

MARINE REACH FIJI



A NEW SEASON FOR MARINE REACH FIJI.....

It is with mixed feelings that we have had to say goodbye to staff we have known and valued, while it is sad to see them go we are excited for them in taking the next step of their journey of faith. Lepani was a DTS student with us in 2009 and came back to join us briefly with his new wife Katrina - they have now moved to Katrina's homeland of Canada.

Judith the nurse who has been faithfully heading up our medical teams has also moved back to NZ but she will be back briefly late June till early August to train our new medical outreach Coordinators Bjarte and Ane who arrive in July from Norway. This couple is an answer to prayer. For many years we have been praying for a doctor to be full-time staff - now we have a Doctor (Ane) and a Nurse (Bjarte).

There is a growing sense of excitement as God adds to our numbers with a new DTS leader Kyle from YWAM Ships, Kona, USA. Kyle will bring two staff with him to

head up our September DTS school. We definitely feel like God is in the process of building us up again!

Part of our new season is this newsletter which we hope to send out every two months. We would love your feedback; If you wish to unsubscribe please e-mail us at: info-fj@marinereach.com

VISITORS

We have been blessed to host another YWAM Outreach team from YWAM Bethlehem in Tauranga NZ. We have kept this young team busy with visits to Orphanages, praying for the sick in hospital and doing street outreach. They have just completed the Circuit Rider training in NZ so very keen to share their faith on the streets. The team have also been ministering out in villages on Naviti Island, part of the Yasawa Island group. The team consists of a couple from Sweden, 4 Americans and one from Korea and New Zealand.

APRIL/ MAY 2014



God's answer to our prayers:

Bjarte, Ane and children from Norway. They attended a DTS at Marine Reach, Fiji two years ago, (only had three children then) They have committed to come for two years to be the Medical Coordinators

by Judith Anderson Medical Coordinator

This outreach was different and a challenge from the start. Unable to find a dentist then a couple of nurses dropped out. Fortunately we had a second doctor who wanted to come and some non health professionals had already committed to be here. There was a widespread outbreak of dengue fever and in the area we were going also outbreaks of typhoid and leptospirosis. So what to do? The only thing I could - adapted the team to the needs. I accepted the second doctor for Primary Health Care clinic and ran a reading glasses clinic as this is always a need in villages. The team was small, mostly of a mature age which included my parents which was very special and a big help. When you looked back you see the reasons God has for doing certain things which previously seemed unclear. The lack of dentistry had a huge affect on the numbers of patients through the clinic in the first village, but the less numbers meant more time with the patients and the locals. It also allowed us to see all the 93 school kids and their teachers and bless so many with reading glasses which made their day. We also were able to do multiple home visits which would not normally have been possible.

One of the many stories from the outreach. Who are we serving? Who should be inconvenienced? These are the questions we asked ourselves with one patient. We always swap locations on the Sunday half way through the outreach. Sunday morning we had loaded our medical truck, tied everything down ready to leave. A vehicle drove up and unloaded a man who had fallen the previous day, said he had a stick or twig buried in his foot. We all looked at each other, looked at the truck, looked at the patient and sighed. With some gauze and a pair of tweezers handy we looked at his foot and attempted to remove this stick, it would not budge and the patient could not tolerate the pain. He was going to require some local anaesthetic. Again we thought

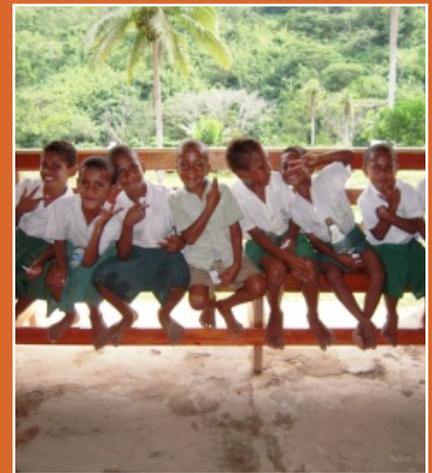
should we unpack and look for the supplies we needed? Should we just leave it and tell him to go to the local clinic? Why we are here and who are we meant to be serving? The people in need or our own convenience? It is the people in need. Here is someone who should or could have come to us the previous day but he didn't and he is right before us now needing our help. So we started to untie the truck - not a quick or easy job to find the box with the instruments and supplies we needed. Miraculously as we untied the first part we saw the box we needed right at the front and was able to remove it without dismantling the whole truck. Great! So after giving the man some local anaesthetic and cleaning up the area, with proper forceps this time, we were able to dig deep to remove the large piece of wood that was lodged in his foot. He was very grateful and fortunately we also had some antibiotics left out that we could give to him. So it all worked out and was a good reminder to us that God's work is never to our convenience or timing and the need to be willing and available always.

