PROPERTY GROUP**

Honeycombes Property Group's focus on regional growth in North Queensland has made them a strong advocate for YWAM MSA, based in Townsville. The organisation has been instrumental in making YWAM MSA's program a Townsville venture and has helped create ownership for PNG in the Townsville community through its networking and influence.

### **AUSTRALIAN DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE**

The Australian Aid program, overseen by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) has been a significant supporter of YWAM MSA's work in the Western Province. A grant of \$415,000 AUD was provided to support YWAM MSA's program in this area over 2013 and 2014. Further discussion is underway regarding strong synergies between the priorities of the Australian Aid program in PNG and work of the MV *YWAM PNG* in the future.

### **HENRY SCHEIN HALAS**

Henry Schein Halas (HSH) is one of Australia's largest providers of dental products and places priority on global social responsibility in respect to disadvantaged countries. HSH provides much of the equipment and consumables needed to operate YWAM MSA dentistry clinics in PNG. HSH were a major sponsor on YWAM MSA's Australian tour this year. In addition to making a significant contribution towards fuel, HSH hosted continuing professional development nights for dentists aboard the MV *YWAM PNG* at multiple locations along the coast; giving YWAM MSA the opportunity to expand their dental networks and share about volunteering opportunities.

### **NETWORK COMMUNICATIONS**

Network Communications is recognised as the largest Optus regional dealer in Australia. Network Communications supports YWAM MSA through their Charity Mobile Plan, offering customers the opportunity to donate 5% of their monthly bill to YWAM MSA.

## CITY OF CAIRNS

The City of Cairns welcomed the MV *YWAM PNG* with open arms in 2014. Cairns is the closest Australian city to PNG and boasts a large ex-pat community and strong educational and economic ties to PNG. The Sister-City relationship between Cairns and Lae was strengthened by the presence of the YWAM MSA vessel in September and friendship with the City will continue to deepen in 2015.

## LIONS AUSTRALIA

Lions Australia's long history of community service makes them an ideal partner to promote volunteerism and assist those in need. They are a great support to the YWAM MSA optometry program by assisting with sorting, cleaning, tagging and repackaging of donated spectacles for distribution in PNG. In 2011, Lions Australia also donated a Zodiac to YWAM MSA, improving transport logistics for teams and patients to and from the Ship.

## PORT OF TOWNSVILLE

The Port of Townsville is a cornerstone of North Queensland's economy and has been a generous supporter of YWAM MSA. The Port has provided in-kind services, new life jackets, and berthing for both the MV *Pacific Link* and MV *YWAM PNG* at the Marine Precinct when the ships are in Townsville.

## TOWNSVILLE BULLETIN

The Townsville Bulletin has shown strong support to YWAM MSA, sharing the vision to encourage Australian youth to volunteer and serve their community. The Bulletin's weekly Newspapers in Education program devotes a page each month to educating over 3,000 students about PNG and Ship's work. It offers practical ways for students to engage both locally and abroad.

## CITY OF TOWNSVILLE

Townsville is the unofficial capital of North Queensland and continues to be one of the fastest-growing cities in the State, with a population surpassing 170,000. The city has embraced the YWAM MSA program as its own. There has been much community support from schools, service clubs, churches, businesses and individuals.

## SOUTHERN CROSS AUSTEREO

Southern Cross Austereo (SCA) connect with 95% of Australians each week via regional free-to-air TV networks, national radio networks, online, mobile and unique one off events. SCA provided fantastic support to YWAM MSA's public awareness campaign along Australia's east coast this year. SCA provided free

advertising and radio interviews in each of the eight ports YWAM MSA visited along the coast.

## ALCON AUSTRALIA

Alcon is a global leader in eye care. Its mission is to enhance quality of life by providing innovative products that improve vision. Alcon provided a significant volume of ophthalmology consumables for YWAM MSA in 2012, helping restore vision and enhance the sight of individuals in PNG.

## YWAM INSTITUTE OF THE NATIONS

YWAM Institute of the Nations offers both accredited and non-accredited training programs. Partnering with the Institute enables YWAM MSA to strengthen the training element of its program. The Institute's Cert IV Introduction to Primary Health Care (in developing communities) training program, for example, enables YWAM MSA to mobilise skilled personnel for various field roles.

## AUSTRALIAN MERCY

Australian Mercy has over 20 years' experience in aid and development work both in Australia and overseas. Australian Mercy joined forces with YWAM MSA in 2012 as part of their BUZZ-OFF campaign. This is a direct, multi-faceted action campaign which offers education, testing and treatment to prevent and combat malaria. Since 2012 BUZZ-OFF has provided mosquito nets, malaria testing kits and haemoglobin test kits for YWAM MSA outreaches in PNG. YWAM MSA's activities in PNG are a registered project of Australian Mercy (ACFID member).

## NORTH QUEENSLAND COWBOYS

The Cowboys have a strong influence in PNG. Former Cowboys players Matty Bowen and James Segeyaro have been spokesmen for YWAM MSA's education programmes in PNG, helping to promote the use of mosquito nets to prevent malaria and the importance of regular exercise. In 2014, YWAM MSA was also able to be a part of the Cowboys Boots for the Bush initiative (see story page 41).

## SENTRY MEDICAL

Sentry Medical is a key distributor of quality surgical and medical consumables to the public and private healthcare sectors across Australia and New Zealand. Sentry Medical has been serving the needs of healthcare providers and patients for over 24 years, and supports the initiatives of numerous charitable funds both locally and internationally, including YWAM MSA.



## 2.12 OTHER SUPPORTERS

Air Niugini	Jessups	PNG Power
Alphapharm Pty Ltd (a Mylan Company)	Jim Robbins	PNGFM
Aputos	JLT- Jardine Lloyd Thompson Pty Ltd	Port Authority of New South Wales
Aquacorp	Kina Securities	Port of Brisbane
Atlas Copco Compressors Australia	Kramer Ausenco	Port of Newcastle
AusBarge Marine Services	Larry Santana	Ports North
Balmoral Uniting Church	Light of Hope	PricewaterhouseCoopers
Barnabas Foundation	Lions Australia	Puma Energy
B.Braun Australia Pty Ltd	Lloyds Register	QantasLink
Biomedex	Marine Safe Australia	QBE Australia
BOC Ophthalmic Instruments Pty Ltd	Maritime Cook Islands	RA Tech Engineering Services
Brisbane Pilots	Maritime Safety Queensland	RANZCO Scientific Congress
BSP	Mater Health Services	Rosshaven Marine
Captain Cook Cruises	MedEarth	Rotary Club of Fortitude Valley
Carl Zeiss Pty Ltd	Medical Dental Solutions NQ	Safe Option Solutions
Cattani Australia	Melbourne Rope and Splicing	SEE International
Climatrol	Metro Pharmacy	Shailer Medical
Combined Metal Fabrication	MicroMed International	South West Healthcare
Cook Islands Trust Corporation	Milne Bay Properties	Stryker Medical
Coutts Reddington	MOB Enterprise	Suncorp Bank
Credit Corporation	Morobe Provincial Government	Sydney Ports Corporation
Critical Dental	Mineral Resource Development Corp.	The City of Newcastle
Dawson and Associates	MTU	The Drill Guys
Dentavision	Mulpha Sanctuary Cove Pty Ltd	The Navigation Centre
Designs for Vision	Mun Australia	Total E&P PNG
Device Technologies	National Australia Bank	Towers Business Development Pty Ltd
Dow Water & Process Solutions	National Capital District Commission	Townsville Central Rotary Club
Ela Motors	National Department of Health	Transpacific Industries Group LTD
Electrotech	National Rugby League	Uechtritz Foundation
EMTV	Newcastle Eye Hospital	Universal Cranes
Ergon Energy	North Queensland Bulk Ports Corp.	Verve Design
Filter Supplies	Novartis Healthcare Pvt. Ltd.	Vetta Productions
First Advisers	Novartis Pharma	Vital Medical Supplies
Food Relief NQ	National Petroleum Company PNG	Water PNG
Gadens	O'Shea & Dyer Solicitors	Western Provincial Government
GE & MJ Chaqman Partnership	Oil Search	William Talbot Eye Care
Gladstone Ports Corporation Ltd	OilMin Holdings	Xerox
Gone Adventurin	Pacific Marine Group	YWAM Melbourne
Gough Plastics	Parkside Development Group	YWAM Newcastle
Haymans	Pascoe Promotions	Zoll Medical Australia
Helifix	Pioneers Ministries	
HI Fraser	PNG Australia Association	
Insight Surgical	PNG Dockyard Limited	
Independent Public Business Corp.	PNG Eye Care/Brien Holden Vision	
Jane Wena	PNG Ports Corporation	









CHAPTER THREE

# OUR FOOTPRINT IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA





## 3.1 WESTERN PROVINCE

The fourth consecutive year of partnership activities in Western Province saw further development of the program. In 2014 twenty-three clinic days were spent in the Bamu River area, one clinic day in the Gama River area and four clinic days at Daru Island. During this time YWAM MSA engaged the following 33 villages:

Airua	Etere	Piru Piru 2
Amagoa	Gumai	Sago Valley
Aniadai	Iowa	Sisiami 1
Arikanape	Koperami	Sisiami 2
Asaramio	Kuria #2	Sogere
Bamio	Maisave	Tabapi
Bijori	Mapina	Tirere
Bimaramio	Matakaia	Torobina
Bina 1	Miruwo	Upati
Bunigi	Oropai	Wakau
Daru	Piru Piru 1	Wario

## HIGHLIGHTS

### IMMUNISATIONS

Supporting the priorities of the NHP 2011-2020 around child health is always a focus for YWAM MSA. In excess of 3000 immunisations were administered in the Bamu region in 2014, three times the volume of the previous year. The high number this year was due in part to the Provincial Health-directed response to a measles outbreak which saw a strong emphasis on achieving high coverage.

### FAMILY PLANNING ADVANCES

A major highlight for YWAM MSA in 2014 was assisting with making a reversible, subdermal contraceptive implant available as an option to rural women. YWAM MSA added this contraceptive to its mobile family planning clinics in partnership with provincial and national health authorities. Wendy Stein (of Rotary Australia World Community Service Volunteers and the Department of National Planning and Monitoring) joined YWAM MSA's first outreach of the year to the Bamu area. She trained YWAM MSA personnel to administer and remove the implant and to train local health workers to do likewise.



This implant of slow-release, hormonal contraceptive offers reversible family planning coverage for between four and five years. This allows women to space their pregnancies and assists with lowering both maternal and neonatal mortality rates<sup>1</sup>.

As this was the first introduction of this contraceptive in the Bamu area, communication and community education were a high priority. A total of 269 women chose to take up this option in the Bamu River area and several rural health workers from the district were trained in removal should that be desired before the next YWAM MSA clinic visit.

### PROVINCIAL HEALTH COLLABORATION

YWAM MSA is committed to working in partnership with PNG national and provincial health authorities. It was significant to have several members of the Middle Fly District Health management team join YWAM MSA outreaches in 2014. They engaged in a range of collaborative patrol activities including in the areas of child and maternal health and tuberculosis. This style of practical collaboration is a model YWAM MSA seeks to follow wherever possible. The logistical and human resource strengths of the organisation provide a synergistic boost to implementation of health care strategy for local health authorities.

### DARU - DIVERSE POPULATION AND COLLECTION OF HEALTH WORKERS

As Daru Island is an urbanised area, the dynamics and target outcomes at this location differ to the Bamu region. Four clinic days in 2014 were spent at Daru, with the focus on partnering with and supporting existing service providers. The strong demand for collegial in-service training opportunities was notable among the staff of Daru Hospital. Thirty-three health care workers, of varying cadres, participated in these sessions, which were largely in a question-and-answer interactive format around topics that the health workers identified as areas of particular need for support.

Dental and optical services continued to be in high demand during the small number of busy clinic days scheduled for this location. As a trade site, both established residents of Daru and visitors from many different parts of the Province presented to clinics. This allows the benefit of YWAM MSA services to diffuse to parts of Western Province not directly engaged to this point.

### DIRECT SPONSOR INVOLVEMENT

It was a pleasure for YWAM MSA to receive a short field visit from the CEO of one of the organisation's major sponsors, InterOil Corporation. Dr. Michael Hession and a small group of support staff observed the *MV Pacific Link* and its mobile clinic in action at Sogere Village and witnessed first hand both the significant unmet health need and the impact of the YWAM MSA's program first hand. The visit was a very positive experience for all involved and strengthened the existing partnership between InterOil and YWAM MSA.

### DAYS FOR GIRLS

Another highlight of the 2014 outreach season was the implementation of a project called 'Days for Girls'. This project was rolled out at Emeti High School and focuses on reducing the disruption of schooling for young women when they commence menstruation. It offers education and practical, reusable hygiene supplies to assist young women to maximise their time in school.

## CHALLENGES

### HEALTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Health workforce development is one of the priority goals of the NHP 2011-2020 and shared strongly by YWAM MSA. Alongside bridging the current gap in service delivery with direct clinical activities, YWAM MSA always seeks to come alongside rural health workers wherever they exist. In the Bamu area this continues to be difficult due to the lack of health care workers although pleasingly, teams were able to support a new nursing officer, Sr. Baida Sika, during an outreach to Bamio village this year.

### VILLAGE ACCESS

Access to villages continues to be very challenging due to tidal variation and muddy terrain in the Bamu. This impacts on transportation of volunteers, medical equipment and supplies in and out of the villages and requires innovation and perseverance. Of course, these realities of day-to-day life in the Bamu also impact on the accessibility of existing health services to the people living in this area.

The water level of the Bamu River was lower in 2014 than in previous years and dictated some adjustments to outreach schedule. The *MV Pacific Link* itself could not approach as close to Emeti village as in previous years so a patrol team was sent via small boat to run a mobile PHC clinic.

## ISOLATION

Isolation continues to be one of the greatest health challenges for people in this region, as with other areas that YWAM MSA engages. Access to referral sites is made extremely difficult by the interplay between poverty, vast river systems with strong tides and little access to transportation to and from currently established health facilities. This makes patrol-based health care a vital bridge in service delivery while work is undertaken to strengthen the network of grassroots health facilities.

## MATERNAL HEALTH

The lack of skilled birth attendants and very limited access to those health facilities that are functioning are major concerns for the women of the Bamu, as for many women in rural PNG. Health promotion messages, tetanus immunisation, training on maintenance and repair of outboard motors (means of transport) are all vital interventions at this time, as is the availability of family planning allowing for the spacing of pregnancies. Clean birth kits were also distributed where appropriate according to Birthing Kit Foundation guidelines.

## ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER

With few operational tanks in the region, regular tidal flooding and poor understanding of water-borne illness, accessing reliable, clean water sources is currently a challenge in these areas. YWAM MSA has continued a focus on working to empower communities with understanding of the role of clean water for health. Parallel to this assistance, collaborative projects have been undertaken in 2014 to fix water tanks, transferring skills to local people. Instruction on how to make simple sand water filters was also provided where appropriate.

## REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup> WHO, 2013, "Family Planning: Fact Sheet351", <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs351/en/>; Accessed December 2014.

## THE SUN IS STILL SHINING IN THE DELIVERY ROOM

Local Western Province nurse, Sister Antonia, has a new sense of joy and love for her work since receiving a solar suitcase from YWAM MSA in September 2013. The solar suitcase, designed and made by We Care Solar, is outfitted with solar-powered lights, battery chargers, a phone charger, headlamps, and a fetal doppler to monitor a baby's heartbeat.

Sr. Antonia is the head nurse and midwife at Emeti Health Centre; the main clinic for most of the Bamu Region. She sees a regular stream of women each month for antenatal check ups and deliveries. Up until she received the solar suitcase, Antonia was struggling to deliver babies at night with only a small torchlight to assist.

YWAM MSA returned to Emeti in April 2014 to get Antonia's feedback on the suitcase. The "yellow" suitcase, as Antonia calls it, is definitely being put to work. "I am so lucky," Antonia says, "Each month I deliver four to five babies in the night. The lights make it so much easier and more safe."

"I love to use the doppler on new mothers, they always smile so much when they hear their baby's heartbeat," Antonia shares.

Emeti Health Centre was the first recipient of the solar suitcase in the Western Province. Due to the success of this pilot, other similar partnerships are planned.







## 3.2 GULF PROVINCE

The year 2014 was YWAM MSA's fifth consecutive year of Training and Medical Ship outreach voyages to Kikori District, Gulf Province, PNG. Gulf Province is the founding location of YWAM MSA's outreaches and is therefore also the area where medium-term results are beginning to emerge. During 2014, 3 outreach voyages were made to East Kikori, West Kikori and Baimuru Rural LLGs and the following 56 villages were engaged:

Akoma	Ikiny	Maipenairu
Araava	Imeia	Mairipepea
Ario	Inobo	Mapaio
Aumu	Ipiko	Mareke
Avakaro	Kairimai	Miaogoma
Babaguina	Kaivukavu	Mirimailau
Bagova	Kapai	Morovamu
Baimuru	Kapuna	Naharomere
Bavi	Karati	Pakemba
Borori	Karurua	Poroi
Doibo	Kekeo	Samoa
Emia	Kikori	Ubuoo
Ere Kiti	Kinipo	Varai
Ere Maipua	Kinomere	Veiru
Ero	Kiwaumai	Wabo
Gauri	Kopi	Waitari
Gibi	Koravake	Wouobo
Gigori	Kuporo	Wowo
Ihu	Lalau	

## HIGHLIGHTS

### ONGOING PARTNERSHIPS BRING HEALTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

As work continues in the Kikori District for the fifth year, existing partnerships were strengthened with the local health care network. Strong and vital collaboration continues with Gulf Christian Services, a major health

service provider via Kikori and Kapuna Hospitals and their associated outreach programs and CHW training program. Partnership with the government health facility at Baimuru Station was also reinforced in 2014.

YWAM MSA's key focus to support and strengthen local health workers continued this year with 34 local health care personnel working alongside YWAM MSA clinics in Gulf. This provided field-based, collegially supported, professional development opportunities for these health workers, who are operating in isolated positions with very little opportunity for supported learning. Forty-seven different training sessions were run. Topics were usually nominated by the local health professionals themselves and included maternal health, malaria treatment guidelines and practical pharmaceutical storeroom review.

Some further details of this year's partnerships and training included:

- Two days spent anchored alongside Kapuna Hospital. Dental clinics were held in partnership with Kapuna's own oral health workers. These CHWs, Manu and Morea, provide services in accordance with the PNG Oral Health Manual using the I-Dent chair, provided by YWAM MSA donors in 2013. In-service sessions were also run for hospital staff and a meal was shared on board the MV *Pacific Link* to celebrate the strong partnership that has developed over the past 5 years.
- Three nights anchored alongside Kikori Hospital, offering in-service training for staff, dentistry in partnership with the Hospital and health education in local schools.
- Two clinic days at Baimuru Health Centre, including all regular clinics, and in-service training sessions for health care workers. Other partnerships continued within smaller communities that include an aid post or resident local health care worker.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM

The Community Engagement Team (CET) was a concept trialled during clinics in 2013 whenever it fitted the dynamics of an outreach. This engagement model was formalised as a part of the outreach service structure during the Kikori District voyages of 2014.

The CET approach is a flexible solution to optimising the match between the development aspirations of a community and the supporting resources available within an outreach program. CET also augments the service delivery element of the mobile clinics by focussing on health promotion to a broad audience, distribution of health promoting tools (such as clothes, soap, mosquito nets) and projects to improve 'mechanical' determinants of health (providing hands-on training in areas such as fixing water tanks, taps, generators and small engines). The CET also provides intentional space for interaction and relationship building beyond the busy context of the mobile clinic.

When clinically appropriate, the CET is also able to be staffed to provide basic health interventions that would otherwise interfere with the flow of PHC clinic. For example, when attending a school to deliver a health educational program, this team can also deworm, immunise and do a basic health check for the students. This helps to capture young people who may not have presented to clinic for a range of reasons. In the same way, the CET can also be deployed to add strength to national immunisation drives, such as tetanus campaign, alongside the PHC team. Overall the formalisation of the CET model was a success in 2014 and contributed significantly in the area of public health education and immunisation.

## REVERSIBLE, HORMONAL CONTRACEPTIVE IMPLANT

See also Western Province section. YWAM MSA assisted in the roll out of a subdermal, reversible, medium-term, hormonal contraceptive implant in the Kikori District in 2014. Similar challenges of misinformation were encountered as in other provinces including rumours that the implant is linked to the religious idea of '666' also known as 'The Mark of the Beast'. Despite this, with open discussion and a detailed consent process, a total of 234 women chose the implant for contraception during YWAM MSA's Kikori outreach voyages.

## CHALLENGES

### EFFECTIVE TRANSFORMATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

YWAM MSA's ongoing commitment to relationship with rural communities is best demonstrated through the 5 years of consistent engagement with the same group of communities in Kikori District. Relationship built on trust is critical to developing a healthy and effective dynamic between YWAM MSA teams and local people in order to empower sustainable development, according to local priorities. The challenge of striving toward effective transformational development continues.

Many of the key social challenges encountered need to be addressed at the level of knowledge first. Poor understanding of factors impacting health and wellbeing may lead a community to live in circumstances constructed from poorly informed choices and, consequently, at odds with their own health goals. Examples include poorly located toilets (or perhaps none at all), poorly maintained water tanks, motors and generators, and 'bush birth' beliefs (that women are best to birth with limited assistance in the bush and be excluded from their community until lochial bleeding has settled).

The depth of trust and relationship established between YWAM MSA teams and these communities provides a respectful and robust backdrop to support mutual exchange of ideas and progress in the direction of attaining local goals.

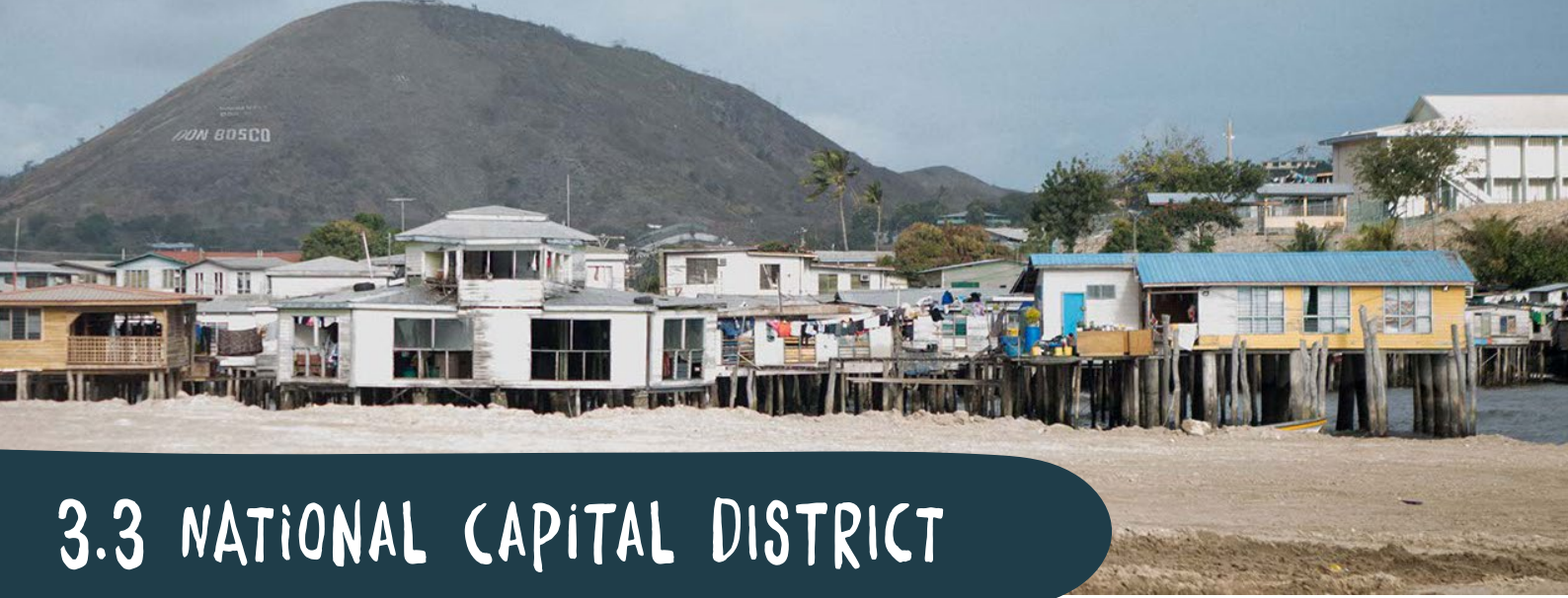
### MUD, TIDES AND TRAVERSING RIVER WAYS

Although tidal variations and extensive mud slicks are not as severe a challenge in Gulf as in Western Province, it can still prove difficult to access certain locations for navigational reasons. YWAM MSA works in partnership with local people to honour local knowledge regarding the best passages to access villages. The combination of complex river systems and dense forest remains a challenge to provision of health care in remote Gulf Province.









## 3.3 NATIONAL CAPITAL DISTRICT

For the third consecutive year, YWAM MSA conducted a week of outreach engagement in Port Moresby, National Capital District (NCD.) This year collaborative activities were held with the following health facilities and their catchment populations:

St John's Hospital, Gerehu  
St Theresa's Clinic, Hohola  
Living Light Urban Clinic, Kila Kila

The optometry team also engaged at Ela Beach TAFE and at PMGH, along with the ophthalmology team.

These activities coincided with PNG National Health Week which celebrates their health workforce.

### HIGHLIGHTS

#### PORT MORESBY GENERAL HOSPITAL (PMGH)

For the first time, YWAM MSA partnered with the PMGH ophthalmology team. A significant and successful beginning saw thirty-six ophthalmic procedures and sixty-three assessments completed. Aside from procedures, a major focus was partnership between the YWAM MSA personnel and PMGH clinical staff. YWAM MSA ophthalmologists, orthoptist and ophthalmic nurses were able to work directly alongside PMGH's own team, allowing dynamic exchange of knowledge among these colleagues.

The YWAM MSA optometry team spent a day working alongside the PNG Eye Care clinic at PMGH. This partnership was focused on informal capacity building through peer support and assisting the clinic through specialist repair of several broken items of equipment. A strong partnership was commenced with PMGH that YWAM MSA looks forward to developing in the future.

#### HEALTH WORKFORCE COLLABORATION

Outreach in Port Moresby is designed to focus on collaboration with the local health workforce operating particularly in primary health care to the urban disadvantaged. It also provides excellent opportunity to strengthen ties with existing secondary health care services. YWAM MSA collaborated with a total of 46 health care workers during this outreach.

More structured training also was undertaken including numerous short sessions and three extended in-service sessions offered by the primary health care team at St John's Hospital, Gerehu, and St Teresa's Clinic, Hohola, with a cumulative total of 70 people attending the extended sessions.

Further to the above, Jacky Lawa, a CHW from Enga Baptist Health Services, joined the dental team during the Port Moresby outreach. Jacky was sponsored by his organisation to serve with the team in order to strengthen his CHW-competencies in oral health care, according to the Oral Health Standards Manual. Jacky went on to continue with the dental team for two further outreaches.

#### PARTNERSHIPS

This dedicated week in Port Moresby again provided opportunity for engagement with sponsors and partners. Being able to host meetings aboard the vessel is of significant assistance to building understanding of the program and facilitates closer strategic planning.

Major sponsor, Steamships Trading Limited, were again able to have their employees access dental care during this week while the Ship was docked within their Coastal Shipping dockyard in Port Moresby.



## STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WORKS TO RESTORE SIGHT

Sight was restored and professional skills strengthened in Port Moresby during a week of collaboration in August between YWAM MSA and PMGH ophthalmology teams. As part of a growing relationship between the two organisations, the combined team served patients with serious eye disease, mainly correctable blindness due to cataract.

Local Ophthalmologist and Chair of the PNG National Prevention of Blindness Committee, Dr. Jambi Garap, said the partnership was beneficial on multiple levels.

“I am really proud of the effort of our team day in, day out here at PMGH. Having this partnership with YWAM adds another level of support. We are really enjoying working together – it’s particularly beneficial to our young doctors.”

The combined PMGH and YWAM teams provided 36 seriously vision-impaired patients with sight-restoring surgery including 18-year old, Siosi, suffering from cataracts as a result of diabetes. This young man who had not been able to complete schooling, beamed a huge smile as he received back his sight and is now looking forward to further study.

Since 2010, YWAM MSA have been performing eye surgeries at rural locations in Gulf and Western provinces, supported by the Training and Medical Ship. Milne Bay was also added to the list in 2014 through a pilot project. However, during 2014 National Health Week, the team focused on collaborating with PNG health professionals in the nation’s capital, Port Moresby.

“It is a privilege to be partnering with these very committed Papua New Guinean eye specialists. There is a real strength in collaboration and peer support and we are seeing the fruit of that even in these first few days of operating side by side,” said YWAM MSA Managing Director, Mr. Ken Mulligan.





## 3.4 ORO PROVINCE

A successful maiden Ship-based pilot outreach engaged with Oro Province in 2014, following on from previous land-based advance team work. The outreach voyage was based around five locations in the Ijivitari District, throughout Oro Bay and Cape Nelson. Forty villages were engaged including:

Baga	Iubadi	Marasa
Barabara	Kamoa	Oro Bay
Bauwame	Kanavetu	Rabade
Beama	Kasiawa	Sefoa
Berebona	Katokato	Sinei
Beremu	Kikima	Sinepara
Embogo	Koje	Siu
Erero	Konabu	Tainabuna
Foduma	Koruve	Tumari
Founa	Kwafurina	Tufi Station
Fumara	Kwave	Utukwaf
Gavide	Lefume	Uwe
Iagirua	Lelioa	
Illamaroro	Managa	

The preparatory work of the land-based teams earlier in 2014 and in 2013 had focused on engaging with communities, logistical survey of the maritime setting and delivery of primary health care services in several remote areas of both Ijivitari and Sohe Districts.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### LONG-AWAITED PILOT PROJECT

As the pilot ship-based outreach to Oro Province, the 2014 voyage by *MV Pacific Link* was marked by many celebrations, including formal welcome and farewell ceremonies arranged by the Provincial Government and events run by the community. The sense of welcome from all sectors of the community was very strong. Although this was a pilot outreach primarily focused on building foundations for the future, there were still strong outcomes across a number of activities particularly eye health, family planning and health promotion. All of YWAM MSA's routine services and clinics were held including PHC, dentistry and optometry with a health promotion emphasis and also water, sanitation and small mechanics sessions.

### DEEPENING PARTNERSHIPS

The relationships already forged through the advance team work previously mentioned were a key factor in the success of this pilot outreach to Oro Province. YWAM MSA personnel, senior staff from Oro Provincial Health and local health care workers formed an excellent team, building on prior engagement.





Five members of the Oro Provincial Health team joined the YWAM MSA team travelling from Oro Bay to the Cape Nelson area. Two members were housed aboard the ship, fully integrated within the community aboard. Several others accompanied the Ship via local patrol boat and joined with the daily clinic activities. The close collaboration with Oro health workers was critical to the success of the outreach, particularly in terms of knowledge of local language, geography and culture. This was a strong and very pleasing example of partnership in action.

Nine health care workers from St Margaret's Hospital, Oro Bay, and nine from Tufi Health Centre were able to join clinics in their locations, again contributing to formation of an effective outreach team and demonstrating the commitment of all parties to work together to strengthen health care in Oro Province.

#### **HEALTH WORKFORCE CAPACITY BUILDING**

As well as working alongside the local health team in collegial partnership, 12 dedicated peer-support training sessions were held. During these sessions topics including community hygiene practices, immunisation best practice and antenatal checks were discussed between YWAM MSA health professionals and their Oro colleagues.

A special connection was made with St Margaret's School of Nursing in Oro Bay. The Principal invited the YWAM team to teach on specific topics and 30 first year students took part in sessions focussing on general nursing and nursing assessment skills. These topics were offered in a multimodal educational format including a mix of didactic instruction, question and answer sessions and case-based learning.

#### **REVERSIBLE, HORMONAL CONTRACEPTIVE IMPLANT**

The roll-out of the subdermal, slow-release, hormonal contraceptive in Oro Province was met with a positive response, including 105 women electing to take up this reversible, medium-term contraceptive option. The nurse providing the service was occupied almost solely in this role to keep up with demand; this being largely driven by the attraction of the longer duration and convenience of this method for couples.

A cornerstone of the success of the community's introduction to this method was the excellent communication and education sessions surrounding the roll-out. The Medical Coordinator for the outreach conducted public awareness sessions in Tok Pisin that were well attended and supported by Oro Provincial Health personnel who also translated into tok ples where possible.





### SUPPLY DISTRIBUTION

YWAM MSA assists with the PNG NDoH Minimum Priority Activity of essential medicine delivery in PNG. This year saw YWAM MSA deliver 925kg of critical medicines to Oro Bay where local logistics finalised its delivery to Popondetta General Hospital. YWAM MSA were also able to distribute Malaria Rapid Diagnostic Testing kits to St Margaret's Hospital and Tufi Health Centre and strategically distribute Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLIN) to Tumari, Utukwaf and Tufi villages.

### EYE HEALTH

The Optometry clinic operating during this outreach voyage noted the high burden of ocular pathology in communities engaged. The team undertook more than 600 vision assessments during the scheduled 9 clinic days and distributed corrective glasses to the vast majority of these patients, most of whom had never previously seen an eye health professional.

A large number of patients were diagnosed with cataracts, pterygium and other visual impairments that were referred onwards for ophthalmology assessment. Records were kept to assist in the establishment of mobile ophthalmology services which YWAM MSA which will help establish in the future.

## CHALLENGES

### NAVIGATING THE REEF

Navigation of the reef dominating the maritime environment of the Oro Bay and Cape Nelson area is challenging and demands a high degree of skill by YWAM MSA maritime personnel. Survey work was done using CeeScope technology aboard a small boat deployed ahead of the MV *Pacific Link*. Fortunately, the Captain and Ship Manager were able to find suitable passage and anchorage close to villages along Cape Nelson, saving long and potentially treacherous trips by small boat to reach desired locations.





## 3.5 MILNE BAY PROVINCE

YWAM MSA made its maiden Ship voyage to Milne Bay Province in 2014, conducting a pilot outreach using the MV *Pacific Link* prior to its retirement. Twenty-six communities were engaged during this outreach, including:

Alotau Town	Guerney	Liluta
Basalaki	Gwavilli	Losuia
Boitalu	Hagita	Mutawa
Bwada Bwada	Kaibola	Omarakana
Bwetavaya	Kaurikwau	Sinekata
Daio	Kebeguili	Tubowade
Dayagila	Kuakwela	Waga Waga
Gamadoudou	Kulakewa	Yuwada
Gotai	Kwebarege	

Advance work had been done in Milne Bay Province by YWAM MSA land-based teams in 2013 and 2014. These preparatory teams spent time in Alotau, the North Coast, East Cape, Samurui and Kiriwina laying ground work for partnership with the activities of the Training and Medical Ship.

### HIGHLIGHTS

#### PILOT PROGRAM TO MILNE BAY

Being the first ship-based outreach to Milne Bay, the priority goals for the outreach were similar to that of Oro Province – deepening the established relationships with Milne Bay Provincial Health Authority (MBPHA), Provincial Government and community stakeholders and testing the ship-based model in Milne Bay.

Monday, 22 September saw a formal welcome for the MV *Pacific Link* and team held at the Alotau International Hotel. The event was attended by the 47 YWAM MSA personnel aboard for the outreach and members of the senior YWAM MSA leadership team who flew in for the occasion. Governor for Milne Bay, Hon. Titus Philemon, was guest of honour alongside CEO of MBPHA, Mr. Billy Naidi, and a number of representatives from the provincial government, health sector, churches and business community also attended.

At the event, all parties agreed to collaborate in a fruitful and effective partnership to improve health services within the province. PNG national news media picked up the story, as had occurred in the Oro pilot also.

Ophthalmology, optometry, PHC and dental teams were all a part of the clinical work commenced during this pilot outreach.

#### HEALTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND PARTNERSHIP

YWAM MSA was able commence partnership with a number of local health care providers including:

- Alotau General Hospital
- Alotau Urban Clinic
- Guerney Health Centre
- Daio Health Centre
- Hagita Health Centre
- Losuia Health Centre
- Sineketa Aid Post

Fifty-five individuals received in-service training across 31 sessions. This included topics such as maternal health, asthma, medication review, TB, cervical and breast cancer, hypertension, diabetes and others. This peer-lead training was matched to learning needs identified by the health care workers themselves. Thirty-one local health care workers joined YWAM MSA clinics and worked alongside YWAM clinicians. This included Alotua's Dental Officer, Dr Essy Anako, who joined the dental clinic whenever possible.

## EYE HEALTH

A particular highlight was the opportunity to pioneer partnership with the Alotau General Hospital Ophthalmology team, working both at the provincial hospital and in the rural setting of the Losuia Health Centre, serving the Trobriand Islands. Local ophthalmologist, Dr Helai Baru, and members of his team worked with YWAM MSA to perform 73 surgical procedures over 9 clinic days. Dr Baru and his team had the opportunity to receive mentoring in best practice surgical techniques for dense cataracts, encountered in contexts such as PNG, by working alongside a senior New Zealand ophthalmologist.

A significant burden of eye disease was identified in the region. By the end of the outreach, another complete surgical list of 70 people with cataract blindness had already been compiled from Kiriwina Island as future surgical candidates. The optometry team equally identified a large number of people, including children, requiring spectacles for severe visual impairment both during the clinic days spent around Alotau and on Kiriwina.

Optometry consulted with over 900 patients and provided corrective lenses to the vast majority of these people over their 9 clinic days. The team began with 2 days partnering with Alotau General Hospital's eye clinic, assisting with peer support to the staff and supply chain logistics. Many prescriptions, previously written by this clinic but not able to be filled locally, were able to be filled during this time. The team went on to work in smaller communities alongside the PHC team whilst on the mainland and thereafter primarily worked from the Losuia Health Centre on Kiriwina Island.

## HEALTH PROMOTION

Health promotion activities were very active during this outreach with more than 100 educational sessions conducted, integrated with mobile clinics and in various school settings. Alotau resident, Ms Vicky Butana (active educator with the Spacim Pikinini initiative) was a valued member of this outreach and invested much time in facilitating discussion around the topic of family planning and, in particular, the role of the subdermal implantable contraceptive.

## CHALLENGES

### UNDERSTANDING DENTAL PAIN

Only a comparatively small volume of dental work was able to be achieved during this pilot visit to Kiriwina Island due to local beliefs regarding dental pain. Many people believed such pain was related to sorcery and found it hard to understand that extracting a tooth could indeed result in improved oral health due to draining of an abscess. The optometry clinic was also very popular and local people appeared to prioritise accessing eye health over oral health services.

Of the people who did present to the dental clinic, many were very happy to have their teeth cleaned. This provided a useful beginning to engagement with the community and opportunity for oral health education and the building of positive experience with dental treatment. Oral health education and strengthening relationship will be an ongoing focus of future outreaches.

### LOCAL TRANSPORT

Outreach in Alotau and Kiriwina Island relied heavily on local provision of land transport. This model was different to 2014 outreaches in the Western, Gulf and Oro Provinces where the majority of clinics are held close to shore and teams deployed via YWAM MSA's small boats. A lot was learnt from the land-based access model during 2014's pilot outreach on Kiriwina which will strengthen logistics in the future.







## TWELVE DIOPTERS

In the West, patients regularly have 0.5 diopter (a small amount) of short-sightedness (myopia) corrected with prescription glasses - how would we cope with the extreme of 12 diopters of short sight? The Jeffery family knows exactly what this reality feels like and were determined to see a change.

Lesley and Saunia travelled through the rain to bring their three children to the YWAM MSA Optometry Clinic, set up in collaboration with services at Alotau General Hospital, Milne Bay Province. Leaving early in the morning from their home in Fyfe Bay, they travelled several hours by dinghy and truck to join the queue on the first day of the combined clinic.

When it came time for their assessment, the optometry team were stunned at just how poor vision was for these children. The two eldest, Mina and Sabatini, were 12 diopters short sighted: this means you can only clearly see things that are almost touching your nose. Their younger sister, Nancy, wasn't far behind either.

Mina explained they did manage to play with other children, but "at the market it is difficult to see what you are buying very well." These children likely did not have any idea what 'normal' vision is and had made big adaptations to live life as best as they could with this visual impairment, simply correctable with glasses. Mina even had dreams of studying accounting at university; but this seemed impossible due to her poor eyesight.

YWAM MSA optometry clinic carries a wide spectrum of glasses but a prescription suitable for such severe myopia in three patients on the same day, including children's frames, was a very stiff challenge. Thankfully, the team had glasses suitable for Mina and Sabatani, but for little Nancy it was a real challenge. So-called 'strong' glasses up to 6 diopters were no match: Nancy needed children's glasses, half as strong again.

This family had done so much to get to clinic and Dutch optometrist Merika, volunteering on her first YWAM MSA outreach, was determined to do all in her power to help Nancy. When she heard the Ship had a bench grinder, she clambered down into the engine room to literally grind down adult lenses of the right prescription to fit into a child-sized frame. The grinding was pretty rough but it was a start. With some finer edging with a basic multitool file plus some help from Julie, the other volunteer optometrist on the outreach, the lenses were eventually fitted into their new frame.

The next morning, Lesley and Saunia brought Nancy back to clinic to see what had been possible overnight. As the optometrist settled the nosepiece on the child's little nose, wrapped the arms around her face and behind her ears, Nancy sat perfectly still, simply staring at the view in front of her and then looking and looking around the room - seeing it properly for the first time.

What an incredible picture of the determination of families to overcome incredible odds to access services combined with the passion of volunteer professionals from distant lands to serve. Simply put, three children now have a fighting chance at education. A priceless gift made possible by the generosity of so many and the substance that fills hearts long after an outreach is over.





## 3.6 MOROBE PROVINCE

### PRELIMINARY FIELD ASSESSMENT TEAM

YWAM MSA sent a land-based Advance Team to Morobe Province this year after signing an MOU with the Morobe Provincial Government (MPG) and Angau Memorial General Hospital (AMGH) in August. This ground team was a resounding success, networking within the province, strengthening relationship with local health authorities and community leaders and gathering field data. A number of specific activities were undertaken by this team in collaboration with MPG and AMGH team including:

- Health promotion on priority topics
- Identifying current community knowledge to direct future public health promotion activities

- Investigating prevalence and risk factors present for priority diseases at a grass-roots level to inform future outreaches
- Identifying current health worker knowledge to direct future training and collegial support
- Investigating water and sanitation status of villages
- Commencing basic clinical health interventions such as routine worming

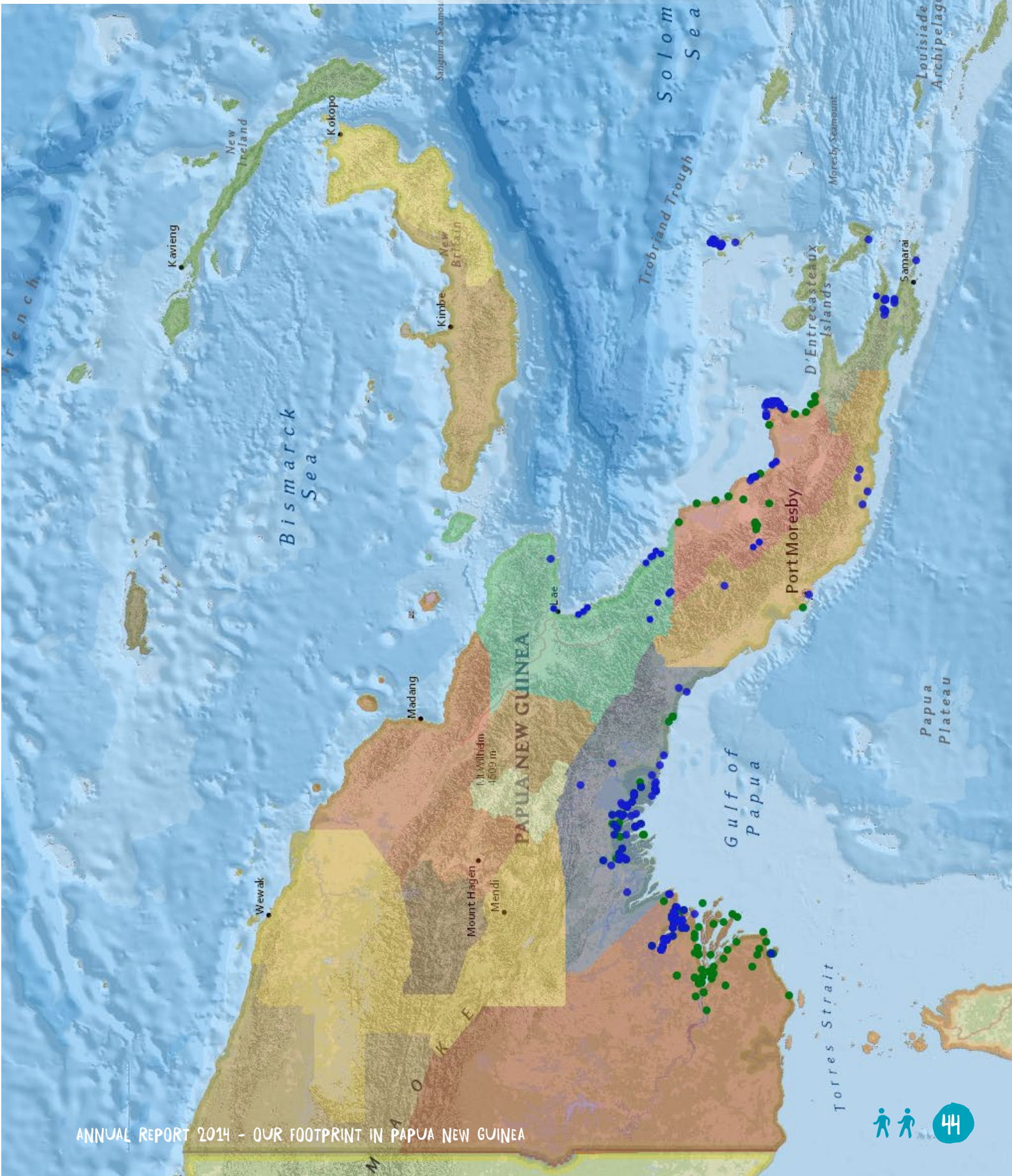
### Villages engaged by this team included:

Morobe Station	Zara	Zangeao
Eware	Busma	Teridze
Zigori	Buakapa	Mottete
Maiama	Garaina	Qau
Buso	Garaisa	Titio
Salamaua	Aro	
Zaka	Sikemu	



# YWAM MSA ENGAGEMENT 2010 - 2014

- 2010 - 2013 engagements
- 2014 engagements





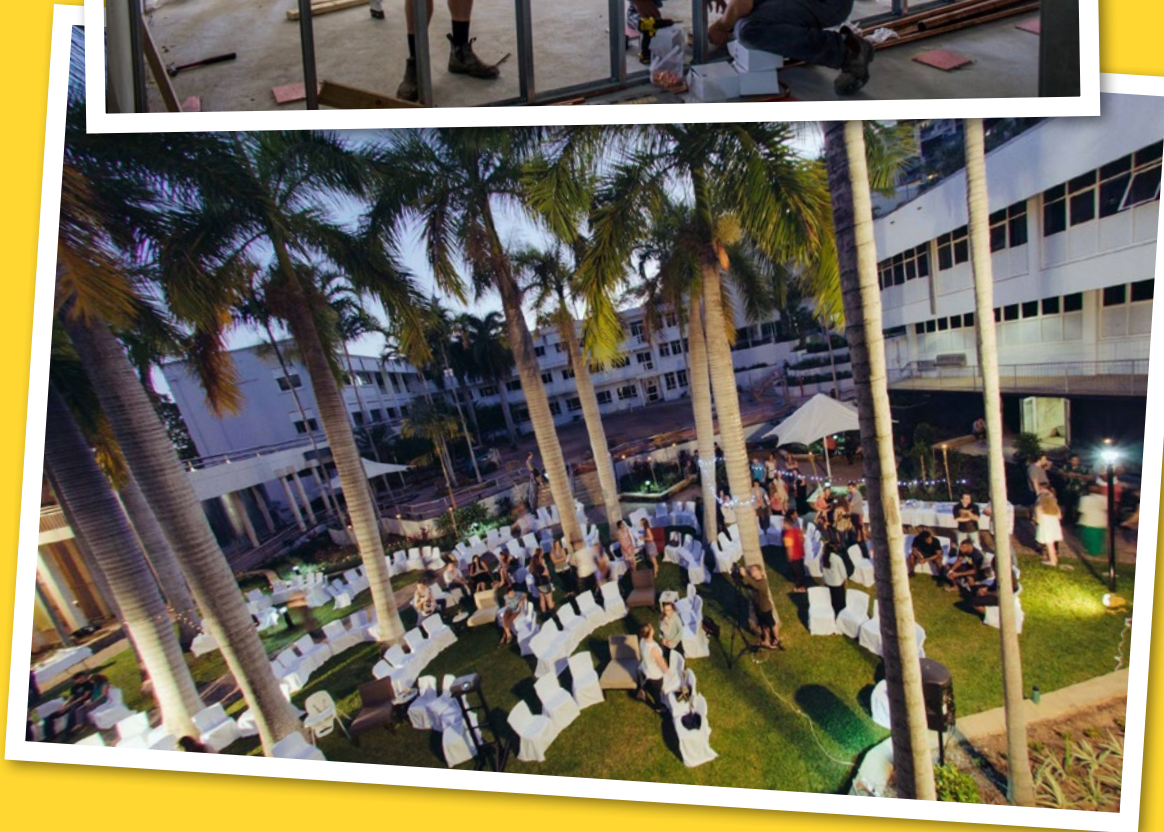






CHAPTER THREE  
OUR FOOTPRINT  
IN AUSTRALIA







# 4.1 PORT MORESBY'S SISTER CITY - TOWNSVILLE AND BEYOND

The City of Townsville, Sister City to Papua New Guinea's capital Port Moresby, is proud host to the headquarters of YWAM MSA. Based out of the YWAM Townsville City Campus (College of the Nations Ltd, YWAM Townsville Assoc Inc; these are separate entities from YWAM MSA with independent controls), the main office of YWAM MSA engages a committed and diverse team drawn from many nations. All self-funded volunteers, these staff work together with a network of advisors and other professionals to support the work of the Training and Medical Ship in PNG.

Support from the Townsville community for the work of YWAM MSA in serving its nearest international neighbour has been strong and consistent. This reached a new level in 2014 as the City got in behind the Overcoming the Impossible campaign to purchase a new Training and Medical Ship (see *Moving Forward*) and also supported the redevelopment of a new site for YWAM Townsville, a City Campus in the heart of the central business district.

The land and buildings (formerly a TAFE institution) had been lying vacant; however, YWAM Townsville has made great strides to see the location transformed into a vibrant and versatile centre for its training work (YWAM Townsville - Institute for the Nations, RTO Reg. No

30614, CRICOS Provider No. 02205D), engagement with North Queensland youth and also excellent collocated headquarters for YWAM MSA.

Alongside YWAM personnel, more than 90 local businesses have contributed to the major redevelopment project at the new City Campus during 2014. With Stage 1 completed, further works are anticipated in 2015 to see this location represent a strong and positive link between Townsville, North Queensland and Papua New Guinea.

Already visited by former PNG Prime Minister and YWAM MSA Patron, Right Hon. Sir Rabbie Namaliu, PNG High Commissioner to Australia, His Excellency Sir Charles Lepani, Governors of Western and Oro Provinces, Hon. Ati Wobiro and Hon. Garry Juffa respectively, and PNG's Deputy Secretary for Health, Dr. Paison Dakulala, the site is fast fulfilling its promise to strengthen relationship between these two close friends and neighbours.

Please refer to *Moving Forward: 5.3 OTI Tour along the Coast* for more information on the broad engagement of the Australian public in the YWAM MSA story during 2014.



## 4.2 PEOPLE TO PEOPLE CONNECTION: YOUTH AND SPORT

Papua New Guinea has a young population demographic distribution providing great creative opportunity but also challenges to navigate in helping young people develop and engage opportunities to reach their potential. Australia also has significant challenges in the areas of youth mental health. The two nations undeniably share deep community aspirations for a truly fulfilling future for their young people.

Sport is also a strong common denominator between these nations. Rugby league, in particular, is a powerful and uniting motivator, bridging cultural and language barriers.

An exciting development for YWAM Townsville and YWAM MSA in 2014 has been strengthening of the relationship with the Toyota North Queensland Cowboys, in particular through health promotion messages delivered with the Try Time program. See story overleaf.

In addition, the NQ Cowboys have teamed up with YWAM MSA as part of the 'Boots for the Bush' program (in conjunction with SportsScene Super Warehouse) to promote donation of good-condition footy boots from Queenslanders for a new life in rural communities in PNG.

YWAM MSA then uses football clinics as part of building relationship and strong engagement with young men, in particular. This helps boost morale and team spirit amongst rural youth and also provides excellent opportunities for similar-aged volunteers to then deliver important health promotion messages to an audience that may not otherwise attend traditional clinics.

Please refer to *2014 Goals in Review: 4.11 Engaging Australians* for more information on the people to people connections between Australia and PNG fostered by the YWAM MSA program, including service programs involving Australian highschool students.



CHILDREN'S KICK-START: Cowboys player Ray Thompson (front) with SportsScene sales floor manager Brendon Day and Josia Droka of Youth With A Mission at the Port of Townsville. Picture: SCOTT RADFORD-CHESHOLM

### Can bet your boots the kids will be happy

ANTONY STEWART

MORE than 60 Papua New Guinea youngsters are about to get an extra kick out of their footy.

The Cowboys, SportsScene Super Warehouse and Youth With A Mission (YWAM) have teamed up to donate and deliver 66 pairs of preloved football boots to children used to playing barefoot.

Cowboy and PNG international Ray Thompson said the initiative was extremely important.

"It's still a developing country so there are still a lot of kids running around in bare feet and playing footy on grounds they have there that aren't the greatest," he said. "So to have that protection (is important) ... and the kids will get a kick out of it as well."

The donation is part of the Boots For The Bush campaign.

YWAM program manager Anna Scot said the boots would be distributed in Milne Bay and Port Moresby.

"They'll just love it," she said. People can donate their old boots, in reasonable condition, at the SportsScene Super Warehouse on Woolcock St and receive a \$20 gift voucher.





## TRY TIME SPEAKS LIFE, ROCKS THE CLASSROOM

Over 6000 North Queensland youth have engaged with a message of life and purpose through YWAM Townsville's participation in 'Try Time' seminars, run in 18 schools across the region during 2014, in collaboration with the North Queensland Cowboys with sponsorship from BHP Billiton.

Positive messages and practical activities help Grade 8 and 9 students navigate challenges facing them including substance abuse, self-esteem, bullying, cyber-safety and maintaining an active lifestyle. Dynamic teams of YWAM volunteers join with former NQ Cowboys players to deliver high energy sessions with great facilitator-student ratios leading to lots of interaction.

Feedback from schools has been overwhelmingly positive. One school Deputy Principal summed up the general view, "... what I could only describe as one of the most worthwhile programs that I have witnessed within Townsville schools".

Students have also expressed their enjoyment of the sessions and the personal skills they feel they have gained. After a workshop on drug abuse, one student said, "... an amazing experience and inspiring. PS. Thanks to all you guys. I think I may be able to save my Mum's life and my girlfriend."

The program is set to continue in 2015, empowering more young people to grab life in both hands and run full-steam ahead, achieving their goals through making positive choices for themselves and their communities.









CHAPTER FOUR

# 2014 GOALS IN REVIEW





# 5.1 PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

## GOAL

Support quality basic primary health care to rural communities (including empowerment through health promotion)

## BACKGROUND

Strengthened primary health care for all is the theme of the PNG National Health Plan: 2011-2020<sup>1</sup>. This is accompanied by an emphasis on improved service delivery to the rural majority and urban disadvantaged. Supporting primary health care service delivery to rural communities (and also engagement with partners working among the urban disadvantaged) is a central focus of the YWAM MSA program.

## 2014 SUMMARY

YWAM MSA continued to run mobile primary health care clinics in remote rural communities in 2014. This year included expansion of services into areas where limited land-based advance teams alone had previously engaged. It was pleasing to see the earlier work had set the platform effectively for the more complete program offered by the Ship-deployed teams.

Expansion of family planning services on offer was another major advancement in 2014 (see Maternal Health). Delivery of health promotion messaging to waiting groups outside busy clinics was again a successful approach and there was a continued focus on engaging with schools to assist in delivery of the health curriculum.

## PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGETS

	ACTIVITY AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE*
Collaborative Service Provision	Mobile primary health care clinics serving rural majority and urban disadvantaged	900 patients per outreach	1012 (329 - 1330)
Health Promotion and Community Empowerment	Primary health care education	500 attendees† per outreach	1585 (102 - 3334)
Health Workforce Capacity Building	In-service sessions for rural health workers	10 rural health workers (and identified community leaders) per outreach	19 (2 - 54)‡

\* Numeric data: mean and range across the 9 outreaches in 2014

† Headcount taken at each session - an individual may have attended more than one session

‡ The Port Moresby outreach is the outlying top range point due to the strong emphasis on peer support and relatively large collection of health workers across the collaborating clinics



## CROCS AREN'T THE ONLY HAZARDS FOR SMALL CHILDREN

In remote parts of PNG, children face a fight for survival. Tuberculosis, malaria, pneumonia, wild boar bites, and even crocodile attacks are all very real concerns. The Western Province is no exception. During 2014, YWAM MSA's *MV Pacific Link* served here, regularly meeting families mourning lives lost to preventable disease and trauma.

Such a story unfolded in the village of Miruwo where a young boy named Giba\* accompanied his uncle to YWAM MSA's optometry clinic. As his uncle's eyes were being tested, the team noticed that little Giba's skin was covered from head to toe in "grille", an intensely itchy fungal condition. Asking after his parents, a sad story emerged: a father recently killed by a crocodile and a grieving mother at home in traditional mourning.

A suitable support person was found to accompany Giba and he headed to the YWAM MSA PHC clinic for a comprehensive health check. There he was found to be suffering from malaria and also received treatment for his skin.

In Giba's Bamu River village, there is no health facility and very limited outreach service capacity. In collaboration with local authorities, YWAM MSA focused its 2014 Western Province outreach activities on this area. The *MV YWAM PNG* will continue this work, partnering with communities to tackle gruelling statistics and improve quality of health especially for children.

\*Name and image changed for privacy



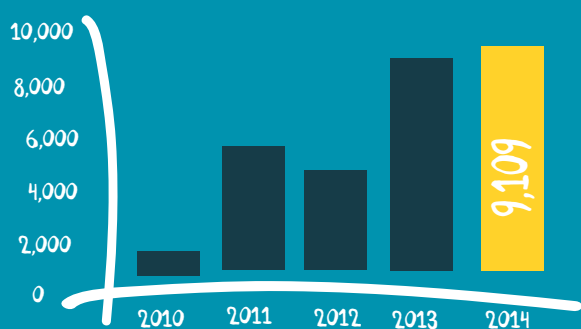
### REFLECTION AND FUTURE FOCUS

- 2014 Ship outreaches again demonstrated the importance of relationship in regards to successful development of health care systems
- In some communities engaged, there has been a history of deep suspicion of health workers, in part due to lack of consistent (or, indeed, non-existent) services and destructive rumours regarding health care (including immunisation and family planning)
- It was pleasing to see that relationships developed through advance work preceding Ship team engagement had opened doors to respectful collaboration and new health care opportunities for communities
- Teamwork with provincial and district level health personnel also continued to strengthen in 2014

### REFERENCES:

1 Government of Papua New Guinea (GoPNG), "National Health Plan 2011-2020," Papua New Guinea, 2010.

### PHC PATIENTS TREATED BY MV PACIFIC LINK



# 5.2 MATERNAL HEALTH

## GOAL

Decrease maternal mortality

## BACKGROUND

Maternal health is universally recognised as an area of significant concern in PNG. A recent Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) estimate reported 733 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births<sup>1</sup>. This is the highest in the Pacific Region; more than three times that of Fiji and more than 150 times that of Australia.

Significant effort has been put into turning these figures around. YWAM MSA is committed to collaborating with PNG NDoH, provincial health administrations and other stakeholders to address this issue. The Goal stated above correlates with United Nations Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 5 and PNG's National Health Plan Key Result Area 5: Improve Maternal Health<sup>2</sup>. This includes a focus on trained assistance at birth and improved access to family planning services.

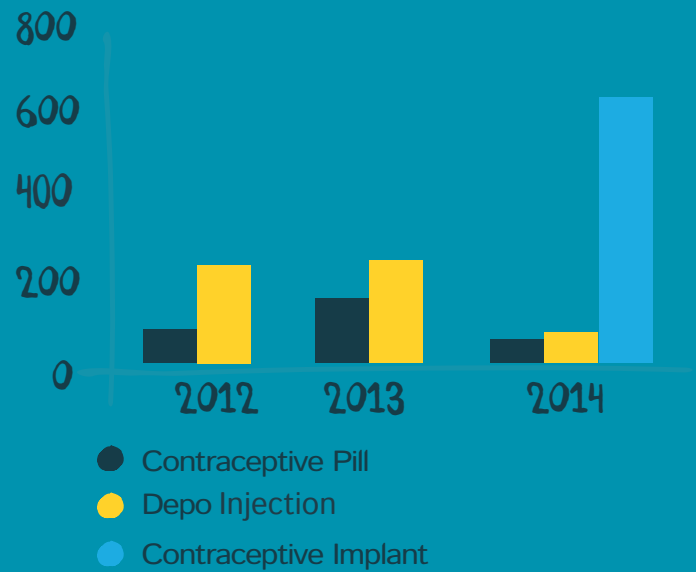
## 2014 SUMMARY

Maternal Health continues to be a strong focus of YWAM MSA's program. A key area of growth in 2014 was family planning with YWAM MSA taking part in the Spacim Pikinini campaign (spearheaded by Department of National Planning and through partnership with Rotary International; implementing the National Contraceptive Policy<sup>3</sup>). YWAM MSA, under the guidance of this program, made medium-term, reversible hormonal contraception available to rural women and their families in areas where this was not previously available. Further detail in Chapter 3.

In addition, concerted effort continued on health promotion surrounding family planning and safe pregnancy and birth, including provision of tetanus toxoid immunisation in support of a national Supplementary Immunisation Activity (SIA). Many peer-support education sessions were held with rural health workers in the field and with traditional birth attendants where appropriate.



## COMPARATIVE UPTAKE CONTRACEPTIVE METHOD







## PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGETS

	ACTIVITY AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE*
Collaborative Service Provision	Comprehensive antenatal checks	30 women per outreach	48 (24 - 96)
	Family planning treatment	50 women per outreach	84 (11 - 182)
	Reversible, medium-term contraception rolled out – subdermal implant	Start offering this to remote rural women under the Spacim Pikinini program	Yes
	Supply chain: family planning consumables delivered to rural facilities	200 per outreach	223 (0 - 1057) <sup>†</sup>
	Supply chain: birth kits delivered	100 per outreach	137 (0 - 282) <sup>†</sup>
Health Promotion and Community Empowerment	Maternal health education	30 pregnant women per outreach	48 (24 - 96)
	Maternal health education (birth)	100 general community members per outreach	158 (52 - 307)
	Maternal health education (family planning)	100 general community members per outreach	184 (20 - 530)
Health Workforce Capacity Building	Maternal health in-service sessions for rural health workers	10 rural health workers (including traditional birth attendants) per outreach	13 (0 - 32) <sup>‡</sup>
	Subdermal contraceptive implant training sessions	1 session during 2014	Yes

\* Numeric data: mean and range across the 9 outreaches in 2014

<sup>†</sup> Only delivered where appropriate facilities and personnel were present hence variation between outreaches; large number family planning consumables left with Gulf Christian services facilities in Kikori District (large catchment)

<sup>‡</sup> Only delivered when appropriate health workers were present hence lower range point

## REFLECTION AND FUTURE FOCUS

- Traditional Birth Attendants continue to be a very common form of assistance to rural women in child birth, particularly in communities without access to a health worker
- Health promotion messages among these women, and providing clean birth kits where appropriate, remains an important grassroots intervention
- The sub-dermal, reversible hormonal contraceptive implant was clearly a popular contraceptive choice
- As with any new therapeutic option, extensive and ongoing community consultation and liaison with health workers and leaders is a high priority to ensure questions are answered and systems in place are running as smoothly as possible

## REFERENCES:

- <sup>1</sup> National Statistics Office, "Demographic and health Survey 2006: 2006 National Report," Papua New Guinea, 2009.
- <sup>2</sup> Government of Papua New Guinea (GoPNG), "National Health Plan 2011-2020," Papua New Guinea, 2010, Pg. 10.
- <sup>3</sup> NDOH, 2014, "National Contraceptive Policy", Papua New Guinea



## NEWBORN RESUSCITATION - BEYOND A TEXT BOOK

Amongst all the noise of the emergency caesarean operating theatre, one sound was missing: a baby's cry.

YWAM MSA volunteer nurses had already spent a couple of days paired with local nurses at a small hospital serving a population spread over an enormous area. As well as embarking on outreach patrol to remote rural areas, this team was also exchanging peer support with urban colleagues and gaining a deeper understanding of this referral facility for their rural patients.

The shift had started much like any other: patient handover, morning rounds, dressing changes, medications to administer. But then Lydia arrived. Already in established labour, her life and that of her baby were in danger as things were not progressing well. Thankfully, she had presented to a health facility with capacity to perform emergency obstetric surgery. The team's attention was now firmly fixed on these two lives that, after 9 months entwined, suddenly hung in the balance, leaving not a minute to waste.

Whilst the surgical team set to work, the YWAM MSA nurses assisted the theatre nurses and midwives. Finally, Lydia's womb was empty; her body now able to focus entirely on its own survival. As the obstetric team continued to treat her, her infant daughter, limp and lifeless, was handed over to an assistant.

After several seconds, the newborn was still making no attempt to breathe. Laid on a side-table, a sad but familiar hush came over the theatre as it was agreed that, "at least her mother still has a chance".

But this was not the end of the story as far as YWAM MSA nurse, Melissa, was concerned. Only a minute had passed since the delivery and she knew the protocol for basic neonatal resuscitation from her prior training. Grabbing the baby, she swung into action with some simple steps, matching the energy of the team working fervently over the operating table.



Onlooking staff, not directly involved in Lydia's care, were astounded as a pulse was detected and several minutes later the theatre was filled with the vigorous cry of a courageous baby.

A deep sense of satisfaction came over the team that morning as they finished up and united Lydia with her daughter. Not only had they saved a mother's life but witnessed the application of textbook neonatal resuscitation for her baby.

"There's nothing like being able to instil hope in my PNG nursing colleagues," shares Melissa. "There are seemingly small things we can do for our patients that may make a huge difference and we all experienced that together that morning."

YWAM MSA continues to address maternal health for rural women through assisting with access to family planning services, promoting skilled assistance at birth, performing antenatal assessments and delivering essential medical supplies. Providing case-based mentoring support to local health workers is another major contribution to the wellbeing of women and their newborn babies.

\*name and image changed for privacy



## 5.3 CHILD HEALTH

### GOAL

Decrease infant and child mortality

### BACKGROUND

PNG has some of the highest infant and child mortality rates in the Pacific (63 under-five child deaths per 1 000 live births<sup>1</sup>). YWAM MSA is focused on implementing programs to assist PNG reduce under-five mortality and meet the corresponding PNG Health Key Result Area KRA 4: Improve Child Survival. Activities continue to address two of UNICEF's 'Priority Child Survival Interventions,' immunisation coverage and a focus on feeding, including deworming and treatment of malnutrition<sup>2</sup>.

### 2014 SUMMARY

YWAM MSA Child Health activities in 2014 continued to focus on preventative medicine and harm minimisation – predominantly through the vehicles of immunisation and health promotion including mosquito-net awareness, violence reduction education and water and sanitation training. Mobile clinics were again set up as pikinini (child) friendly spaces, honouring the special role of children in the community.



## PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGETS

	ACTIVITY AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE*
Collaborative Service Provision	Childhood immunisations	400 per outreach	1066 (275 - 1904)
	Nutritional assessments	200 per outreach	214 (76 - 351)
Health Promotion and Community Empowerment	Child health focused health promotion	200 attendees per outreach	118 (9 - 279)
Health Workforce Capacity Building	Child health in-service sessions for rural health workers	10 rural health workers (and identified community leaders) per outreach	2 (0 - 8) <sup>†</sup>

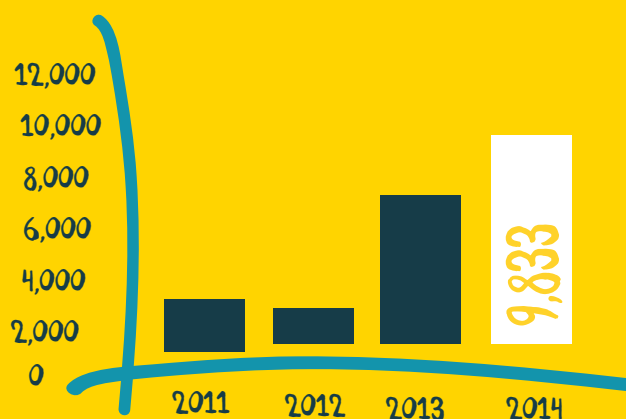
\* Numeric data: mean and range across the 9 outreaches in 2014

† On a number of outreach voyages this peer support was delivered via collaborative clinical work rather than structured in-service session

## REFLECTION AND FUTURE FOCUS

- The comprehensive PNG childhood immunisation schedule was again supported by YWAM MSA clinics in 2014
- Facilitation by YWAM MSA teams assisted Provincial Health to access remote communities more effectively
- The pneumococcal vaccine has been a much anticipated addition to the schedule in 2014
- Although health authorities requested YWAM MSA not commence administration of this vaccine in 2014, for broader strategic reasons, it is hoped that a supported roll-out will occur in 2015

## COLLABORATIVE IMMUNISATION DELIVERY 2010-2014



## REFERENCES:

<sup>1</sup> Unicef, 2014a, "At a Glance: Papua New Guinea," [http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/papuang\\_statistics.html](http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/papuang_statistics.html); accessed 5/12/2014.

<sup>2</sup> Unicef, 2014b, "Accelerated Child Survival," [http://www.unicef.org/health/index\\_childsurvival.html](http://www.unicef.org/health/index_childsurvival.html); accessed 5/12/2014.



## 5.4 DENTISTRY

### GOAL

Improve oral health

### BACKGROUND

The WHO's Global Burden of Disease Survey, 2010, reported that the presence of dental caries (a common cause of severe pain) is the most prevalent human illness worldwide<sup>1</sup>. To compound matters, it is widely recognised that oral health often lags behind other elements of the health sector in settings where the system overall is under strain<sup>2</sup>.

PNG is no stranger to this situation, with latest estimates from NDoH Oral Health Unit putting the number of dentists per head of population at 1 per 100,000<sup>3</sup>. As this statistic includes dentists outside fulltime clinical practice, the gravity of the situation is clear.

YWAM MSA provides dental services, oral health education, supply of basic oral hygiene items and support to the rural health workforce tasked with caring for oral health under the Oral Health Procedure Manual, NDoH.

### PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGETS

	ACTIVITY AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE*
Collaborative Service Provision	Mobile dental clinic serving rural majority and urban disadvantaged	230 per patients per outreach	220 (53 - 371) <sup>†</sup>
	Support supply chain logistics – toothbrushes and toothpaste	230 of each per outreach	Toothbrush 525 (52 - 1779) Toothpaste 471 (52 - 1468)
Health Promotion and Community Empowerment	Oral health focused health promotion	230 attendees <sup>‡</sup> per outreach	1172 (104 - 2194) <sup>§</sup>
Health Workforce Capacity Building	In-service sessions for rural health workers	8 rural health workers per outreach season	13

\* Numeric data: mean and range across the 8 outreaches that included dentistry in 2014

<sup>†</sup> The lower outlier relates to the few days spent providing dental services at Steamships dockyard during the short Port Moresby outreach

<sup>‡</sup> Headcount taken at each session - an individual may have attended more than one session

<sup>§</sup> Multiple sessions held over a few days at Daru Highschool contributed to the outlying upper range point



## REFLECTION AND FUTURE FOCUS

- Communities were identified in areas of engagement that require significant health promotion to overcome fears and misconceptions surrounding modern oral health care
- Support to CHWs responsible for oral health service delivery in many rural communities continues to be an important capacity building role for YWAM MSA
- Enga Baptist Health Services sent a CHW to serve with the YWAM MSA dental team in order to receive exposure to dental services and oral health promotion delivery, provided with reference to the PNG Oral Health Manual

## REFERENCES:

<sup>1</sup> Marcenes W., Kassebaum N., Bernabé E., Flaxman A., Naghavi M., Lopez A. and Murray C., 2013, "Global burden of oral conditions in 1990-2010: a systematic analysis", *Journal of Dental Research*, Jul;92(7):592-7

<sup>2</sup> WHO, "Oral Health Fact Sheet – 318", <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs318/en/>; accessed December 2014.

<sup>3</sup> Personal Communication.



## A SPECIAL GIFT FROM THE TOWNSVILLE COMMUNITY - I-DENT AT WORK

The generosity of the Townsville community is bearing fruit in remote communities just 'across the water' in Papua New Guinea as I-DENT chairs (basic portable dental systems) are put to use.

Financed largely from a breakfast fundraiser in Townsville in 2013, the I-DENT system includes a portable, compact and lightweight dental chair and solar-powered drill set that folds into a back-pack so that health workers can more easily travel 'on patrol' to provide oral health services at challenging locations.

In many parts of PNG, basic oral health care is provided by Community Health Workers (CHWs), guided by national Oral Health Standards. After several years of collaborating with YWAM MSA dental clinic teams and receiving collegial support, CHWs Manu and Morea from Kapuna Hospital, Gulf Province, received one of the prized chairs in 2013. In 2014, they were again part of the mobile dental team working alongside a YWAM MSA volunteer dentist from Sydney, in Kikori District.

Equipped with I-DENT systems, Manu and the dentist both joined in with the PHC mobile clinic and headed out via small boat on a special patrol to a remote set of villages. While for some, working under a tree or in a small hut or disused aid post, may seem like a nightmare, for these two Papua New Guinean and Australian health professionals, the opportunity to bring dental care to patients who may never have received it otherwise was irresistible and deeply rewarding.



## 5.5 OPTOMETRY

### GOAL

Reduce the burden of refractive error-induced low vision (that is, correctable by spectacles)

### BACKGROUND

Reversible causes of visual impairment (including simple refractive error) are common in PNG, affecting both adults and children alike<sup>1,2,3</sup>.

“The identification and treatment of refractive error and cataracts need to be priorities for eye health services in Papua New Guinea if the burden of vision impairment and blindness is to be reduced,” says the PNG National Eye Plan 2011-2015<sup>4</sup>, produced by the PNG Prevention of Blindness Committee, of which YWAM MSA was proud to become a member in 2014.

### PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGETS

	ACTIVITY AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE*
Collaborative Service Provision	Mobile optometry clinic serving rural majority and urban disadvantaged	250 vision assessments per outreach	468 (111 – 915)
	Prescription and distribution of spectacles	150 pairs corrective glasses per outreach	454 (99 – 875)
	Distribution of UV-protective sunglasses to slow disease progression	100 pairs of UV-protective sunglasses per outreach	71 (0 – 225) <sup>†</sup>
Health Promotion and Community Empowerment	Eye health education	250 attendees per outreach	187 (0 - 742) <sup>‡</sup>
Health Workforce Capacity Building	Non-professional optometry personnel equipped to serve	Work alongside I-SEE workers trained last year	See comments

\* Numeric data: mean and range across the 6 outreaches that included optometry clinic in 2014

<sup>†</sup> Supply of UV-protective eyewear was limited in 2014 so these were not distributed in Port Moresby due to the relatively easier access to sunglasses in the city

<sup>‡</sup> Eye health education was not undertaken on one outreach in view of other pressing topics



## REFLECTION AND FUTURE FOCUS

- YWAM MSA optometry clinics were deferred in some parts of Gulf Province in 2014 as consecutive years of previous service provision and training of a local eye glass distributor through the I-SEE program has made considerable advancements
- Instead optometry services were focused on rural areas not previously engaged and, as anticipated, there was significant demand at these sites
- A high burden of severely sight-limiting cataract disease was uncovered in these new areas of engagement which will inform future strategic service delivery partnerships
- Paediatric optometry continues to be a strong focus and several children were again encountered in each clinic with severe, disabling but correctable, refractive error

## REFERENCES:

- <sup>1</sup> Vision 2020, 2009, "Eye Health Programs in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands - Submission", Australia.
- <sup>2</sup> Farmer, J., 2000, "Developing Eye Care in Papua New Guinea", Community Eye Health, 13(34): 26-27.
- <sup>3</sup> Garap, J and Farmer, J., 2011, "National Eye Plan Papua New Guinea: 2011-2015", Papua New Guinea.
- <sup>4</sup> GoPNG, 2010, "National Eye Plan 2011-2015", PNG.

## A NEW LEASE ON LIFE

As the YWAM MSA team pulled up on the banks of Piru Piru 2, a small village on the Bamu River, they were greeted by the smiling faces of locals anxiously awaiting the basic medical care they had dreamed of for so long.

None were more excited than one elderly man, Gagio Sego. Gagio stood quietly as the team unloaded their supplies and set up for the day. His vision was so poor that his young grandchildren had to assist him in moving around the village. Living in such a remote location, he had never had the opportunity for an eye check.

But today was his day. Gagio was assisted into the clinic and just a few minutes later, was wearing a pair of glasses that much improved his sight. Although he spoke no English, the new light in his eyes conveyed an emotion deeper than words.

With improved vision, his independent mobility was returned and there was no holding Gagio back! All afternoon he could be seen victoriously clutching his walking stick and making rounds of the village. With his new freedom, Gagio wanted to inspect all the things he hadn't properly seen in years and confidently made his way about, sharing his joy with friends and family.

As the clinic team left Piru Piru 2 that afternoon, Gagio and his beautiful wife stood proudly on the riverbank to wave farewell. His smile said it all – regaining his sight had given him a new lease on life!





## 5.6 OPHTHAMOLOGY

### GOAL

Reverse surgically correctable blindness and enhance sight

### BACKGROUND

Cataract blindness in particular has been almost eliminated in the West due to access to corrective surgery. As there is no other known preventive or curative intervention for the majority of cataracts, surgery is crucial to reversing the vision loss.

The burden of cataract blindness in PNG is very high, although accurate figures are hard to obtain due to the rurality of the population. YWAM MSA focuses on strengthening the PNG national eye health community as well as supporting service delivery to remote rural areas. This includes through membership of the Prevention of Blindness Committee and promotion of the VISION 2020 Global Initiative.

### 2014 SUMMARY

In 2014 YWAM MSA collaborated with Port Moresby General Hospital eye department to undertake a collaborative clinic for a week in Port Moresby. The purpose of this activity was collegial support and skill exchange, particularly increasing the confidence of national staff in a modified Small Incision Cataract Surgery (SICS) technique, among best practice approaches to the dense cataracts encountered in a context such as PNG.

A 2 week collaborative clinic was also held with the eye health team at Milne Bay Provincial Health Authority (MBPHA), starting at Alotau General Hospital and then moving out to Losuia Health Centre at Kiriwina Island, among the Trobriand Group, Milne Bay.





## PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGETS

	ACTIVITY AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE*
Collaborative Service Provision	Ophthalmology procedures provided	54 per outreach	55 (36 - 73)
	Ophthalmic assessments provided	120 per outreach	85 (63 - 107)
Health Promotion and Community Empowerment	Provided to recipients of procedures	54 per outreach	55 (36 - 73)
Health Workforce Capacity Building	Collegial professional development training for PNG eye health professionals	5 per outreach	5 (2 - 7)

\* Numeric data: mean and range across the 2 outreaches in 2014

### REFLECTION AND FUTURE FOCUS:

- This year was again marked by success due to the strong group of dedicated returning volunteers who make up the YWAM MSA ophthalmology team
- It was very pleasing to see collaboration strengthening with the PNG eye health community both through deepening of existing relationships and formation of new partnerships.
- YWAM MSA also attended and contributed to the PNG Ophthalmology Association meeting during the 50th Medical Symposium held in Goroka in September



## THE PRIVILEGE OF GIVING SIGHT TO THE BLIND - A SURGEON'S PERSPECTIVE

I have volunteered as an ophthalmologist with YWAM MSA for six two-week trips now and enjoy it each time.

On my most recent trip, I worked in Alotau and Kiriwina Island in Milne Bay Province, PNG. There is one eye surgeon in Alotau, Dr. Helai Baru, whose work covers the whole of the Milne Bay province with a population of 278,000 who speak 48 different languages. In New Zealand, where I'm from, we have one eye surgeon for every 40,000 people.

Dr. Baru is a very good surgeon and I enjoyed working together with him during my time in Alotau. It was a privilege to introduce him to an important advancement to the manual technique ophthalmologists use to extract the dense cataracts faced in settings like PNG. The challenge for surgeons in such isolated settings is to find opportunities to strengthen their techniques alongside colleagues. Peer support is crucial.

After a period of observing and discussing techniques, Dr. Baru made the necessary adjustments with ease. The results of his surgery were dramatically improved – every bit as good as mine. He needed some new equipment for the surgery and YWAM MSA was able to provide him with a small supply.

From Alotau, our team moved onto Kiriwina Island for a pilot outreach voyage. Already more than 60 patients were potential candidates for surgery on this first trip alone. They were all blind due to cataract. It is very sad to realise that in PNG almost 40,000 people are blind because of cataracts in both their eyes and this number is increasing because of the lack of eye surgery! In the three days available on this trip to Kiriwina, we operated on 23 patients (one eye each).

One of our patients, a man named Kasikweyu, only had one working eye due to an injury earlier in his life. His one good eye however, had a very dense cataract which left him blind. It was very satisfying to be able to provide him with surgery on this vital eye. The gratitude and joy was clearly evident on his face when we removed his patch the day after his surgery.

Fortunately, all went well with Kasikweyu and the other patients, but there is still a lot to do. I am definitely booking in next year for another trip.

There is a huge amount of work involved in arranging these outreaches. Thank you to the YWAM MSA team who work tirelessly to make it all happen. What a privilege giving sight to the blind.

Thanks to Dr. Keith Maslin for sharing his experience here (abridged)









# 5.7 TUBERCULOSIS

## GOAL

Reduce the incidence of tuberculosis (TB); increase access to diagnosis and treatment

## BACKGROUND

Tuberculosis is a major cause of morbidity and mortality in PNG. Excluding obstetrics, TB consumes more in-patient bed resources than any other disease<sup>1</sup>. In 2012, prevalence was estimated at 541 cases per 100,000 population<sup>2</sup>. Co-existence with HIV, the rise of multi-drug resistance and high levels of defaultment from treatment programs are serious ongoing concerns<sup>1</sup>.

YWAM MSA seeks to support the fight against TB in a number of ways including: assisting supply chain logistics by adding capacity to rural distribution networks; equipping communities by providing TB focused education to community members; strengthening rural workforce through training and collegial support services.

## 2014 SUMMARY:

YWAM MSA's main TB activities in 2014 included assistance in the Minimum Priority Activity of medicine delivery, including TB medications, to Gulf Province.

Health promotion continued to large numbers of community members and was integrated with the World Vision-led 'Stop TB' program messaging.

## PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGETS

	ACTIVITY AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE*
<b>Collaborative Service Provision</b>	Support to supply chain logistics	TB medication delivered as per NDoH instruction	20 boxes (12 treatment packs per box) delivered to Kikiori District health services
<b>Health Promotion and Community Empowerment</b>	Tuberculosis-focused health promotion	100 attendees <sup>†</sup> per outreach	322 (0 - 757) <sup>‡</sup>
<b>Health Workforce Capacity Building</b>	Tuberculosis in-service sessions for rural health workers	5 rural health workers per outreach season	8

\* Numeric data: mean and range across the 9 outreaches in 2014

† Headcount taken at each session - individuals may have attended more than one session

‡ The Port Moresby week of collaboration with urban clinics did not strongly focus on large scale health promotion, hence the outlying lower range point



## REFLECTION AND FUTURE FOCUS

- YWAM MSA continues to develop relationships with key stakeholders to support an integrated approach to the fight against TB
- Field-staff continue to witness first-hand the ravages of TB upon communities in the Southern Region
- YWAM MSA acknowledges and welcomes PNG Prime Minister, Honourable Peter O'Neill's declaration of a TB emergency<sup>3</sup> in the nation and encourages ongoing sustained effort to see this preventable and treatable disease removed from PNG's future narrative.

## REFERENCES:

- <sup>1</sup> Government of Papua New Guinea (GoPNG), "National Health Plan 2011-2020," Papua New Guinea, 2010.
- <sup>2</sup> WHO, 2014, "Papua New Guinea: Health Profile", <http://www.who.int/gho/countries/png.pdf?ua=1>; updated May 2014, accessed December 2014.
- <sup>3</sup> Nicholas, I., 2014, "Alarming Rates of Tuberculosis in PNG's Capital", Pacific Islands Report, <http://pidp.eastwestcenter.org/pireport/2014/October/10-07-04.htm>; accessed December 2014.

## VITAL DELIVERY - GETTING MEDICINE UP THE RIVER

The geographic landscapes of PNG are breathtaking but also pose a major logistical challenge to the delivery of essential medicines to rural health facilities.

In some areas where YWAM MSA operates, these facilities face critical 'stock-outs' on a regular basis. This includes shortages of vital TB medicines.

In the face of alarming levels of drug-resistant TB (largely due to patients taking incomplete courses of antibiotic treatment), action to support completion of a full treatment schedule is extremely important. Making sure that medicine is available to dispense at rural health facilities is a crucial step.

In July 2014, YWAM MSA was pleased to assist with transport of 20 boxes of vital TB medications from a storehouse in Port Moresby across to TB treatment centres at Kapuna and Kikori hospitals, Gulf Province. Other options were limited and stock levels were very low – the voyage came just at the right time to ensure continuity of supply.

The prevalence of TB remains very high in Gulf Province and elsewhere in PNG. Along with many partners, YWAM MSA will continue to provide support to see local systems strengthened to fight this preventable and curable disease. Together, we can Stop TB.



# 5.8 LYMPHATIC FILARIASIS

## GOAL

Eradication of Lymphatic Filariasis (LF) in PNG

## BACKGROUND

The World Health Organisation classes LF among its collection of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD) globally. It is estimated to be the second most common cause of chronic disability worldwide (principally through physical impairment and the social stigmatisation of massive lymphedema and scrotal hydrocele)<sup>1</sup>. The disease is endemic in PNG with a prevalence thought to be amongst the highest in the world<sup>2</sup>.

Eradication of this vector-borne disease is possible through a schedule of population treatment over several years (LF Mass Drug Administration, LF MDA). YWAM MSA's strategy is to partner with national and provincial health administrations to support service delivery by assisting with human resources,

community training and health promotion activities, and innovative transport solutions to access isolated populations. To this end, YWAM MSA is a member of the NTD Technical Working Group, convened by NDoH and party to an MOU specifically pertaining to its LF MDA activities.

## 2014 SUMMARY:

A successful pilot MDA project was run in New Ireland Province in 2014 by FHI 360, in conjunction with USAID.

YWAM MSA's major contribution to LF MDA in PNG will likely be in Gulf Province. Pilot work was conducted in 2012 and 2013, however, further work is awaiting both the results of the New Ireland experience and further epidemiological studies to be conducted in Gulf Province by James Cook University (JCU) researchers.

## PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGETS

	ACTIVITY AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE*
Collaborative Service Provision	Base line survey work	Support as required	Survey not commenced by JCU
	Gulf Provincial Health, PNG NDoH and YWAM MSA create clear strategy for LF MDA in target areas	During the 2014 year	Implementation strategy not yet confirmed with national and provincial health authorities in part due to change in personnel

\* Numeric data: mean and range across the 9 outreaches in 2014

## REFLECTION AND FUTURE FOCUS

- There have been key senior personnel changes within the PNG LF program in 2014, leading to some adjustments to timelines
- YWAM MSA looks forward to further progress in the LF MDA implementation process in 2015

## REFERENCES:

- <sup>1</sup> WHO, 2011, "Global Program to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis: progress report 2011," [http://www.who.int/wer/2012/REH\\_37.pdf](http://www.who.int/wer/2012/REH_37.pdf); Accessed October 2012.
- <sup>2</sup> Bockarie, M. and Kazura, J., 2003, "Lymphatic filariasis in Papua New Guinea: prospects for elimination," *Med Microbiol Immunol*, 192(1):9-14.





## TURNING ON THE TAP

A stream of clean water flowing from a tap is not something taken for granted in rural PNG. In fact, something as simple as a broken tap can reduce a useful tank to a lifeless, plastic monument decaying into the bush. Access to safe drinking water is a key determinant of health (reflected in Millennium Development Goal 7) and woven into YWAM MSA activities among some of PNG's most isolated communities.

Encountering tanks, non-operational due to simple problems, has been a common situation for YWAM MSA teams in their journey with Gulf and Western villages in recent years. Imagine the frustration for communities, and those who care about them, of knowing that a tank sits idle for the lack of simple supplies like thread sealing tape or the skills to make a mechanical repair.

YWAM MSA volunteers, drawn largely from the Ship's mechanical team, have begun to take practical steps to address these challenges by running simple, hands-on training for maintenance and repair of common water tank issues. This is

a project that one of MV *YWAM PNG*'s crewman, Simon, has expanded in 2014. He has set his sights on restoration of 100 tanks over the years 2014-2015. In 2014 alone, over 175,000L of safe drinking water has been put 'on-tap' through this initiative.

The model is simple: communities identify a tank in disrepair in their area; then the team comes alongside a group of locals, working together to assess and, hopefully, fix the tank and to learn about future maintenance requirements. This immediately puts safe water back on tap and also enhances local knowledge to keep it operational.

Often the major challenge for a remote community is sourcing replacement parts. The team can often assist with making these available and at a heavily subsidised rate, reducing seemingly insurmountable barriers and empowering communities to utilise their strengths to secure safe drinking water.

Although there is still a way to go in achieving universal water access, turning on the tap definitely became a lot more fruitful for many villages this year.

\*Name and image changed for privacy

# 5.9 HIV/AIDS

## GOAL

Reduce the incidence of HIV/AIDS; increase access to, and utilisation of, testing and treatment.

## BACKGROUND

It was previously believed that PNG was headed toward a wide-spread epidemic of HIV/AIDS, however more recent data has uncovered localized epidemics existing in certain geographic locations and amongst certain high-risk population groups rather than a consistent national spread<sup>1</sup>. An estimated 32,000 people are living with HIV in PNG<sup>2</sup>, with the national estimated percentage of those infected sitting at 0.65%<sup>1</sup>.

The current National HIV & AIDS Strategy (NHS), (2011-2015) focuses on integrated health services and targeted public health interventions towards the identified most-at-risk populations<sup>3</sup>.

## 2014 SUMMARY:

YWAM MSA staff attended training through the National HIV & AIDS Training Unit (NHATU) on HIV & AIDS community education. The principles of this training were then employed through relevant YWAM MSA health promotion activities in the field.

Provider Initiated Counselling and Testing (PICT) training was not able to be achieved by YWAM MSA personnel in 2014, however, the course noted above is a required step in the pathway toward PICT accreditation for field staff and therefore indicates pleasing progress. A stronger working relationship with NHATU has also been achieved in 2014.

## PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGETS

	ACTIVITY AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE*
Collaborative Service Provision	PICT services	Set-up work done in 2014	Set-up work commenced - YWAM volunteer staff attended awareness training
Health Promotion and Community Empowerment	HIV/AIDS health promotion	100 attendees per outreach	80 (0 - 230) <sup>†</sup>

\* Numeric data: mean and range across the 9 outreaches in 2014

<sup>†</sup> Includes the Port Moresby week of collaboration with urban clinics which did not strongly focus on large scale health promotion

## REFLECTION AND FUTURE FOCUS

- Progress was made in 2014 on strengthening HIV/AIDS professional development for YWAM MSA personnel
- Progress toward PICT services being available in remote areas is ongoing

## REFERENCES:

- <sup>1</sup> UNAIDS, 2014, "Interim Global AIDS Response Progress & Universal Access Reports: Papua New Guinea," [http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/country/documents/PNG\\_narrative\\_report\\_2014.pdf](http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/country/documents/PNG_narrative_report_2014.pdf); accessed December 2014.
- <sup>2</sup> UNAIDS, 2012, "Papua New Guinea: HIV and AIDS estimates (2012)," <http://www.unaids.org/en/regionscountries/countries/papuanewguinea>; accessed December 2014.
- <sup>3</sup> Godwin, 2013, "Mid-Term Review of HIV AIDS Strategy (2011-2015)," <http://www.fhi360.org/sites/default/files/media/documents/MidTermReviewofPNGHIVStrategy.pdf>; Accessed December 2014.



# 5.10 MALARIA

## GOAL

Reduce the incidence of, and mortality associated with, malaria.

## BACKGROUND

Ninety-four percent of the PNG population live in areas classified as having high transmission rates of malaria (>1 per 1,000 population). In many areas, case rates exceed 100 per 1,000 population<sup>1</sup>. Malaria remains a leading cause of death in PNG, especially for children less than five years old<sup>2</sup>.

The use of long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) is a key evidence-based intervention to reduce the incidence of malaria<sup>1</sup>.

## 2014 SUMMARY

Supply was a challenging issue at times during 2014 but the distribution of LLINs continues to be a strategic intervention as YWAM MSA contributes to the fight against malaria. This was again coupled with strong emphasis on community education around the message that malaria is preventable, with particular emphasis on the high-risk groups of pregnant women and children under 5 years of age.

## PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGETS

	ACTIVITY AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE*
Collaborative Service Provision	Support supply chain logistics - LLINs	180 LLIN distributed per outreach	149 (0-700) <sup>†</sup>
	Support supply chain logistics - RDTs	250 RDT kits distributed per outreach	118 (0 - 315) <sup>‡</sup>
Health Promotion and Community Empowerment	Malaria prevention education	200 attendees per outreach	221 (0 - 514) <sup>§</sup>
Health Workforce Capacity Building	Malaria focused in-service sessions for rural health workers	10 rural health workers (and identified community leaders) per outreach	4 (0 - 16) <sup>  </sup>

\* Numeric data: mean and range across the 9 outreaches in 2014

† No LLIN were available for distribution during the first 2 outreach voyages of 2014; later outreaches had much improved access

‡ Only delivered where appropriate facilities and personnel were present hence variation between outreaches

§ The Port Moresby week of collaboration with urban clinics did not strongly focus on large scale health promotion, hence the outlying lower range point

|| On a number of outreach voyages this peer support was extended via collaborative clinical work rather than structured in-service sessions

## REFLECTION AND FUTURE FOCUS

Some of the areas YWAM MSA extended into in 2014 are equally as remote as those previously engaged and include whole communities with poor LLIN coverage Networking with partners to see LLIN sourced and effectively distributed will continue in 2015

## REFERENCES:

<sup>1</sup> World Health Organisation, 2012a, "World Malaria Report 2012," Switzerland.

<sup>2</sup> World Health Organisation, 2012b, "Community Based Reduction of malaria Transmission," Italy.



## 5.11 ENGAGING AUSTRALIANS

### GOAL

Build Australia's capacity to contribute to the development of our region through:

- equipping young people
- assisting Australian health professionals to engage social responsibility and further their experience by volunteering
- build on the relationship between North Queensland and PNG

### BACKGROUND

Australia has long been an ally and friend of Papua New Guinea and is well recognised as its leading global financial donor<sup>1</sup>. Furthermore, Port Moresby is Townsville's oldest sister-city, established in 1983. Since that time, significant economic development has occurred between the two centres with some \$500 million in two-way trade now flowing between the ports.

Cairns and Lae also have a sister-city relationship which YWAM MSA assists to strengthen. YWAM MSA was proud to have hosted Mayor Bob Manning's Civic Reception aboard the MV *YWAM PNG* in Cairns, as the City welcomed a delegation from sister-city Lae.

Today's youth belong to a generation that understands the plight of the poor and needy. When given the opportunity to respond to injustice, they often do so with incredible passion.

Evidence clearly indicates that providing young people with the opportunity to address some of these needs can drastically improve their behavior and lifestyle<sup>2</sup>.

YWAM MSA seeks to keep Australians informed regarding the ties between PNG and Australia and opportunities to volunteer time and skills towards constructive development.

### 2014 SUMMARY

In 2014 YWAM MSA successfully engaged Australians in a range of ways. The MV *YWAM PNG* tour of the East Coast of Australia was a major contributor to meeting this goal. This included engaging youth, health care professionals and others within Australian society through targeted events aboard and presentations in schools, service clubs and churches. Over 18,000 people took tours of the vessel, presenting the situation of our nearest neighbour, PNG, and the opportunities to be involved in YWAM MSA's work. More than 8400 youth were specifically engaged during the tour.

Routine engagement from Townsville continued, targeting youth by running programs such as the 'I Want to Live' event, 'Try Time' school seminars and 'Youth Adventures' - a service-based program aimed at enlarging the social consciousness of youth through volunteerism. Newspaper in Education articles continued, reaching over 25 schools with PNG-focused content to support the social studies curriculum. A youth leadership discussion group was held in Townsville focusing on crime prevention. A total of 8 teenagers were among volunteers aboard YWAM MSA outreaches in PNG during 2014.

Fifty Australian health care professionals joined YWAM MSA outreaches in 2014, including 5 James Cook University (JCU) students and one Deakin Nursing Student. This engagement continues to impact the Australian health care landscape with a positive experience of partnering in PNG.



## PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGETS

	ACTIVITY AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE*
Increase social consciousness of youth	Australian teenagers aboard YWAM MSA outreach voyages	4 per outreach season	8
	Youth Leadership Forum event in Townsville	1 per outreach season	Youth Forum held in Townsville on MV YWAM PNG
	Newspaper in Education resources provided	Content to 25 Townsville schools per outreach season	96 schools engaged
	Seminars focused on social consciousness	5 presented per outreach season	67 (includes OTI Tour)
Australian Health Professionals	Australian health professionals aboard	50 per outreach season	50
	James Cook University 6th Year medical students on elective placement	5 per outreach season	5
Support the Townsville - Port Moresby relationship*	Facilitate a week of engagement through a POM outreach	1 outreach in the 2014 season	Achieved

\* In addition, the Cairns leg of the Overcome the Impossible (OTI) campaign added support to the Cairns-Lae relationship in 2014.

## REFLECTION AND FUTURE FOCUS

- Relationships were strengthened between North Queensland and PNG in 2014, including the Sister-Cities of Townsville-Port Moresby and Cairns-Lae
- Youth engagement continues to be a strength of the YWAM MSA program, in particular connecting Aussie youth with PNG counterparts, and is set to grow in 2015
- Strong and sustained involvement by Australian health professionals in field activities continues to be a cornerstone of implementation strategy

## REFERENCES:

- <sup>1</sup> Australian Aid, 2013, "Why we give Aid to Papua New Guinea", <http://aid.dfat.gov.au/countries/pacific/png/Pages/why-aid.aspx>; Accessed Dec 2014.
- <sup>2</sup> Ferrier, F., Roos, I. & Long, M., "Passion, People and Appreciation: Making volunteering work for young people", National Youth Affairs Research Scheme, April 2004, Australia.



## YOUTH ADVENTURING ON PURPOSE

Townsville Grade 12 students, Shannon King and Levi-Jesse Cartledge, joined YWAM MSA's final outreach voyage of the year, travelling to Milne Bay to discover just how much of a difference they could make serving and building relationships with Australia's nearest neighbour, Papua New Guinea.

Levi primarily helped in the Optometry Clinic, learning some basic skills to assist in the running of the clinic, while Shannon helped both on-board with some of the vital operational background work of the outreach and in the Primary Health Care Clinic, assisting midwife Jenny with her antenatal clinics and health promotion sessions.

Shannon says, "This experience has made me want to go back as an adult and do more to improve local health."

Levi was also clearly moved by the experience, saying, "If my life depends on it, I'm going back. If my life doesn't depend on it, I'm going back."

The YWAM Townsville Youth Adventures program is aimed at getting high school students involved in service-based learning about our region. Enquiries about the program can be made through contact details on the back page of this report.





## 5.12 FINANCIAL REPORT

### Profit & Loss - Previous Year Comparison

January through December 2014

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>JAN - DEC '14</b>	<b>JAN - DEC'13</b>
Volunteers - Gift in Kind	2,734,924.62	1,876,293
Donations - Gift in Kind	489,546	436,592
Donations - General	337,649	293,410
Donations - Tax Deductible	218,332	31,865
Grants & Sponsorship	2,463,147	735,811
New Ship Fundraising Campaign	1,498,067	-
Crew Fees	197,929	72,409
Outreach Fees	61,118	44,239
Miscellaneous Income	13,442	5,843
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>8,014,155</b>	<b>3,496,462</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>	<b>JAN - DEC '14</b>	<b>JAN - DEC'13</b>
Volunteer Labour	2,734,925	1,876,293
Employee Expense	42,953	38,300
Ship Expenses	478,610	382,262
Medical Expenses	169,340	49,034
Office/Administration	296,040	139,823
Donations	736,228	66,853
Travel	151,130	115,501
Insurances	121,079	60,823
MV Ammari Lease	1,000,000	-
Outreaches/Ships Tour	248,563	114,705
Depreciation	99,9113	82,282
Miscellaneous	84,243	64,164
Advertising/Marketing	105,902	10,842
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>6,268,924</b>	<b>3,000,884</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>1,745,230</b>	<b>495,578</b>





#OVERCOMEIMPOSSIBLE

DELIVERED 14,675  
HEALTH SERVICES  
SINCE 2010

RURAL COMMUNITY  
WORKERS  
HOURS  
HEALTH

ywan  
Antonia Bailey

ywan  
Tim Wharmouth

ywan  
#OVERCOME  
IMPOSSIBLE  
www.ywanships.org.au

ywan  
#OVERCOME  
IMPOSSIBLE  
www.ywanships.org.au





CHAPTER FIVE

# MOVING FORWARD

OVERCOMING THE IMPOSSIBLE

# 6.1 THE OVERCOMING THE IMPOSSIBLE CAMPAIGN

YWAM MSA conducted a vigorous five-month public awareness campaign in 2014 with the overall objective of purchasing a new Training and Medical Ship for PNG, the MV *YWAM PNG* and increasing its support base in preparation for a major expansion with the new ship in 2015.

The campaign was named, 'Overcoming the Impossible', and included the following campaign objectives:

- Raise \$5.5 million AUD in five months to finalise the purchase of the MV *YWAM PNG*

- Recruit 500+ medical, marine and general volunteers
- Acquire sponsors for the medical re-fit of the new vessel
- Educate Australians about the critical health concerns in PNG
- Strengthen partnership relationships in PNG

The campaign was active in both Australia and Papua New Guinea and rallied thousands around the cause including corporates, government officials, students, service clubs, medical and marine groupings and the general community.





# 6.2 SHIP COMPARISON



MV PACIFIC LINK	ANNUAL PROGRAMMING CAPACITY	MV YWAM PNG
17,355	HEALTH PROMOTION PARTICIPANTS	89,000
8,948	PRIMARY HEALTH CARE PATIENTS	46,000
3,280	OPTOMETRY PATIENTS	16,500
2,072	DENTISTRY PATIENTS	10,500
262	OPHTHALMOLOGY PATIENTS	655
108	RURAL HEALTH WORKERS UP-SKILLED	540

50   
3.6M DRAFT

## FEATURES

 100  
2.2M DRAFT

### MV PACIFIC LINK

- Dental clinic ●
- Three small tenders for team and patient transfers ●

### MV YWAM PNG

- Operating theatre ●
- Dental clinic ●
- Outpatient medical/surgical clinic facility ●
- Laboratory ●
- Full optometry service capacity ●
- Medical supply transport ●
- Two tenders for team and patient transfers ●
- Four patrol tenders to transport teams to more remote locations ●



## 6.3 MV YWAM PNG

The MV *YWAM PNG* will increase YWAM MSA's operational capacity by over 500% and allow expansion of its training and health services across the entire Southern Region of PNG. The new vessel will replace and build on the work of the retired MV *Pacific Link*, which operated in PNG from 2010 to 2014, achieving over 249,000 training, health and community development services.

The replacement vessel was selected after an extensive research process, matching YWAM MSA field experience and requirements with detailed naval architectural investigation of a number of vessels. The MV *YWAM PNG* has several very significant advantages over the MV

*Pacific Link* (see comparison table). These include;

- much improved maintenance profile, allowing the vessel to operate for 11 months of the year in PNG waters
- shallower draft, exponentially increasing the geographic footprint of activities
- larger usable space aboard, extending the Mother Ship concept of operation (see below).





All these features result in an expanded service area to now include not only Gulf and Western, but also Central, Milne Bay, and Oro Provinces plus the Huon-Gulf District of Morobe Province.

In brief, through deploying the MV *YWAM PNG*, YWAM MSA will be able to facilitate engagement with more villages for longer periods of time. The vessel will itself travel to remote locations and there act as a well equipped 'mother-ship', launching multiple patrol tenders to deliver teams to extremely remote communities.

Purchased as a former cruise catamaran, renovations will be undertaken to refit the vessel for its new purpose. The refit will include a dentistry clinic, operating theatre and day-stay area, radiology suite, outpatient facility and laboratory and will occur in stages. The first phase of modifications is due to commence in early 2015 and the vessel will make its maiden voyage to PNG shortly thereafter before returning to Australia for subsequent refit works.

Applications are being taken from volunteers (health professional, maritime and general) who wish to take part in 2015 outreach activities. Many have already taken up the opportunity to do so.



## 6.4 OTi AUSTRALIA - TOUR ALONG THE COAST

The MV *YWAM PNG* was chartered for five months under a lease-to-buy agreement signed with its former owners, Riverside Marine Group, in May. The tour included eight stops along Australia's east coast in Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Gladstone, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Newcastle and Sydney.

### OVER THE COURSE OF THE TOUR PUBLIC AWARENESS ACTIVITIES INCLUDED:

- Media campaign
- Public tours of the ship for school students and the general community
- Civic and parliamentary receptions
- Connection with local 'Wantok' communities
- School presentations
- Presentations to service clubs, medical and marine groupings

### OVER FIVE MONTHS WE ACHIEVED:

- 18,408 people visited the ship and heard the campaign message during public tours, events and presentations
- 1,100 people completed an expression of interest form for volunteering with YWAM MSA
- Over 4 million people were reached through a media campaign

### SPECIAL EVENTS

Gala fundraising events were held in Townsville, Brisbane, Newcastle and Sydney along with parliamentary receptions hosted by both Queensland and New South Wales Speakers and civic receptions at a number of locations. The MV *YWAM PNG* also hosted the Brisbane PNG Consulate's 39th PNG Independence Day celebration.

Major corporate sponsors, Henry Schein Halas and 1300 Smiles Dental, also held events aboard. A highlight was hosting the international CEO of Fortune 500 company Henry Schein, Mr. Stanley Bergman, aboard in July along with his senior Australian team for an executive event.







● CAIRNS

● TOWNSVILLE

● MACKAY

● GLADSTONE

● BRISBANE

● GOLD COAST

● NEWCASTLE

● SYDNEY

# - THE - TOUR





## 6.5 OTI PAPUA NEW GUINEA

An awareness and fundraising campaign was undertaken in PNG simultaneous with the Australian tour. An extensive media following tracked the 'OTI' theme across all major outlets in PNG (including newspaper, television, radio and internet newsmedia). Much advocacy and collaborative work was also undertaken among national and provincial stakeholders in health.

The pinnacle of the campaign was a successful fundraising Gala Event held in Port Moresby in November, raising K6.19 million PGK (\$2.8 AUD) in cash and pledges towards the MV YWAM PNG. Donors included senior government officials, major partners and business corporations.

The guest of honour and major donor toward the new Ship was Minister for National Planning and Rural Development, Hon. Charles Abel (pictured above).

The gala was sponsored by one of YWAM MSA's major sponsors, InterOil Corporation, and featured the premiere of the short documentary film, "Overcoming the Impossible", produced by Gone Adventurin'.

The documentary captures on screen the essence of one of YWAM MSA's outreaches in the Kikori district of the Gulf Province in 2014 while also highlighting InterOil's commitment to social responsibility and the value of corporate staff engaging in their company's sponsored projects.



## 6.6 IMPOSSIBLE OVERCOME - VESSEL PURCHASED!

On the 4 December 2014 the MV *YWAM PNG* was officially purchased by YWAM MSA. The settlement was made possible by the generosity of many donors, both in cash contributed up until that point and in pledges with funds to be realised in 2015.

Of the total purchase price of \$6.5 million AUD, more than \$4.5million AUD was raised in PNG, an incredible accomplishment and representation of the priority PNG

leaders are making in investing in the health of the rural majority. The major donor toward the MV *YWAM PNG* was the PNG Department of National Planning and Monitoring with a contribution of K5.5million PGK (approximately \$2.6million AUD).

## 6.7 HONOURING PARTNERS IN PNG

At the Gala Event a tiered corporate sponsorship plan was announced as YWAM MSA further develops its networks.

Foundational Platinum Corporate Partners, Steamships Trading Limited and InterOil Corporation were honoured, alongside Foundational Platinum Government partners, National Department of Health and Department of National Planning and Monitoring.











CHAPTER SEVEN

# APPENDIX



# 7.1 LETTERS OF ENDORSEMENT



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR FOR WESTERN PROVINCE

FLY RIVER PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
P.O. BOX 51, DARU, WESTERN PROVINCE

Honourable Ati Wugtungam WOBIRO, MP  
B.Eco; M.Eco; M. Dev Admin

Mr Ken Mulligan  
Managing Director  
YWAM Medical Ships - Australia  
PO Box 1217  
**PORT MORESBY**  
National Capital District  
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

23rd October 2014

Dear Ken,

I am writing to again express my deep gratitude and re-state my support for the work of YWAM Medical Ships in Western Province, and indeed, now spreading throughout the Southern Region.

Health and education are some of the priority agendas for our people and we are very grateful for the support of a wide network of partners in these sectors. YWAM Medical Ships is numbered among these as a close ally and valued supporter for Western Province.

The work of the MV Pacific Link over the past 5 years in PNG has been significant but we are now very much looking forward to the arrival of the improved Training and Medical Ship, MV Ammari. This more modern vessel will much expand YWAM program and allow many more communities to be strengthened in a sustainable way.

To this end, it is my pleasure to commit 1 million PGK toward the purchase of the MV Ammari. I anticipate this should be released to YWAN Medical Ships within the 2014 financial year.

The people of Western Province look forward to an ongoing strong and fruitful relationship with the MV Ammari and her faithful volunteers for many years to come we build a wise, fair, happy and healthy province.

Kind regards,

HON. ATI WOBIRO, MP  
Governor of Western Province







**MOROBE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT**  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Telephone: 4731501  
Facsimile: 472 4745

P O Box 1834  
Lae

Mr. Ken Mulligan  
Managing Director  
YWAM Medical Ships – Australia  
P.O. BOX 1217  
**PORT MORESBY.**  
National Capital District

*Date:* 22 October 2014

*Reference:*

*Action Officer:*

*Designation:*

*Your Reference*

*Date:*

Dear Mr. Mulligan,

**RE: BUDGETARY SUPPORT IN CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION TO PURCHASE OF THE NEW MEDICAL SHIP**

I am pleased to hereby advise that Morobe Provincial Government in its Executive Council meeting of Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October, after the MOU signing debrief by the Deputy Governor and his team, agreed to allocate 2 million PGK in its 2015 Budget towards the capital purchase of the new medical ship MV Ammari.

As I shared on behalf of Morobe Province at our Collaboration and Partnership Dinner held in Lae, 19 June 2014, may I reiterate my strong support for the work of YWAM Medical Ships in Papua New Guinea. Our support for the program has progressed to the signing of Partnership MOU in Cairns on 29th August 2014 and commitment to annual operational funding.

We understand that your current vessel is standing down its operations shortly due to expiry of her economic life. The planned acquisition of the new Training and Medical Ship, is vitally important to see the expansion of program activities to encompass the entire Southern Region and into Morobe. Therefore we are grateful to further assist with a one-off funding commitment in 2015 towards the purchase of the new ship.

We have read and witnessed the significant impact of the organization's work in Gulf and Western Provinces and been particularly impressed by YWAM's passion and ability to prioritize the rural majority, especially in difficult to access areas.

I look forward to seeing this vessel active in Morobe in the near future and for many years to come.

In partnership and collaboration I am sure we will bring significant improvements to service delivery through this program and I pledge my full support in behind the fundraising effort.

Yours sincerely,

**HON. KASIGA KELLY NARU LLB, LLM, MP**  
GOVERNOR

# 7.2 NEWS ARTICLES

## 2015 - YEAR OF THE NEW SHIP!

The Right Hon. Sir Rabbie Namaliu GCL, CSM, KCMG  
YWAM Medical Ships Patron - PNG

wishes to sincerely thank all contributors to the  
**YWAM Medical Ships - InterOil Gala Event 21.11.14**

Funds raised assisted with purchase of the new Training and Medical Ship to be deployed in PNG in 2015

### MV YWAM PNG



#### Gratitude to the following special guests and contributors:

Guest of Honour, Hon. Charles Abel, Minister for National Planning

Mr. Chris Finlayson, Chairman, InterOil Corporation

Hon. Titus Philemon, Governor for Milne Bay Province

Hon. Ati Wobiro, Governor for Western Province

Hon. Kasiga Kelly Naru, Governor for Morobe Province

Hon. Kila Haoda, Governor for Central Province

Air Niugini	Kina Securities	National Petroleum Company PNG
Aputos	Kramer Ausenco	Office of the Speaker (National Parliament)
Bank of the South Pacific	Light of Hope	OilMin Holdings
Central Provincial Government	Milne Bay Provincial Government	Oil Search Foundation
Credit Corporation	Milne Bay Properties	PNG Ports Corporation
East New Britain Development Corp.	Morobe Provincial Government	Puma Energy
Gadens	Mineral Resource Development Company	PNG Power
Helifix	My Haus	Total E&P
Independent Public Business Corp. (subsidiaries noted)	National Department of Health	Water PNG
InterOil Corporation	Department of National Planning and Monitoring	Western Provincial Government

#### Acknowledgement also to

MC: 'Shaz' Rosemarie Botong, PNG FM

Auctioneer: Mr Jim Robbins

Donated auction items: Larry Santana, Jane Wena, Governor Naru, NRL Ltd

Overcoming the Impossible documentary: produced by Gone Adventurin', sponsored by InterOil, broadcast by EMTV

Steamships Trading Ltd - Foundational Platinum Sponsor of YWAM MSA







## Ship renamed MV YWAM PNG

Sally Pokiton Dec 8, 2014

The new Youth with a Mission medical ship *MV Ammari* has been renamed *MV YWAM PNG* following its purchase last week.

The ship has been renamed to reflect its new calling before its refit and deployment to PNG waters next year.

YWAM managing director Ken Mulligan, who was thrilled at the name change, says to take ownership of the ship on Thursday and rename it a day after reflects the nation it will serve and the contribution by PNG to see its purchase go ahead on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

“This puts the icing on the cake for us, it is very special indeed,” Mulligan says.

YWAM Medical Ships PNG patron Sir Rabbie Namaliu, in adding his praise to the ship’s name change, says it was more fitting as the National Government through the work of Planning Minister Charles Abel and Health sector-lead Minister Michael Malabag with our provincial governments had all shown strong leadership in helping this purchase become a reality.

“I am delighted to see this vessel now renamed *MV YWAM PNG*. Thanks to large parts of their contributions, PNG now has a new training and medical ship and the name reflects that,” Sir Rabbie says.

YWAM Medical Ships operates through a central agreement with the National Department of Health and also agreements with provincial governments and the Department of National Planning and Monitoring.

Western, Gulf, Central, Milne Bay, and Oro provinces have all benefitted from the health service it provides and next near this will extend to Morobe.

- See more at: <http://www.pngloop.com/2014/12/08/ship-renamed-mv-ywam-png/#sthash.xolakqXw.dpuf>

09/12/2014

## Medical ship gets special PNG touch

December 09, 2014, 02:24 am

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**IT was bought last Thursday by YWAM Medical Ships and has been renamed to reflect its new calling in Papua New Guinea waters next year.**

MV YWAM PNG is now being refitted in Australia.

YWAM Medical Ships managing director Ken Mulligan was thrilled with the name change.

"This puts the icing on the cake for us. To take ownership on Thursday and then, Friday, be able to re-name this vessel to reflect the nation that it will serve and that has contributed so much to see it go ahead, is very special indeed," he said in a statement yesterday

He particularly acknowledged the National Planning and Monitoring Department, under the leadership of Minister Charles Abel, who contributed K4 million toward the initial deposit on the vessel. A further K1.5 million from the State-Church Partnership Program had been pledged toward the ship.

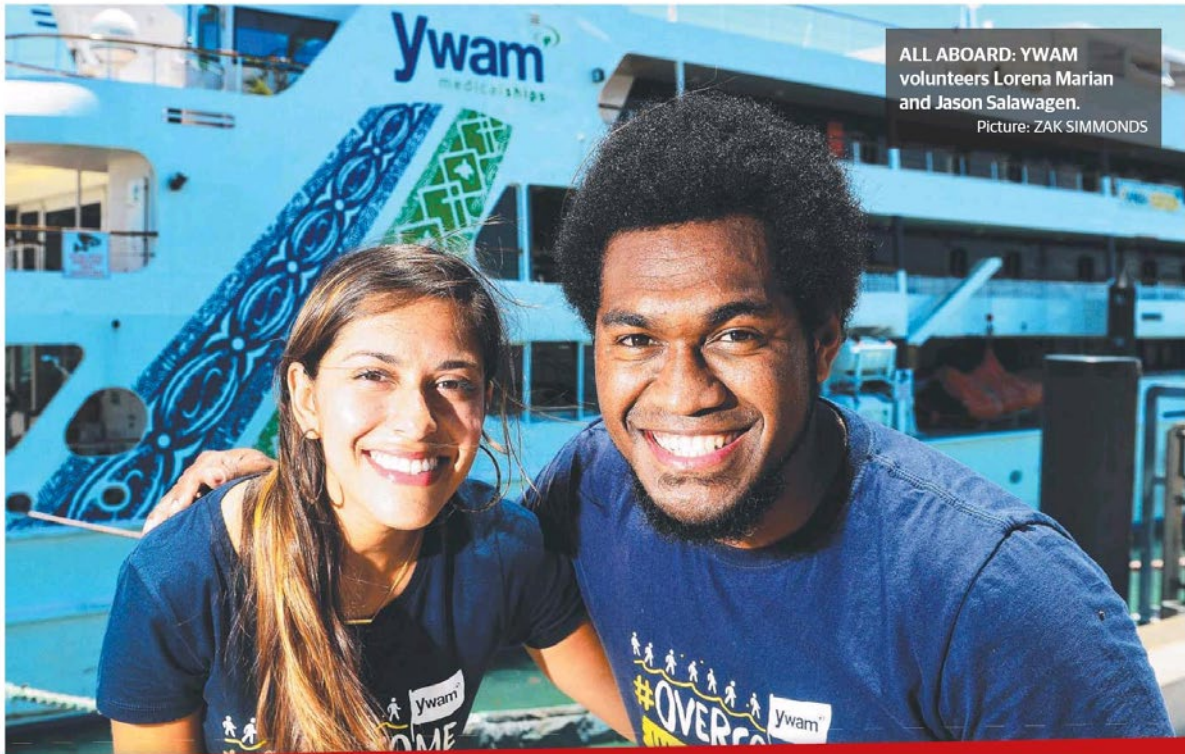
YWAM Medical Ship's PNG patron Sir Rabbie Namaliu is also pleased with the name change.

*"I am delighted to see this vessel now renamed MV YWAM PNG. It is most fitting as our National Government, through the work of Minister Abel and health sector-lead Minister Malabag and our provincial governments have all shown strong leadership in helping this purchase become a reality."*

*"Thanks in large part to their contributions, PNG now has a new training and medical ship and the name reflects that."*

09/12/2014





ALL ABOARD: YWAM volunteers Lorena Marian and Jason Salawagen.  
Picture: ZAK SIMMONDS

## MILLIONS LAUNCH MARITIME MISSION

### RACHEL AFFLICK

YWAM has finalised the purchase of its \$6.5 million training and medical ship, paving the way for a trailblazing voyage to Papua New Guinea next year.

The organisation received \$2.8 million in pledges and cash at a fundraising dinner in Port Moresby a fortnight ago for its Overcoming the Impossible fundraising campaign.

The 45m former Whitsunday cruise ship will undergo renovations early next year before making its maiden voyage as early as the first quarter of 2015.

YWAM public relations and media manager Anna Scott said the *MV Ammari* would be able to access more villages for longer periods and would increase YWAM's service capacity by more than 500 per cent.

It could accommodate 100 volunteers and was four times larger than their old vessel, former Japanese fishing boat the *MV Pacific Link*, she said.

The organisation has had the *MV Ammari* on a lease to buy since July, taking it to eight ports from Sydney to Cairns as part of a fundraising drive to pay for its purchase.

The vessel docked at its home base in Townsville's Marine Precinct in time for the

organisation officially take delivery of the ship at about 10am yesterday.

The refit will be conducted in stages and will include a dentistry clinic, operating theatre, outpatient facility and laboratory.

"We raised lot of funds from the Australian public but most of it came from PNG and a successful PNG fundraiser which raised \$2.8 million on the night," Ms Scott said.

05/12/2014



## We have overcome the impossible : YWAM

Sally Pokiton Dec 5, 2014

The Youth with a Mission (YWAM) medical team had much to celebrate about yesterday when it finalized the purchase of the new training and Medical Ship, the MV *Ammari*.

The new ship which they have been using on a lease arrangement after part payment replaces the retired MV *Pacific link* which had been operating in the southern region of Papua New Guinea since 2010.

MV *Ammari* will increase YWAM's service capacity by more than 500 percent accessing more villages for longer periods than the usual two weeks clinical outreach as it can carry more medical volunteers.

The new ship contains an operating theatre, a dental clinic, an outpatient medical and surgical clinic, a laboratory, lecture room, full optometry service capacity, more storage for medical supplies and more space to transport smaller boats which the medical teams can use to different locations at one time.

The vessel docked in Townsville's Marine Precinct yesterday morning visiting eight ports along the Australian coast including Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Gladstone, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Newcastle and Sydney. This journey is to raise public awareness and funds to complete its 'Overcoming the Impossible' campaign.

"We are delighted to announce the impossible has truly been overcome with this historic achievement to strengthen our relationship with our nearest neighbour," YWAM Medical Ship Australia's Managing Director Ken Mulligan said.

"There have been thousands of people that have contributed to the acquisition of the MV *Ammari* both in Australia and PNG and it has truly been a collaborative effort, we are so, so grateful for each and every person that has given to this cause," Mulligan said.

'Overcoming the Impossible' fundraising campaign kicked off in July this year with the goal of raising 6.5 million Australian dollars (K14.4 million).

The efforts were to purchase MV *Ammari*, recruit volunteers, collect medical supplies and equipment raise awareness about PNG's critical health concerns.

The biggest contribution was received in PNG two weeks ago at a fundraising dinner in Port Moresby where 2.8 million Australian dollar (K6.19 million) was received in pledges and cash from national and provincial governments, and corporate donors. YWAM MSA's PNG Patron and former PNG Prime Minister Sir Rabbie Namaliu said the acquisition of MV *Ammari* will help thousands of people in rural and remote areas to receive health care and training services. "I am immensely proud of our organization – its philosophy and its people. The impact of this work is immense as we have served to help bridge a critical gap in basic rural health services," Sir Rabbie said. The MV *Ammari* will commence renovations early next year before making its maiden voyage to PNG.

**05/12/2014**

- See more at: <http://www.pngloop.com/2014/12/05/overcome-impossible-ywam/#sthash.ANq3s4lQ.dpuf>



## DENTIST VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES ONBOARD YWAM TRAINING AND MEDICAL SHIP

The dental needs in Papua New Guinea (PNG) are extreme. There is just one dentist for every 100,000 people.

Since 2010, YWAM Medical Ships – Australia (YWAM MSA) has provided 180,680 health, training and community development services in PNG; including dentistry, primary health care, childhood immunisations, optometry, ophthalmology and education in association with key stakeholders and partners.

A YWAM MSA training and medical ship sails from Townsville to Papua New Guinea and has captured the imaginations and hearts of many over the past five years. YWAM MSA is actively developing communities by addressing the health care and training needs in PNG alongside the priorities of the PNG National Health Plan and Australian Aid's commitment to the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals.

One dentist, John Phillips from Ballina (NSW) has travelled to PNG to deliver essential dental services in remote communities. He has been on four outreaches with YWAM MSA and during his last outreach he completed 530 dental fillings and extractions.

Of his time with YWAM MSA, Phillips shares a memorable anecdote, "Near the end of the trip, one PNG woman, with good English skills who was helping us, asked me to look in her mouth. She had paddled down the creek for two days and brought everyone from her village to see us. All her teeth were snapped off at the gum and she told us that two months ago she had a toothache and didn't know which tooth the pain was coming from. She had snapped off her teeth one by one until she found the abscess so it could drain. By the time she saw me, there was pus dripping everywhere and we had to take out 17 of her teeth."



*Dr John Phillips on board YWAM Medical Ship Dental Clinic.*

The Ballina dentist often returns home feeling inspired from his adventures in PNG and would recommend the experience to anyone.

In 2015, YWAM Medical Ships – Australia (YWAM MSA) will be conducting four two-week outreaches and is now accepting applications for dentists, dental assistants, doctors, nurses, midwives, physiotherapists, optometrists, ophthalmologists, scrub nurses, orthoptists and general volunteers. YWAM MSA invites local and national Australian dentists to join the team.

To find out more information about volunteering, visit [www.ywamships.org.au](http://www.ywamships.org.au) or phone YWAM MSA's headquarters in Townsville on 07 4771 2123.

10 NOVEMBER 2014

05/11/2014

News & Announcements / BSP supports YWAM Fundraiser

### BSP supports YWAM Fundraiser

**Date: Thursday 20th November, 2014**

**Bank South Pacific (BSP) today donated K10, 000 as part of its contribution for the YWAM gala night to raise funds to purchase a new medical vessel replacing the aging 'Pacific Link' with the new MV 'Ammari'.**



YWAM General Manager of Community Development Dr Sarah Dunn when receiving BSP's sponsorship from the bank's Area Manager Southern Region Nuni Kulu thanked BSP for the support towards the event.

"We've received had goods response from the business houses in Port Moresby are grateful for the support from BSP to enable us to reach our target," she said.

"We're looking forward for Gala Night which should help us to reach our targets." Dr Dunn said.

Ms Nuni Kulu said that BSP was happy to assist because it saw the need to be proactive in YWAM's work to reach the isolated parts of the southern region.

"As PNG's leading bank BSP is proud to financially assist YWAM in its work to reach people in the isolated areas of the country," Ms Kulu said.

YWAM aims to raise \$5 million to purchase the vessel to deliver essential healthcare and training in coastal communities.

The new vessel will replace and increase current operations to overcome isolation and infrastructure challenges, reaching some of PNG's most remote, vulnerable communities.

*Picture: L-R Area Manager Southern Region Nuni Kulu and YWAM General Manager of Community Development Dr Sarah Dunn*

20/11/2014

YOUTH IN PRINT

YOUTH WITH A MISSION

# Youth adventures to Papua New Guinea



**SHANNON KING and LEVI-JESSE CARTLEDGE**  
Year 12, Annandale Christian College

ANNANDALE Christian College students Shannon King and Levi-Jesse Cartledge joined Youth With A Mission for the last outreach program of the year to Alotau in September. We spent two weeks overseas in rural parts of PNG, working alongside professionals to deliver much needed medical assistance to the local people. During the first week, the ship was docked at Alotau, capital of Milne Bay, before setting sail for Kiriwina Island then returning to Port Moresby, where the outreach ended.

Due to Papua New Guinea's proximity to the equator and high levels of sunlight, diminished eye health is a large problem in the country. A high percentage of the population suffers from cataracts, glaucoma and refractive errors. Levi was based with the optometry clinic, where they saw a total of 915 patients in just under two weeks; many of whom had extremely poor sight. One of the most heartwarming moments of his experience in the clinic was a visit from a five-year-old girl with a -12 prescription. The clinic had no glasses that would fit her, so one of the optometrists improvised and used a metal grinder on the ship to shape a larger pair of lenses down to a suitable size.

Oral hygiene and health is also a major issue in the country, primarily caused by a lack of toothbrushes and lack of awareness of the effects of chewing betel nut. Betel nut casings are almost as common in Papua New Guinea as cigarette stubs are in Australia. The two have similar effects on health such as mouth

and oesophagus cancers, respiratory complications and heart disease. Chewing betel nut also rots the teeth, causing cavities and decay. A total of 355 people passed through the dentistry clinic with chronic pain and cavities. The primary health clinic (PHC) also handed out toothbrushes in school areas and educated 7,000 people on oral hygiene.

The primary health care clinic, where I had the chance to work, went out to a number of different villages over the course of the outreach, educating people on oral hygiene, tuberculosis, measles, HIV, basic first aid and antenatal care (for both expectant mothers and local midwives). The clinic also helped to immunise over 400 school-aged children for measles, particularly in Kiriwina. The kids were so brave and waited patiently in line with little prompting for their shots. A total of 981 patients were seen by the PHC team, and over 5,000 preventative health resources given out to the locals.

Despite the stats, it doesn't really feel like we were able to do enough for the locals — the need for glasses, ophthalmologists, dentists and health care workers in the Milne Bay region alone is unbelievable and even with what we were able to do on this outreach, it was only a small dent in the needs of the population. This experience has made me want to go to university and gain the qualifications needed to go back as an adult and do more to improve local health. Levi says, "If my life depends on it, I'm going back. If my life doesn't depend on it, I'm going back."



Levi Cartledge hangs out with the kids in PNG.

25/11/2014

Date: December 5, 2014, 12:13pm News.com.au | Fox Sports | Tradelinked Cairns&PNG



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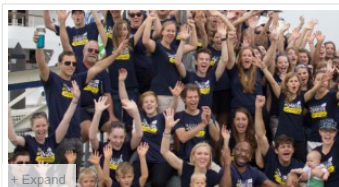
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## Medical ship mission complete

December 05, 2014, 02:09 am

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### Medical ship mission complete

**THE campaign by Youth With A Mission (YWAM) Medical Ships Australia to purchase a new and bigger medical ship for Papua New Guinea is complete and MV Ammari is now at berth in Townsville, Australia, preparing to leave for PNG in the new year.**

MV Ammari sailed into Townsville yesterday on the day YWAM MSA agreed in a contract several months ago to buy it and it did.

There was a lot of excitement from the YWAM staff who waited for it at the wharf.

The new vessel will replace the retired *MV Pacific Link*, which has been operating in Papua New Guinea since 2010, achieving over 249,000 health and training services including immunisations, maternal health services, dentistry procedures, optical and ophthalmic services and in-service training for rural health workers.

The *MV Ammari* will be able to access more villages for longer periods than the former vessel and will increase YWAM service capacity by more than 500 per cent. The vessel docked at Townsville's marine precinct yesterday morning after visiting eight ports along the Australian coast.

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- Board accepts offer



05/12/2014



## PNG aid ship's last mission

JOSH ALSTON

IT was the end of an era for Youth With a Mission on Saturday with humanitarian aid ship *MV Pacific Link* docking in Townsville for the last time.

The ship, which has been providing medical aid to Papua New Guinea since 2010, had completed a seven-month tour of the impoverished nation.

The ageing vessel will be sold to make way for YWAM's new medical ship, the *MV Ammari*.

"It has been just staggering the amount that we have done through this vessel," YWAM Medical Ships managing director Ken Mulligan said.

"Even this year we had 64 volunteers from the Townsville community go up and get involved."

The *MV Ammari* is in NSW as part of the Overcoming the Impossible tour, which aims to raise \$6.5 million for the refit of the ship.

YWAM still needs \$4.8 million by December 4 to secure the ship.



GETTING INVOLVED: YWAM's Netani Bolatolu and Hannah Peart in front of the *MV Pacific Link*.

Picture: EVAN MORGAN

13/10/2014

## Youth With A Mission ship, Ammari, in town prior to PNG visit

By MATTHEW KELLY  
Sept. 26, 2014, 10 p.m.



Managing director of Youth With A Mission Newcastle, David Stephenson at Queens Wharf Newcastle with the group's new ship *Ammari*. Picture Max Mason Hubers

AUSTRALIA'S newest medical ship *MV Ammari* will be in Newcastle for the next three weeks to raise awareness and funds to assist its work in Papua New Guinea.

The ship, chartered by Townsville-based non-profit organisation YWAM medical ships, is visiting east coast ports as part of its 'Overcoming the impossible tour'.

26/09/2014



YWAM's Ana Finau, Pelasio Vereakula, Orisi Naivalurua and Rozina Seru.

Picture: MIKE BATTERHAM

## Hope floats as medical ship docks

**LAURA NELSON**

[LAURA.NELSON@NEWS.COM.AU](mailto:LAURA.NELSON@NEWS.COM.AU)

LOCALS will have an opportunity to see how a medical ship operates when the *MV Ammari* opens its doors to the public today and tomorrow.

The massive mercy ship is paying a fleeting visit to the Gold Coast as part of its east coast tour from Cairns to Sydney. It has docked at Sanctuary Cove and will be open for tours between 10am and 4pm.

This will give Gold Coasters a chance to consider volunteering their time or money to the medical ship, which will bring lifesaving treatment and

hope to the desperately poor in Papua New Guinea.

The \$6.5 million *MV Ammari* is being chartered by Youth With A Mission Medical Ships - Australia (YWAM MSA), and is based at Townsville. YWAM has centres in more than 130 countries and has been operating as a missions organisation for more than 50 years. The former cruise is being refitted as a medical ship to sail up PNG rivers to reach the country's most remote, vulnerable communities next year. These have no roads, very few airstrips and limited infrastructure.

*MV Ammari* will replace

YWAM's current vessel *MV Pacific Link*, from which volunteers have already carried out an incredible 167,839 health, training and community training initiatives since 2010.

YWAM Townsville managing director Ken Mulligans said YWAM MSA had raised \$1.6 million towards the purchase of the ship and had set its sights on raising the remaining \$5 million in a few months.

The campaign, named *Overcoming the Impossible*, highlights the shocking health challenges of PNG.

Visit [ywamships.gofundraise.com.au](http://ywamships.gofundraise.com.au) or phone Anna Scott on 0439 367 198

17/09/2014





A Steamships Trading Company staff getting a free dental checkup aboard MV Pacific Link

Pictures: BAE KIMALI

# 'We want to live'

Everyone wants to live, a doctor tells  
**MAUREEN GERAWA.** No one understands this better than the staff of MV Pacific Link, a Youth With A Mission medical ship that serves the remote villages of Papua New Guinea.

"We want to live and that is the cry of the people in the communities," says Sarah Dunn, an internal and emergency medical specialist on MV Pacific Link that is bringing health services to remote villages in Papua New Guinea.

"We all want to live," she adds, as she led me and my colleague up the deck of Youth With A Mission (YWAM) medical ship that was docked at the Port Moresby harbour.

Originally from New Zealand, Dr Dunn joined the ship for a short-term of two weeks, but the needs she saw in villages in Papua New Guinea has kept her on MV Pacific Link to this day. She has now been on the ship for two-and-a-half years.

Her experiences are perhaps summed up well in an interview in a short documentary film, *Overcome Impossible*, produced by YWAM in a bid to buy a new and bigger ship.

"There is one thing to hear sta-

tistics, but it is one thing to see a child unconscious with malaria. It touched my heart," she said.

"I look at these strong babies struggling to fight off infections, and I see the cry 'I want to live'... All of us have this in common... we want to live."

YWAM's work, she says, is based on God's Word in John 10:10 which says: *"The thief comes in order to steal, kill, and destroy. I have come in order that you might have life - life in all its abundance."*

These are the words of the Lord Jesus Christ - the reason why Dr Dunn and a team of 35 volunteers are using their talents and time to take health services to villages and remote areas where services are not available to the people.

The 35 volunteers come from 14 to 15 nationalities, including Papua New Guinea. Among them are youth aged from 18-years-old and upwards who feel so blessed and have the passion to make a difference to the lives of the poor and

needy so that they too will live and enjoy life.

The film, *Overcome Impossible*, campaigns for a new and bigger ship which YWAM wants to use to take health services further than it did in the past, covering more provinces.

Apart from providing health services, the YWAM medical team on MV Pacific Link has been providing training to health workers and the new ship will continue that but in a bigger way.

It will become a central place for the training of Papua New Guinean health workers so they can be able to serve their own people better. This floating hospital will have a laboratory service as well.

Eighty per cent of Papua New Guineans live in rural areas where many health services are either not operating and if they are, people need to travel long distances to get there for help; often to find out that the health centre or aidpost does not have medical supplies.

The results are now widely known: one in five children in Papua New Guinea dies before five-years-old. Statistics from 2010 show 370 per 100,000 women die in child birth; and many people die from preventable diseases such as malaria and pneumonia.

Every year since 2010, Pacific Link has been going to Gulf and Western provinces where it brought medical, dental and opti-

cal services to people, majority of whom have never seen a doctor, a dentist and even a reading glass.

YWAM believes it is not impossible to take these services to the rest of the country's villages. In the two provinces, it not only brought medical services, but also upskilled health workers working in those areas, boosting their morale and giving them equipment to work with so that they were able to help the people they were meant to serve.

However, YWAM could not do it alone. Behind the YWAM's wonderful work were supporters like the Townsville business community in Australia and in PNG, there were business houses like the Curtin Brothers, Steamships, InterOil, Ok Tedi and PNG Sustainable Development Programme.

Dr Dunn, who is currently the ship's general manager for community development, says Pacific Link retires in December this year. But before it does, YWAM has been asked to take it to two provinces.

Two weeks ago, the ship sailed out of the Port Moresby harbour for Northern Province for the first time.

After Northern Province, the ship is scheduled to extend its services to parts of Milne Bay Province. Dr Dunn says the provincial governments in the southern region are supporting the ship's health programs.

Dr Dunn says YWAM plans to bring the new ship to Papua New Guinea in March next year, which will cost K15.4 million. The PNG Government through the National Planning Department has presented K4 million to YWAM to get a new ship.

The new ship is named MV Amari. Some of the people that have already given towards the cause are children and women both from Australia and Papua New Guinea.

The smiles and excitement that show on people who receive help from YWAM says it all.

One such person is Karara, who served with the Australian army during World War II. At 70, he was housebound when he lost his eyesight, but thanks to the work of YWAM he had a cataract surgery and a new lens was put in his eye and finally given a reading glass. He was really excited when he was able to read again and could have jumped out of his chair if he was a young man.

Steamships Trading Company has been supporting YWAM medical ships since 2011 and that morning we were on the ship, it presented a cheque of K400,000 to help ensure YWAM continues to provide its services to the people.

As a token of its appreciation, Steamships staff were given free healthcare on the day of our tour. The ship has a conference room, dental surgery and a room con-



## YWAM Medical Ship

### This months article

- + [YWAM MSA Overcoming the Impossible in 2014](#)

### Info about volunteering opportunities on YWAM MSA

[Click here](#) for the 2014-2015 roster

### Links & resources

- + [YWAM Website](#)
- + [YWAM News and Videos](#)
- + [Track the YWAM Ship here](#)

## YWAM MSA Overcoming the Impossible in 2014

By Caroline Holland CEO

I feel I must frequently remind myself just how lucky we are in this wonderful country of ours. Like many of us, I am guilty of taking our standards of living for granted on occasion.

I was recently invited to attend a fundraiser for the YWAM Medical Ship. The invitation arrived via email at the last minute and while I couldn't attend, I was moved by the youtube video that accompanied the invitation.

So much so, that I wanted to share it with the many medical and dental clients that we have. I know that many of you would agree this project is worth supporting.


YWAM Medical Ships - Australia (YWAM MSA) is actively developing remote communities in Papua New Guinea (PNG) by delivering essential healthcare and training in coastal communities.

PNG has the worst health status in the entire Pacific region; five women die during childbirth every day, someone dies from TB every two hours, 1 in 13 children die before the age of five and there is just dentist for every 100,000 people.

Since 2010, YWAM MSA has delivered 180,680 health, training and community development services in remote coastal communities - including dentistry services.

Two-week volunteering opportunities are available for dentists and dental assistants for the 2015 outreach season in PNG. View YWAM MSA's video, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5FV9AkCOY1o> or visit [www.ywamships.org.au](http://www.ywamships.org.au) for more information.



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15/09/2014



# Two weeks in PNG

LAST week, the new YWAM Training and Medical ship – the MV Ammari – left Townsville and sailed all the way up to Cairns to share knowledge about the health and training needs in PNG, recruit volunteers and fundraise. When the ship got there, the crew got to meet a whole bunch of amazing people.

One of the people the team met was fifteen-year-old Romany Elmas from Cairns, who went on YWAM MSA's other ship, the MV Pacific Link, for an outreach visit to Papua New Guinea earlier this year.

Instead of spending her school holidays watching movies or hanging out at the beach, Romany chose to spend two whole weeks in the Western Province of Papua New Guinea.

While she was there, Romany got to work with medical teams and help the doctors and nurses as new patients came in.

Romany was also able to visit villages and teach the local children about ways they can stay healthy because they live a long way from any doctor.

When Romany first arrived in Papua New

Guinea, she was really surprised about how different it was to Australia. She even met teenagers her own age who would travel for days in a canoe just to get to school!

After going to Papua New Guinea, Romany is so grateful for what she has in Australia and she is planning on going back to Papua New Guinea next year.

Can you imagine what it would be like if you didn't have a doctor near you? What would happen if you got a cold or you got sick? And imagine if you had to go to school in a canoe!



Romany Elmas meeting the locals at Bimaramio Community.

## Young Indigenous Print Makers

**Ebony Wilson,**  
Year 12, St Patrick's College.

RECENTLY a group of senior students at Saint Patrick's College had the pleasure and privilege to attend a Young Indigenous Printmakers workshop with artist, Gail Mabo. Mabo is an experienced printmaker who has exhibited around Australia and the world.


Year 12 student, Tiara Walsh, who attended the workshop, said that she learnt a lot about linocutting techniques and tools and that the experience was both challenging and enjoyable.

Ms Mabo also encouraged the students to further their ideas and search for meaningful content. There was an idea-generating and sketching session at the College, where the students learnt printmaking basics.

The group then attended a full day workshop at Umbrella Contemporary Arts Studio with master printmaker, Jo Lancaster and Indigenous artist, Tommy Pau. Here, the young artists produced a body of work and expanded their ideas and artistic creations. The students' work will be exhibited in the Stairwell Gallery at the Perc Tucker Gallery and then at the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair in July.



Internationally-acclaimed printmaker Gail Mabo begins a session with Year 11 and 12 young artists.



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16/09/2014

## Medical ship gets special PNG touch

December 09, 2014, 02:24 am

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**IT was bought last Thursday by YWAM Medical Ships and has been renamed to reflect its new calling in Papua New Guinea waters next year.**

*MV YWAM PNG* is now being refitted in Australia.

YWAM Medical Ships managing director Ken Mulligan was thrilled with the name change.

"This puts the icing on the cake for us. To take ownership on Thursday and then, Friday, be able to re-name this vessel to reflect the nation that it will serve and that has contributed so much to see it go ahead, is very special indeed," he said in a statement yesterday

He particularly acknowledged the National Planning and Monitoring Department, under the leadership of Minister Charles Abel, who contributed K4 million toward the initial deposit on the vessel. A further K1.5 million from the State-Church Partnership Program had been pledged toward the ship.

YWAM Medical Ship's PNG patron Sir Rabbie Namaliu is also pleased with the name change.

*"I am delighted to see this vessel now renamed MV YWAM PNG. It is most fitting as our National Government, through the work of Minister Abel and health sector-lead Minister Malabag and our provincial governments have all shown strong leadership in helping this purchase become a reality."*

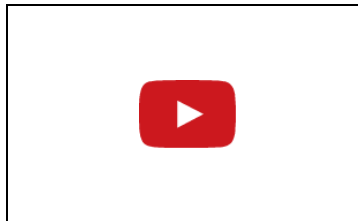
*"Thanks in large part to their contributions, PNG now has a new training and medical ship and the name reflects that."*

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12/09/2014



News  Business

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**HERALD** (A)  
 WEBSITE OF THE YEAR

## Visiting medical ship carries hope for thousands

By ASHLEIGH GLEESON  
 Sept. 15, 2014, 10 p.m.



A SHIP that will provide life-saving healthcare to thousands of people in Papua New Guinea is calling at Newcastle this month.

Novocastrians will be able to take free tours of the Youth with a Mission (YWAM) Medical Ship as it travels down the east coast in an attempt to raise awareness and funds.

YWAM's current vessel, the MV Pacific Link, has reached the end of its life and the organisation has a lease-to-buy contract for a new ship called MV Ammari. However, \$5million is needed by December.

**Need a career change?**

15/09/2014



**EYE-OPENER:** Stratford teen Romany Elmas, 15, had a life-changing experience when she volunteered with Youth With A Mission in Papua New Guinea earlier this year. Picture: STEWART McLEAN

## Inspired teen makes a difference

TWO-AND-A-HALF weeks as a volunteer has made a life-changing difference for Cairns teenager Romany Elmas.

The 15-year-old Cairns State High School student shocked her friends when she volunteered with Christian charity Youth With A Mission in Papua New Guinea's poverty-stricken western province this year.

"A lot of them were like 'Oh, it's so dangerous, I can't believe you're going'," Romany said.

Romany said the experience opened her eyes to real hardship in a place where education, hygiene and basic medical care were rare.

"Nothing compares to being there and seeing what it's actually like," she said.

"It makes you value what you have at home."

During her two-and-a-half weeks on board YWAM medical ship *MV Pacific Link*, Romany volunteered with the organisation's health team and community engagement team.

"A lot of kids my age don't have very good health and the nearest hospital is so far away," she said.

04/09/2014



## NEWS

# Ship ahoy! A lifesaver docks in Gladstone



Sherele Moody | 5th Sep 2014 5:00 AM



MEDICAL ship ahoy!

One of the country's significant healthcare vessels will sail into Gladstone today.

The MV Ammari will dock at the Gladstone marina for three days.

The community is invited aboard to meet the crew and tour the catamaran.

Operated by Youth With A Mission - Medical Ships Townsville, it will soon be the only medical ship providing health services in Papua New Guinea where 1 in 13 children die before the age of five and daily five women lose their life during childbirth.

The five-month YWAM Townsville's Overcoming the Impossible campaign is supported by the Gladstone Ports Corporation which is providing free wharfage for the MV Ammari.

The organisation is trying to raising \$5 million for the ship by December 4.

Managing director Ken Mulligan said the ship would spend 11 months a year in PNG from next year.

"When you meet these people and see how they live, and how much they long for hope, it really puts things in perspective," he said.

"One lady we saw travelled for two weeks in a dugout canoe with her husband and three small children.

"She was blind and desperate for help."

He said the team performed basic ophthalmic surgery onboard. As a result she saw her three children for the first time.

"When I hear stories like that, I just think - how can we not do this?" he said.

The MV Ammari will be open to the public at the marina tomorrow and on Sunday from 10am - 4pm.

05/09/2014

**YWAM FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST**



Andrea Posanes, Scott Vollmerhouse and Nadine Ziegenfusz.



Pierina Dalle Cort, Lynda Adams and Leanne Dalle Cort.



PNG's deputy secretary for the Department of Health, Dr Paison Dakulala and Oro Province Governor Gary Juffa.

# \$40k ship comes in

**JOSH ALSTON**

joshua.alston@news.com.au

MORE than \$40,000 has been raised, with the promise of plenty more to follow, at a fundraising breakfast for Youth With a Mission Townsville's medical ship.

About 340 people, including local business representatives, community figures and Papua New Guinean dignitaries, turned out for the breakfast, which aims to help raise money towards the \$6.5 million refit of the MV *Ammari* as part of the Overcoming the Impossible campaign.

When complete, the former cruise liner will take over from YWAM's MV *Pacific Link* and provide vital health services to much greater areas of PNG. "It's just so wonderful to see so many of our business, so much of our community in Townsville have really strengthened what is happening between Townsville and Papua New Guinea," YWAM medical ships Australia managing director Ken Mulligan said.

The new ship will visit four more provinces in PNG, including Oro, which the governor of that province, Gary



CHARITY WINDFALL: Pelasio Verakula and Netani Bolatolu at yesterday's breakfast.

Pictures: EVAN MORGAN

Juffa, said would be graciously received.

"Any additional help we can get, we welcome," he said. "We're about saving lives."

PNG National Department of Health deputy secretary Dr

Paison Dakulala thanked the huge crowd for coming on-board the campaign.

"What we see here is amazing," he said.

"Full house, full tables, it's amazing and overwhelming to

see great support and that's what's needed."

And Herbert MP Ewen Jones echoed his praise.

"What a city," he said. "I think Townsville, when it comes to support, when they

see quality, when they see value, people come out."

The YWAM ship will be on show on Sandspit Drive, South Townsville, for the next two weekends. Donate there or at ywamships.org.au.

**TOMORROW IN SundayMail**

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09/08/2014

# It's stone-age dentistry

## Local practice in bid to help PNG's poorest

**JOSH ALSTON**

joshua.alston@news.com.au

SOME Papua New Guineans are so desperate for relief from dental pain they try to remove their own teeth with sticks and stones.

But thanks to Townsville dentist Daryl Holmes, that pain may be coming to an end.

Dr Holmes, the founder of 1300SMILES Dentists, has

pledged to donate 5 per cent of all \$1/Day Giving Back Dental Plans taken up by Townsville residents towards YWAM's health and training programs in Papua New Guinea.

YWAM Townsville is currently servicing PNG with the MV *Pacific Link* and is working towards raising \$6.5 million to get former cruise liner MV *Ammari* ready for humanitarian missions to the region.

Dr Holmes said he had not set a time frame on the donations and said it was part of 1300SMILES ongoing support of YWAM.

"We have no time frame in mind," he said.

"We hope that it's forever, we plan it to be."

Dr Holmes has been a staunch supporter of YWAM for five years, regularly supplying dentists and nurses to

serve on the medical ship in PNG.

There, at the coalface, he said the need for dental care was immediately apparent.

"There's one dentist to 100,000 people up in PNG, the access to care is almost nil except for in a couple of major cities," he said.

"They're in such desperate need of care, in pain with toothaches for months and

years on end, they will do anything.

"Putting in a stick into their mouth to remove their own tooth or infection or just trying to drain ... an abscess.

"That's how desperate they are."

1300SMILES clinical trainer Megan Pizzoni recently returned from an aid mission with the YWAM medical ship MV *Pacific Link* in PNG.

"It's very different compared to Australia," she said.

"It's very challenging to provide health care on a boat." YWAM Townsville spokeswoman Anna Scott said the organisation was humbled by Dr Holmes' support.

"It's an amazing initiative and a great support," she said.

The initiative will be launched at a free Family Open Day at YWAM's MV *Ammari*, docked on Sandspit Dr, South Townsville, beside Rosshaven Marine tomorrow from 10-4pm.

15/08/2014





## 42. KEN MULLIGAN

▲ new

The Youth With a Mission ships that visit Papua New Guinea armed with medical supplies, doctors and nurses are one of the greatest humanitarian services run out of Townsville. And Ken Mulligan is the man steering the ship. Mr Mulligan is the general manager of YWAM's medical ships, the MV *Pacific Link*, currently serving in PNG, and the MV *Ammari*, which should set sail next year. The *Pacific Link* provides care we take for granted for the majority poor spread throughout PNG's many provinces. Wounds are healed, teeth are extracted, lives are changed. Now Mr Mulligan is helping raise the mast on the new ship. He has the unenviable task of leading the push to raise \$6.5 million before December. With Mr Mulligan rattling the tins, over \$1.5 million has already been raised.



30/08/2014



PRECIOUS CARGO: St Anthony's Catholic College students May Baxter, 12, Madison Crase, 11, James Rowan, 11 and Ionnis Theodosiou, 11 helped donate 50 cartons of toiletries to YWAM Townsville.

## Huge hearts fill boxes for PNG care ship

JOSH ALSTON

THERE is nothing shortsighted about St Anthony's Catholic College's support of Youth With a Mission.

But their donations will help plenty of Papua New Guinean residents who are.

A staggering 50 cartons of reading glasses, toothpaste, toothbrushes, face washers and soap has been donated by the Deeragun school — the college's biggest contribution in three years of giving.

St Anthony's Catholic College Chaplain Geoff Geaney said the supplies would be used as part of YWAM Townsville's medical ship humanitarian aid to PNG.

"Many of these people living in the remote villages just don't have these things," Mr Geaney said.

"We heard a story recently of a 17-year-old boy who had never used a toothbrush."

YWAM Townsville is aiming to raise \$6.5 million for its new medical ship the MV *Ammari*, which will depart Townsville on

Monday after five weeks docked beside Rosshaven Marine in South Townsville.

"We've had a wonderful visit to Townsville — 71 local businesses, schools, service clubs and churches have contributed in some way or another," YWAM Medical Ships managing director Ken Mulligan said.

"It is great to see such strong support."

The MV *Ammari* will be available to tour from 10am-4pm on Saturday and 1-4pm on Sunday on Sandspit Drive.

22/08/2014



## Focus on Pacific Ties

Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senator the Hon Brett Mason visited Townsville recently.

Ewen and Senator Mason met with a number of Townsville organisations with links to the Pacific. They toured the Youth With a Mission's (YWAM) medical ship and met with various stakeholders at James Cook University. Senator Mason was able to hear firsthand about the work YWAM undertakes to deliver primary health services to rural and remote communities in Papua New Guinea, where Government reach is limited. This compliments the Australian Government's efforts to support the PNG health system.

Ewen believes the internationalisation of Townsville is of paramount importance and having Senator Mason visit the city and see for himself how we're developing links with our Pacific neighbours, will only be beneficial to that relationship in the long term.

Ewen's goal is to make Townsville the Australian hub for the Melanesian world. If you draw a right angle triangle using Townsville as its axis, you have Papua New Guinea to the north and Fiji to the east. This arc is where our aid is spent and where our relations are tested.

05/08/2014





CRUCIAL WORK: Peter Tapiolas (front) with Grace Fave and Dexter Bird beside YWAM's MV *Ammari*.  
Picture: EVAN MORGAN

## FLOATING A RESCUE MISSION

### JOSH ALSTON

**YOUTH** With a Mission Townsville is hoping for a boatload of support tomorrow, all in the name of helping those less fortunate.

The group's medical ship MV *Ammari* will be opened up for a fundraising breakfast to help fund a refit to convert it from cruise liner to lifesaver.

The ship will be used to provide vital medical support

to Papua New Guinea but \$5 million is still needed.

Tables of eight cost \$800 each, with every cent going towards the Overcoming the Impossible campaign to get the ship ready to save lives.

"Because Townsville is the ship's home port, this is also a chance to say thank you to a number of our supporters as well," YWAM spokeswoman Anna Scott said.

"A lot of people have been

on the journey with us since we were operating with the (previous ship) MV *Pacific Link*.

A number of PNG dignitaries will also be present for the breakfast.

Tickets are available from the YWAM base at 215 Walker St.

The ship is berthed at the Port of Townsville cruise terminal, located on Lennon Drive, beside Rosshaven Marine.

07/08/2014



## LOCAL NEWS

# Partnership to restore sight

SIGHT is being restored and professional skills strengthened in Port Moresby this week as YWAM Medical Ships and Port Moresby General Hospital ophthalmology (eye surgery) teams collaborate to serve patients with serious eye disease.

A team of volunteer doctors and nurses from YWAM Medical Ships is partnering with the ophthalmology unit at Port Moresby General Hospital (PMGH) as part of a growing relationship between the two organizations.

Local Ophthalmologist and Chair of the PNG National Prevention of Blindness Committee, Dr. Jambi Garap said the partnership has been beneficial on multiple levels.

"I am really proud of the effort of our team day in day out here at PMGH, as having this partnership with YWAM adds another level of support," Dr Garap said.

"We are really enjoying working together - it's particularly beneficial to our young doctors."

Midway through the week, the combined PMGH and YWAM teams had already provided 19 seriously vision-impaired patients with sight-restoring cataract surgery including



PMGH and YWAM teams working together on eye care.

18-year old patient, Siosi who had cataracts as a result of diabetes.

"Siosi has not been able to attend school and is now looking forward to going back - he had big smiles today!" said YWAM MSA's Community Development Manager, Dr. Sarah Dunn.

Since 2010, YWAM teams have been performing eye surgeries at

rural locations in Gulf and Western, supported by their Training and Medical Ship.

Coinciding with the National Health Week they focused on collaborating with PNG health professionals in the nation's capital.

"It is a privilege to be partnering with these very committed Papua New Guinean eye specialists," Dr

Dunn said.

"There is a real strength in collaboration and peer support and we are seeing the fruit of that even in these first few days of operating side by side," she said.

YWAM Medical Ships won an international Excellence in Ophthalmology Innovation Award (XOVA) in 2013 and prize funds

have been used to purchase special microscope equipment that allows colleagues to observe a surgeon at work, to better learn or provide close peer support.

The new equipment is a big step toward assisting with training opportunities. Dr. Dunn also acknowledged that YWAM is very fortunate to have supportive donors such as Alcon that help provide many of the articles needed for surgery.

"Along with our committed professional volunteers, this means a life-changing but expensive surgery becomes possible."

This week's project marks a significant extension to YWAM Medical Ships work in Papua New Guinea in the area of eye health; however, the organisation's proposed new Training and Medical Ship, MV Amari, will increase these opportunities many times over.

YWAM acknowledges its gratitude for the ongoing support of the PNG Department of Health, the National Capital District, Western, Gulf, Oro, Milne Bay, and Central provincial governments, InterOil, Steamships Trading Company, PNG Ports Corporation and Curtan Bros



## PORT MORESBY GENERAL HOSPITAL

### Nurses & Midwives Required

Long Term Career Opportunities at Port Moresby General Hospital

Port Moresby General Hospital are still interested in recruiting Nurses and Midwives for long-term rewarding careers in the Health Sector. The Hospital has gone through, and is continuing to go through, major changes with ward refurbishments and re-equipping of the facility. It is the major referral Hospital in Papua New Guinea as well being a Teaching and Level 7 hospital. Port Moresby General Hospital is the largest Health entity in the country. If you are interested in pursuing long term career options at Port Moresby Hospital to be successful you will need to have the following attributes:

#### Requirements for the Nurse will include:

- Registration with the Nursing Council of Papua New Guinea.
- Sound Knowledge of General Practice Nursing Standards.
- Excellent Communication Skills (Written/Oral).

#### Requirements for the Midwife will be:

- Registration with the Nursing Council of Papua New Guinea.
- Attendance of a midwifery program.

Port Moresby General Hospital offers competitive salary and accommodation is available for single nurses. Entitlements vary dependent on the level of experience of the applicant as well as a professional working environment and culture in rewarding and challenging work positions. Team work is of vital importance. Successful applicants will gain experience in a broad range of clinical settings and education and training opportunities are available in specialty areas. The hospital also offers flexible work and leave arrangements and opportunities for career advancement. The successful candidates will be making a contribution to the development of the health of the nation in PNG's largest health entity. If you have the right skills and experience for either of these roles please submit a resume to [kenneth\\_wangoro@pomgen.gov.pg](mailto:kenneth_wangoro@pomgen.gov.pg).

## YWAM ship replacement hangs in balance

By MATTHEW VARI

AFTER administering 180,000 health services, training 581 local health workers in 594 villages, touching ten of thousand in the provinces of Gulf and Western - the MV Pacific Link will now take its final missions through other provinces in the southern region as the countdown to her retirement nears.

Known famously as the face of the YWAM (Youth With A Mission) outreach program throughout the Southern Region - the 38 year old former fishing boat is hoped to be replaced by a new twin hulled catamaran ship.

With an outstanding target of K11.4 million to secure the new vessel and a deadline on December 4 edging closer, the YWAM are currently touring the east coast of Australia to provide awareness on their humanitarian work in Papua New Guinea, calling for support to secure the new vessel.

Hosting a tour on the ship for the media last week - Community Development General Manager Dr Sarah Dunn pointed out that the new ship would enable the missions to increase its operations by 500 percent, and 1.3 million people in the country's Southern Region.

"The new ship is more modern, with its main benefits such as its bigger size, and not only is it bigger but we will also be able to fit it out with an operating theatre, training rooms to enable rural health workers get in-service training because most times they go on without new training," Dr Dunn said.

"New ship will help us reach further up rivers and more provinces, increase volunteers and increase mission work by almost 500 percent, which means 1.3 million people, almost a quarter of the nation will have access to immunization and health training. "We have served many thousands

over the two years we have worked in both provinces with a total of 180,000 services provided - ranging from immunization, mother health from antenatal care, mosquito net distribution, eye glasses, dental care, cataract surgery, eye surgery, and also helping with getting alongside and training local health workers.

"The ship has been used by YWAM since 2010. It is 35 years old and getting a bit old but is still doing a reasonable job."

Dr Dunn made special mention of the support received from the national government through the Department of National Planning with K4 million, which had gone into the initial deposit to secure the new ship.

She said of raising funds to reach their target, adding that talks are currently underway with state and corporate entities both in Australia and in PNG.

"We really have a tight deadline of the 4th of December unfortunately, and the company has give us six months, from July to December, to purchase the ship, and we are giving it a good shot to overcome the impossible," she said.

"We are a Christian interdenominational organization and we are very much encouraged by the sense that Jesus told us to come to bring life not death John 10:10 - that is our slogan that 'I want to live' that through Christ all things are possible."

With over 50 volunteers from 12 different countries - the organization takes pride in its mission to bring healthcare to rural Papua New Guineans who need it the most.

She added that once purchased, the vessel would be serve the people of PNG in partnership with the national government's aim to bring medical care to all Papua New Guineans.



### Police chase leads as Show tyres slashed

POLICE are hoping information from the public will lead to the arrest of the monster truck tyre slasher.

A \$1000 reward was offered by Townsville Show Society general manager Chris Condon but police are asking the public to come to them with any information so the person responsible could be charged.

The reward follows eight cars having their tyres slashed while parked at Townsville Showgrounds on Saturday night.

Townsville officer-in-charge Senior Sergeant Adam Muir said police were still searching for the culprit.

"We don't know the reasons behind it as yet. We're still investigating those issues and hopefully we'll come to a result very shortly," he said.

"We understand someone has put up a reward of \$1000. We are investigating the matter so we'd like members of the public, if they have any information to call Crime Stoppers.

"It (reward) can help by providing an incentive however ... if they think they are just going to get their hands on the money by providing useless information, that doesn't help."

Sen-Sgt Muir said the culprit could face up to seven years in prison.

"We'll be looking at charges of damaging property," he said.

Anyone with information should call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

## MP ON BOARD WITH SHIP'S FUNDRAISER

JOSH ALSTON

YOUTH With a Mission's new medical ship could be set for a major windfall with Herbert MP Ewen Jones to push for the same funding its predecessor received in 2013.

YWAM has purchased a de-commissioned \$65 million Fantasea cruise liner which will be transformed into the MV *Ammari* medical ship to provide much needed care to people in Papua New Guinea.

The previous medical ship, the MV *Pacific Link*, had received \$415,000 in federal funding, which expires in September. Mr Jones said he would push for the new ship to receive the same boost.

"I will be pushing very, very hard to not only get this funding but to make sure we play a major role in facilitating this ship," he said.

The project is part of YWAM's Overcoming the Impossible campaign, which aims to raise the money by December to get the boat on the water to assist PNG people next year.

YWAM medical ships Australia managing director Ken Mulligan said: "It's just a wonderful opportunity to get the community involved."

The ship will be available to tour 10am-4pm on Saturdays and 1-4pm on Sundays for the next month at its berth beside Rosshaven Marine on Sandspit Drive, South Townsville.



OFFICIAL WELCOME: YWAM medical ships Australia managing director Ken Mulligan meets Mayor Jenny Hill.

Picture: MEGAN TAYLOR

24/07/2014

YOUTH IN PRINT

YOUTH WITH A MISSION

# A new medical ship is coming soon



New YWAM medical ship

CAN you imagine jumping in a canoe to go to school every day instead of a car or a school bus? Sounds like fun doesn't it? You could have a canoe race with your friends... maybe even do some fishing along the way! But what if the water is rough and you fall out? What if there's a medical emergency but the nearest hospital is too far away to paddle to?

YWAM Medical Ships visits villages in Papua New Guinea that can only be reached via water. The villages have no roads, very few airstrips and definitely no big trucks to bring food, medication and other supplies. For many places YWAM visits, it is the first time they have ever seen a dentist, had their eyes checked or had a lifesaving immunisation.

YWAM is in the process of designing a medical refit for a

new medical ship for Papua New Guinea. The new ship is much bigger than their current one, enabling YWAM to reach many more people that are isolated and don't have access to healthcare. The new ship will have a dental clinic, a laboratory, a surgical facility and lots of room to store and deliver much-needed supplies. There's also room for up to 100 medical and marine volunteers!

YWAM's new Training and Medical Ship will be in Townsville July 19 - August 24! The ship will be open for free tours every weekend, 10-4pm on Saturdays and 1-4pm on Sundays at the Marine Precinct at Townsville's port.

Come and visit the ship with your family and friends and learn more about Papua New Guinea!



Kids in PNG often travel in canoes.



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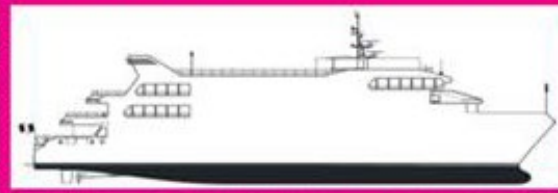
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**If you could design your own medical ship, what would you put in it?  
 Draw it on the ship below.**



22/07/2014



# MISSION TO RAISE A MOTZA

IT will operate close to all year round and provide much-needed health care to twice as many Papua New Guinea residents as the previous vessel.

And Youth With a Mission's (YWAM) new medical ship the *MV Ammari* will arrive in Townsville today for a five-week stay as part of the Overcoming the Impossible tour.

YWAM are currently fundraising to deck the vessel out with \$5 million of medical equipment including an operating theatre, dental clinic, outpatient clinic, laboratory, optometry services, storage for supplies, a lecture room and four smaller boats to transport teams.

A breakfast fundraiser will be held tomorrow at the Cruise Ship terminal.



**GOOD WORK:** YWAM volunteers aboard the *MV Ammari* provide medical assistance to locals in PNG.

18/07/2014



# Ship shaping healthy goal

STEPHANIE BEDO  
HEALTH

A \$6.5 million cruise ship turned medical vessel is in town to encourage Gold Coasters to overcome the impossible.

The Youth With A Mission ship, the MV *Ammari*, which docked at Marina Mirage yesterday on its tour of Australia's east coast, will travel to Papua New Guinea next year to provide essential healthcare to hundreds of communities.

The volunteer organisation needs to raise \$5 million during the next six months to make up the purchase price of the vessel and is using the voyage up the coast to raise the profile of its Overcoming the Impossible campaign which highlights the medical hardships Papua New Guineans face.

The country has the worst health status of the Pacific region: five women die during childbirth every day, someone



The YWAM medical ship MV *Ammari* at Marina Mirage.

dies from tuberculosis every two hours and there is only one dentist for every 100,000 people.

"The health statistics in Papua New Guinea are shocking," the managing director of Youth With A Mission, Ken Mulligan, said.

"It's so important we don't forget our neighbours."

Registered nurse and YWAM volunteer Hannah Peart will sleep on the floor every night for the next five months to help raise money for

the campaign and encouraged others to help.

"The people in Papua New Guinea overcome almost impossible odds to survive," Ms Peart said.

"People can choose to go without something or do something crazy to overcome the impossible."

The group is looking for medical volunteers and recruits to take with them next year.

Find out more at [ywam-ships.gofundraise.com.au](http://ywam-ships.gofundraise.com.au)



Registered nurse and Youth With A Mission volunteer Hannah Peart with YWAM Island Breeze Townsville dance troupe member Pelasio Vereakula aboard the *Ammari* during its stopover at the Gold Coast to raise funds and awareness.

Picture: MIKE BATTERHAM

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## Local News

### Floating hospital to visit

Dominick Czakilew  
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AFTER simple eye surgery, one mother was able to see her children for the first time in her life.

This is only one of the miracle stories from a Youth With A Mission (Ywam) medical ship. The non-for profit organisation has a new ship, the MV *Ammari*.

Mackay residents might recognise the vessel.

She operated as a Fantasea cruise ship in the Whitsundays before being sold to act as a medical ship to address Papua New Guinea's (PNG) health challenges. She will visit Mackay in early September to raise funds and awareness for her mission.

Ywam's Australian patron Mike Reynolds said Australia had a great deal to give.

"Our medical system is ranked second best in terms of the Human Development Index," he said.

"PNG is ranked 156th followed by Zimbabwe and Afghanistan."

Medical volunteers aboard the vessel provide free dental,



GOOD CAUSE: A dentistry clinic onboard one of Ywam's medical ships. RIGHT: Ywam's Australian patron Mike Reynolds with a picture of the former Fantasea cruise vessel.

PHOTOS: CONTRIBUTED/PETER HOLT

immunisation and other health services to some of the most remote communities of PNG. Mr Reynolds said one family travelled two weeks by boat to reach the Ywam ship.

"We were able to give the

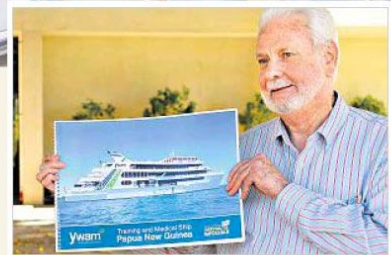
mother, who was blind in both eyes, her sight back. She saw for the first time in 10 years," he said.

"In another incident, a PNG woman's baby wasn't breathing after birth. A midwife per-

formed simple resuscitation and the baby's life was saved."

The ship will be open for public inspection in Mackay on September 3-4.

For more information visit [ywamships.org.au](http://ywamships.org.au).



14/07/2014



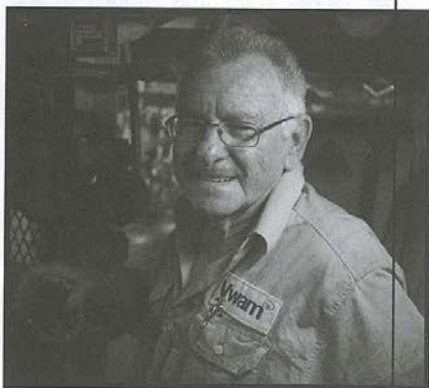


# YWAM Medical Ships Australia - volunteers required

FOR the past three years (since 2011), AIMPE member Ian Murray, a chief engineer from Agnes Water, Queensland, worked as a volunteer aboard the *MV Pacific Link* with YWAM Medical Ships Australia (MSA).

Since 2010, the *MV Pacific Link*—a 35-year-old, 662kw, training and medical ship—has been making the journey from Townsville to remote areas of Papua New Guinea, where it deploys medical teams to deliver critical healthcare and education to the PNG people.

While initially reluctant to sign on as an engineer, it was the “desperate



needs of the PNG people” that finally swayed Ian.

“The people are so appreciative of the ship’s service,” he said. “They’ve got no other alternative. They either get this medical treatment, or they don’t get any.”

To date, the *MV Pacific Link* has enabled the MSA team to achieve 167,839 health, training and community development outputs.

While on board the *MV Pacific Link*, Ian worked as the ship’s chief engineer, and a normal day would usually consist of routine machinery check-ups, keeping fresh water supplied for the ship’s 50 volunteers,

and assisting with shifting the ship from village to village in the vast river from July until December.



YWAM MSA are now seeking YWAM’s new vessel *mv Ammari*. Below, volunteer Chief Engineer Ian Murray, AIMPE member

regions at all hours of the day and night. Ian also assisted with drydock and major maintenance periods.

His role would also take him onshore.

One of these occasions, Ian was involved in investigating a faulty solar power system in a village healthcare centre. Without needing to go on the roof, Ian located the problem: the batteries used to store the solar power were completely stripped of water. Filling up the batteries from the ship’s water supply quickly returned power for the local medical team, an outcome lasting long after the ship departed.

“You have medical personnel in PNG to deliver vital healthcare, and if their equipment isn’t working, there’s not much they can do,” he said.

At the end of October, YWAM MSA will retire the *MV Pacific Link* and replace it with the *MV Ammari*—a 60m aluminum catamaran with 2 x 788kw engines. The new vessel will enable YWAM Medical Ships Australia to increase their medical services by over 500 per cent.

In order to raise the much-needed funds for the purchase of *MV Ammari* and subsequent refit with medical facilities, YWAM MSA will conduct a public awareness tour along the East Coast of Australia

volunteer engineers to assist with the tour and the ongoing operations of *MV Ammari*.

When asked whether Ian’s time as an engineer on the YWAM Medical Ship was worthwhile, his answer is undeniable.

“After coming away from that first trip, there was no way I would ever resign,” he said. “It was the most rewarding job I ever had in my maritime life.”

For more information on volunteering opportunities with YWAM MSA, please contact their headquarters in Townsville, (07) 4771 2123, [info@ywamships.org.au](mailto:info@ywamships.org.au) [www.ywamships.org.au](http://www.ywamships.org.au)

#### Pacific Link:

37m LOA, 7.3m beam, 282GT  
Built 1979  
Personnel Capacity: 50  
Main Engine: Original Daihatsu – 662kw  
Generators: 1 x Yanmar, 1 x Perkins, and 1 x Olympian  
Reverse Osmosis Water Maker: 9,000 litres per day

#### Ammari:

60m LOA, 15m beam, 1520 GT  
Built 1999  
Personnel Capacity: up to 150  
Main Engines: 2 x MTU 12v 2000 M70 – 788kw each  
Generators: 2 x MTU 6R183 TE52  
Reverse Osmosis Water Maker: 28,000 litres per day



not for one but for all

On Watch July 2014 page 11

17/07/2014



# YWAM MEDICAL SHIPS AUSTRALIA



YWAM's forthcoming new medical and training ship 'Ammari'

## Medical ship charity leases new vessel

YWAM Medical Ships Australia (YWAM MSA), the Australia-based medical and training ship branch of the global Youth with a Mission charitable movement, is currently engaged in actively developing communities in Papua New Guinea (PNG) from its vessel 'Pacific Link'.

Present in the Pacific region since 1991, YWAM operates the 'Pacific Link' out of the Port of Townsville, having done so since 2010. Backed by organisations such as the Papua New Guinea Department of Health, PNG-based shipping company Steamships, PNG oil and gas operator InterOil, and the Port of Townsville, the charity is developing communities by addressing healthcare and training needs in PNG alongside the priorities and vision of the PNG National Health Plan, PNG National Department of Education, and AusAID's commitment to the UN's Millennium Development Goals.

### Volunteer testimonial

"This is my second trip to Western Province on the 'Pacific Link'," explained Madeleinie Habib, a Master Mariner who has worked with P&O Maritime Services since 2006.

"The converted Japanese long-liner has been operating in PNG for five years visiting remote villages in the provinces on PNG's south coast. These incredible river delta systems are a spider-web of uncharted waterways. Few vessels navigate in the area and communities rarely receive medical services.

"We carry survey equipment, which we mount in a Zodiac RIB to survey each river before we proceed. Often the transits are timed to take advantage of the high tides – although calculating the time and rate of tides in the deltas is a complicated matter. Here in Bamu River, we also experience bore tides, which travel upstream as standing waves and can change the depth of water by half a metre."



The new ship will replace the ageing converted Japanese longliner 'Pacific Link'

### New medical ship almost on the way

In mid-2014, YWAM MSA announced the signing of a lease to buy agreement for the MV 'Ammari' for \$1.0 million.

The goal is to raise the balance of \$5.5 million for the 'Ammari', which would operate as YWAM MSA's new training and medical ship for PNG.

The vessel will replace the 34-year-old 'Pacific Link', which is due to retire at the end of 2014, achieving 167,839 health, training and community development outputs to date.

The purchase of the vessel has the support of the PNG Department of Health, the Provincial Governments of the Southern Region and the PNG Department of Planning and Monitoring, which contributed \$1.5 million towards a new vessel in October last year.

"The MV 'Ammari' will enable us to expand our capacity in helping to reach the poor and the isolated through overcoming inhospitable terrain, significant infrastructure challenges and the extreme remoteness of many PNG communities that are only accessible by water," commented YWAM MSA managing director Ken Mulligan.

"The vessel will enable YWAM MSA to increase its annual engagement with individuals due to its capacity to operate all year round. It would operate as a mother ship, with patrol tenders launched from the vessel into remote coastal communities. These tenders would carry teams of health professionals to help build capacity in rural health workers and individuals in the areas of primary health care, dentistry, optometry and ophthalmology for up to one week at a time."

The aluminium catamaran has a shallow draught, capacity to accommodate up to 100 people, and a versatile layout for the fit out of an operating theatre, dental clinic, outpatient medical/surgical clinic facility, laboratory and lecture room.

From July to December, YWAM MSA will conduct a public awareness tour with the vessel, with the aim of raising much-needed finances for the balance on the capital purchase price and the medical re-fit. The organisation also needs volunteer deck officers and marine engineers for its PNG outreaches.



For further information contact:  
YWAM Medical Ships Australia, Queensland.  
Email: [info@ywamships.org](mailto:info@ywamships.org)  
Web: [www.ywamships.org](http://www.ywamships.org)





## Ship bound for Milne Bay

July 11, 2014, 02:23 am

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### Ship bound for Milne Bay

**MILNE Bay is set to be the next province in the Southern region to prepare for the arrival of the Youth With A Mission medical ship in September.**

This was made possible with the signing of an agreement between the Milne Bay Provincial Health Authority and Youth with a Mission Medical Ship Australia for the arrival of a new training and medical ship in Milne Bay.

The arrival of the new training and medical ship will provide basic health care services to people living in remote areas and at the same time ease some of the problems faced by the

rural population in terms of receiving adequate health services in the province.

Governor for Milne Bay Titus Philemon said as a maritime province, he believes that the new training and medical ship will go a long way to help, support strengthen and improve the delivery of basic services in health, education and other most needed areas in Milne Bay Province.

The ship known as MV Ammari will act as a mother ship to deploy mobile clinical teams to provide essential health care services to villagers for a week before moving to a new location.

The features of the new ship includes dental clinic, medical laboratory, operating theatre, outpatient or surgical clinic facility, lecture room.

YWAM will engage full time volunteers to provide services such as immunization, ophthalmology, dentistry and primary health care services.

Managing firector for YWAM medical dhips Ken Mulligan stated that , there are significant challenges facing health service delivery to people across remote parts of Milne Bay but overcoming the impossible is one of YWAM's key mottos and we are excited to partner with MBPHA to achieve great results together.

A cheque for K50,000 was presented to the Managing Director for YWAM Ken Mulligan to support the ongoing work of the training and medical ship program.

Gulf, NCD and Western are some of the provinces that have partnered with YWAM to deliver health services and training to rural communities in maritime areas.

11/07/2014



Governor Kila Haoda (right) presenting the cheque to Ken Mulligan, managing director of Youth With A Mission, in Port Moresby on Tuesday.

## Haoda praises YWAM work, gives K50,000

CENTRAL Governor Kila Haoda presented a cheque for K50,000 to the Youths with a Mission (YWAM) in Port Moresby on Tuesday to support the work they do.

Haoda said he was impressed with the work YWAM did in the country and said the people of his province would benefit from a partnership with the organisation.

He said health was one of the key priority areas for Central and YWAM would work with his provincial government to deliver better health services, including training of health workers for deployment in remote rural communities.

YWAM is Christian-based and closely aligns itself with development priorities of the Government with delivery of health services.

The organisation deploys mobile clinical teams to serve villages with essential health service and is supported by the Health Department.

YWAM is set to establish a base in the country to oversee its operations as it extends its services to other provinces.

Discussions between YWAM and Central Health Division will be held in the coming days regarding health services delivery and training needs.

12/06/2014

# Medical ship to operate in Morobe

By JOSEPH DAWAI

DIALOGUE has been established between the Morobe Provincial Government and Australia's Youth with a Mission (YWAM) medical ship to operate in Morobe Province.

The group has been operating in the southern half of the PNG for the past five years and has been involved in providing medical training conducting surgeries, dental work and primary health care.

In a welcome dinner held at Lae International Hotel last Thursday, YWAM announced their partnership with the Morobe Provincial Government to operate in the province.

An agreement was reached where YWAM will commence its operation early next year after serving the last five years in southern region.

The program has been

successful in 160 countries, involving 20,000 volunteer workers from many different countries in the world.

YWAM managing director Ken Mulligan said the program has been in PNG since 1969 so it has been a long time developing it and now it is at a different stage of its operation.

"The mission is involved with different nations and denominations throughout the world and we have been operating in some of the largest private ships internationally for more than 30 years," Mr Mulligan said.

The key focus of the organisation is very much involved with the nation health plan to deal with the primary health care, he said.

"We have been providing services for the rural majority in the coastline and the island areas," Mr Mulligan said.

17/06/2014



ORO Governor Garry Juffa.

Governor Juffa thanked the YWAM MSA group for their services towards his province and the nation of PNG as a whole.

"Last year we gave K110,000 to the YWAM MSA group and this year I have increased the financial support to K50,000 because this group has done a wonderful job in my province," said Mr Juffa.

He said last year the YWAM MSA group volunteers gave humanization injection to 3000 children in Oro province and that saved the lives of the future generations of the province.

"I am hoping to build a compound, provide transport as well as security for the volunteers that are coming into Oro province by ship on August," Mr Juffa said.

17/06/2014



Melissa Birkland holding the new-born baby that she brought to life.

# CPR brings new-born back to life

A NEW-born baby girl that was brought to life after a CPR, has received health assistance from Youth with a Mission Medical Ships of Australia in Western.

YWAM Medical Ship nurse Melissa Birkland had been training the local health care workers on the basic skills of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation or CPR when the new-born was placed in her hands and was not breathing.

The situation put Birkland's skills to test, and she had done it well with confidence when she brought the new-born baby to life.

A CPR is an emergency procedure performed in an effort to manually preserve intact brain function until further measures are taken to restore

natural blood circulation and breathing in a person who is in cardiac arrest.

"I was so relieved and overjoyed. It represented so much hope to me. We are here to give health care and training, and our dream is to see long-term positive change in many areas, but especially in infant mortality," Birkland said.

PNG outreach coordinator Hannah Peart said this would be the fifth year the YWAM Medical Ship has headed to this region.

"Over the five years, we have really refined our strategy and we're looking forward to getting into Gulf villages and partnering with the community health workers on the ground," Peart said.

19/06/2014





Western Governor Ati Wobiro (left) presenting the cheque for K200,000 to YWAM Medical Ships' Hannah Peart (centre) and purser Jeana Wiemeyer at Parliament. – Nationalpic by EKAR KEAPU

## Governor backs medical ship outreach

WESTERN Governor Ati Wobiro yesterday presented K200,000 to Youth With A Mission Medical Ships Australia (YWAM MSA) for medical and training outreaches in Western.

Wobiro presented the money to YWAM MSA ship manager Hannah Peart at Parliament, praising them for the tremendous work they had been doing in his province to help restore hope, overcome isolation and address many critical

health challenges.

"This year represents the medical ship's fourth year of trips to Western, focusing on the Middle Fly and South Fly districts," Peart said.

"Since it began voyages to PNG in 2010, YWAM MSA has achieved 167,839 outputs, including primary health care, dentistry, optical services, health promotion initiatives and capacity-building for rural health care workers, dentists and optical workers in Gulf, Western,

and the National Capital District.

"In February last year, YWAM MSA signed a memorandum of understanding with the Western provincial government in Parliament House which outlines a mutual agreement to work in collaboration to achieve sustainable health outcomes in the province."

YWAM MSA has completed two successful outreaches in Western this year, with another outreach due to start this weekend in Bamu Rural.

14/05/2014



# InterOil fuels volunteer ship



**INTEROIL CEO Dr Michael Hession chats with women at Sogere Village on the Bamu River in Western Province. The women were waiting appointments with Youth With A Mission medical ship, *MV Pacific Link*.**

INTEROIL Corporation has begun its second year of a K300,000 partnership with volunteer doctors, dentists, eye specialists and pharmacists who treat thousands of people in remote parts of Papua New Guinea.

Under the partnership, InterOil is providing fuel for Youth With A Mission Medical Ships to enable treatment for many people who have no regular access to medical services.

Youth With A Mission, or YWAM, is a global charity that has been operating in Papua New Guinea since 2010 provid-

ing health services, food, drinking water, shelter, and education.

Most of YWAM's staff, including its managing director, are full-time volunteers.

InterOil Chief Executive Dr Michael Hession visited Torobina and Sogere villages on the Bamu River in Western Province to thank the volunteers who were working in the area.

"Our visit was encouraging, worthwhile, professional and a credit to all of those involved," Dr Hession said.

"To see the circumstances un-

der which people live, the treatment the volunteers provide, and the hope that comes from it was uplifting.

"It feels good to support their work and made me and all of those who work with InterOil feel very proud of our contribution."

YWAM visited more than 20 villages in Papua New Guinea in 2013 and has been focused on the Bamu region because of its remoteness and lack of services.

The service treated about 10,000 people in 2013.

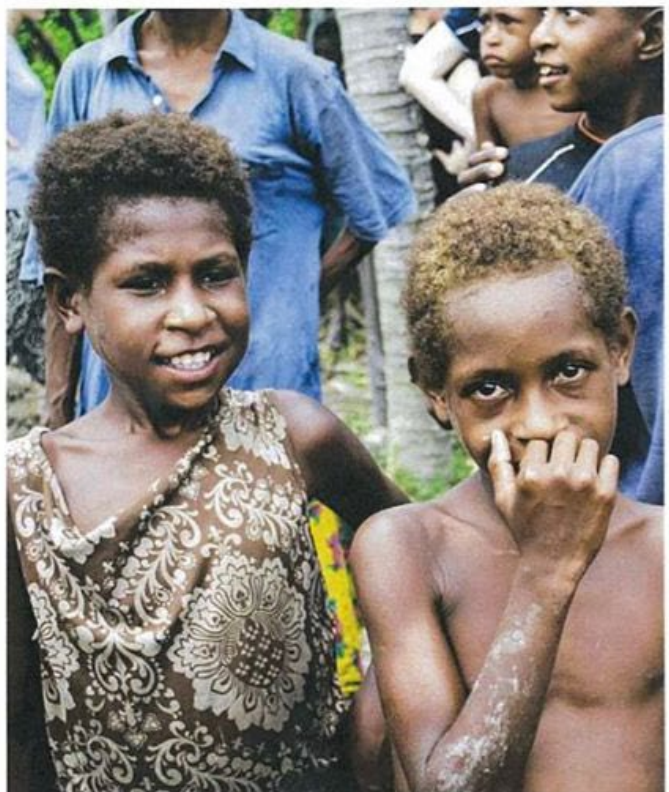
27/05/2014



# Importance of Hygiene in PNG



A family with their new bar of soap.



A child with the skin condition 'grille', right.



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DID you know that more than one in thirteen children under the age of five die in Papua New Guinea (PNG), many from diseases caused by the lack of hygiene and the poor quality of water? In many remote villages in PNG, soap is not easy to come by. The lack of access to soap, combined with poor quality of water and a tropical environment, can cause all sorts of diseases and skin infections.

One of the most common skin infections in PNG is called 'crocodile skin' or 'grille'. Washing with soap can help prevent this along with many other common diseases.

In the village of Piru Piru 2, the YWAM Medical Ships team helped provide soap through 'The Coconut Exchange'. The local schoolteacher encouraged the children to bring a coconut to school to exchange with the YWAM team for a bar of soap.

336 children were taught on the importance of hand washing with soap before eating, after using the toilet, and after changing nappies.

Each child placed their coconut in a large box, before receiving a bar of soap. The joy on the faces of the children as they received the soap for their family was incredible! Many would inhale the smell of the clean soap and flash a bright grin to the team. The exchange helped the children value their bars of soap that could potentially help save their lives.

**Activity:**

Are you thankful to have access to soap and clean water? Will you help other kids your age by donating soap? Ask your parents if they can help you gather soap and drop it off to us at the YWAM Townsville City Campus, 215 Walker Street.

06/05/2014



**DAVID SPARKES**



david.sparkes@news.com.au

**YOUTH** With a Mission Townsville will take possession of a \$6.5 million medical ship that will revolutionise its health services in Papua New Guinea.

The organisation has been working since last year to secure a bigger vessel to replace its current vessel, the MV *Pacific Link*.

YWAM signed a lease to buy agreement for the *Ammari* for \$1 million yesterday.

The organisation now has six months to raise the balance and take ownership of the vessel. The first \$1.5 million came from a grant provided by the PNG Government in October last year.

Managing director Ken Mulligan said the organisation had already made progress on securing the remaining \$5.5 million and was confident of finalising the sale.

The 60m catamaran will be able to stay in PNG for eleven months each year, compared with the current ship's limit of six months.

It will deliver health services to 188,000 individuals in the most remote and disadvantaged provinces of the country, six times as many as the current ship.

The *Ammari* is not the vessel YWAM was looking at late last year but it is bigger and cheaper by \$2.5 million.

"The vessel will enable



# Cat's a lifeline

**MOTHER SHIP:** Youth With a Mission Townsville has just signed a contract for a new \$6.5 million ship, the MV *Ammari*, which will become its medical ship for operations in Papua New Guinea.

YWAM to increase its annual engagement with individuals by over 500 per cent due to its capacity to operate all year-round," Mr Mulligan said.

"It could operate as a mother ship.

"Patrol tenders would be launched from the vessel into remote coastal communities, transporting teams of health professionals to help build capacity in rural health workers and individuals in areas of primary health care, dentistry,

**“** The vessel will enable YWAM to increase its annual engagement with individuals by over 500 per cent due to its capacity to operate all year-round

**KEN MULLIGAN**

optometry and ophthalmology for up to one week at a time."

Although the *Ammari* is a

much bigger ship, it has a shallower draft than YWAM's current ship.

It has the capacity to carry up to 100 people and its space will make it possible to complete the fit-out with an operating theatre, dental clinic, outpatient clinic facility, laboratory and lecture room.

The non-profit organisation will take the new ship on an awareness-building campaign along Australia's east coast this year.

The MV *Pacific Link* is currently in PNG on its final, six-month operation.

09/05/2014





# YWAM makes \$9m pitch

## Hospital ship funding floated with minister

DAVID SPARKES

david.sparkes@news.com.au

THE Townsville branch of Youth With a Mission has met Foreign Affairs Minister Julia Bishop to make a pitch for funding for its medical vessel in Papua New Guinea.

YWAM is trying to raise \$9.1 million by the end of the year to buy a new 45m medical vessel that would dramatically expand its operations in PNG.

If the Federal Government were to provide money, the most likely source would be the foreign aid budget, which is in Ms Bishop's portfolio.

YWAM Townsville directing manager Ken Mulligan said Ms Bishop had shown interest when they discussed the project last week.

"We were wanting to see how we could proceed," Mr

Mulligan said. "We've met with the minister a number of times in the past. They are trying to finalise exactly how things are structured (in the foreign aid budget) and how they should work it.

"They are being very deliberate about how they can get good expenditure from tax payers' money."

The meeting was also attended by Herbert MP Ewen Jones, who set the meeting up, and former Townsville MP Mike Reynolds, who is involved in YWAM.

Mr Jones said Ms Bishop was interested in the proposal and the next step would be to provide more detail.

"It was about putting the case front and centre with Ms Bishop in relation to the new boat and the fitout," he said.

Mr Jones wants to arrange a meeting between YWAM and Senator Brett Mason, who is secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.



FULL STEAM AHEAD: YWAM co-ordinator Anna Scott in their new digs.

Picture: ZAK SIMMONDS

"My job is to get them in front of as many people as possible to show that it does make sense in terms of practical foreign aid," Mr Jones said. "I think it does make sense that the foreign aid budget could pay for this because YWAM is

closing in on 170,000 medical treatments in PNG so far.

"They are talking with more governors there and they are well respected by the PNG Government."

YWAM wants to buy a 45m catamaran, *Ipipiri*, to replace

its current medical vessel. The PNG government has promised \$1.6 million, leaving a further \$7.5 million to be raised.

YWAM has been discussing funding options with the Australian Government and the private sector.

With its current vessel, YWAM has been spending six months a year in PNG, providing healthcare and training to more than 20,000 people.

A new vessel would mean it could stay in PNG for 18 months a year.

01/01/2014



profile

KEN MULLIGAN OAM  
YWAM Managing Director

From small farming community Alectown in New South Wales, Ken Mulligan started with YWAM in 1983. After training through the University of the Nations, and working with YWAM in Brisbane for several years, he headed north to Townsville in 1992 as YWAM's Director.

Ken is passionate about strengthening YWAM's sister city relationship with Port Moresby in 2014 by securing a new medical ship for the Southern Region of Papua New Guinea.

"Our current vessel is over 30 years old and due to retire in 2015. The new vessel will enable us to reach five times as many people on an annual basis," he says.

"It's hard to believe that, just off our coast in Papua New Guinea, as high as 1 in 7 women in rural areas die during childbirth, 94 per cent of the population are affected by malaria and 1 in 13 children die before they make their fifth birthday."

From YWAM's new City Campus, the organisation is continuing to help thousands of young people around Townsville and our region.

"In Australia, it's startling to hear that 10 young Aussies commit suicide every week, 1 in 3 will have suffered from depression by age 18, and 48 per cent of teenage girls try extreme weight loss methods," Ken says.

Having hit rock bottom in his own life and turned things around, Ken is in a good position to help others find their way.

"Many years ago I had a terrible tractor accident where my girlfriend was killed. It was one of the most horrific times in my life," he says.

"Suffering from guilt and emptiness I went down a very dark road that led to despair and suicide intentions. Many, many people rallied around me and poured into my life, giving their time and belief.

"It has laid such a wonderful foundation that makes me want to give back and get involved with our community."



## 7.3 ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ABCD	Asset-based community development
ACFID	Australian Council for International Development
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
AUD	Australian Dollar
CASA	Civil Aviation Authority
CH	Child Health
CHW	Community Health Worker
CPR	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
DEN	Dental
EA	Engaging Australians
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HSB	Henry Schien Halas
IAPB	International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness
JCU	James Cook University
K	Kina (see PKG)
KRA	Key Result Area
LF	Lymphatic Filariasis
LLHS	Living Light Health Service
LLIN	Long-Lasting Insecticidal Net
MA	Malaria
MBPHA	Milne Bay Provincial Health Authority
MDA	Mass Drug Administration
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MDR	Multi Drug Resistance
MH	Maternal Health
MMR	Maternal Mortality Ratio
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSA	Medical Ships – Australia
MV	Mechant Vessel
NCD	National Capital District
NDOH	National Department of Health
NHS	National HIV & AIDS Strategy
NHATU	National HIV & AIDS Training Unit
NIE	Newspapers in Education
NTD	Neglected Tropical Disease
OAM	Order of Australia
OPH	Ophthalmology
OPT	Optometry
OTFRDP	Ok Tedi Fly River Development Program
OTI	Overcoming the Impossible campaign
PGK	Papua New Guinea Kina
PHA	Provincial Health Authority



PHC	Primary Health Care
PICT	Provider Initiated Counselling and Testing
PNG	Papua New Guinea
RAM	Rotarians Against Malaria
RANZCO	The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists
RDT	Rapid Diagnostic Test
RN	Registered Nurse
SIA	Supplementary Immunisation Activity
SICS	Small Incision Cataract Surgery
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
TB	Tuberculosis
TBA	Traditional Birth Attendant
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
VCT	Voluntary Testing and Counselling
WHO	World Health Organisation
YWAM	Youth With a Mission















**ywam**  
medicalships

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