More stories in brief:

- Dr Anderson removed a large cyst the size of a hand from the top of a man's head in a makeshift clinic behind a curtain. A \$10,000 operation for free because God wants everyone to know they are loved by Him.
- During house to house visitations a man with a stroke was checked and found to have dangerously high blood pressure and sugar levels, his medication had run out and couldn't afford any more, he was in danger of having another stroke.



MEDICAL REPORT



Top: Dr. Anderson & Judith removing a large cyst from a woman's arm, it had been very disfiguring and a cause of shame to her for years.

Centre: Eye check up. Many received much needed reading glasses remarking that at last they will be able to read their bibles.

Bottom: Some of the 93 children who had medical checks

STAFF FELLOWSHIP



Top: Farewell for Lepani & Katrina with Marine Reach and PTC Staff

Centre: Farewell BBQ for Judith

Bottom: All the children having a wonderful time with the locals on a Sea Biscuit.

We had a great night of laughter and song as we joined with some of the PTC staff to say goodbye to Lepani and Katrina. Lepani had spent time as a staff and a student with YWAM PTC Lautoka doing second level. Sisa (PTC base leader) proved why he used to work as an entertainer with a steady stream of songs and anecdotes to amuse us all, he, even got some of us dancing. We all enjoyed the shared dinner and BBQ food. Fun was had by all.

Lepani did his DTS with us in 2009 and then served in various YWAM bases in Fiji and Vanuatu. He met Katrina (from Canada) in Vanuatu and the rest is history. Some of us were blessed to attend their wedding in Suva on February 8th. Attending also were some of Lepani's DTS classmates-including Rena Lata and children, Geoff and Leanne Gray who came over (with their daughter) from Australia. Lepani and Katrina then spent some time with us on base as short term staff. Katrina helped develop our future website while Lepani did a great job of the grounds and gardens at our Drasa Avenue property where we hold our Discipleship Training Schools.

We arranged a 'quiet' goodbye for Judith as she will return to us later in the year for a time, then back to NZ.

We had a staff BBQ and invited Rob and Lori Leacock (missionaries from the USA-living in Lautoka) and Adam and Kim Atkinson and their children who have just joined 'Island Breeze', another ministry of YWAM in Fiji. We know it has not easy for Judith working for both Marine Reach Fiji and Marine Reach, NZ for the last 6 months, traveling between the two nations and having to head up the medical work in both countries. Judith has been a huge blessing to us and very dedicated to her task of coordinating and leading our medical teams, nothing is ever too much trouble.

Some of our staff went to Bekana Island for a time of "R & R" recently. Bekana is an island resort, which can be seen from the Walu Street lounge window. It ceased to operate about 5 years ago but has been reopened ('resurrected') by a lovely on fire Christian family. They blessed us with free tropical smoothies and Indian savories as we sat on the mat they provided for us under the trees. The Marine Reach kids all had a great time in the sea with the "sea biscuit, paddling the kayaks and mucking around on the jetty. The family are keen to work with us for mutual support and we will certainly be sending more of our staff and teams out to them in future.



Marine Reach staff at Bekana Island

CURRENT STAFF



Marine Reach Fiji Staff

Top: Greg & Karen Dryden

Centre: Daeseong, Rowena Kang and children

Bottom: Richard & Thelma Dingle

Right: Staff including Ben & Kaba and Carol another one we were sad to farewell.

- Greg and Karen Dryden (NZ) and their 2 children, have been involved with Marine Reach Fiji since 2009. Greg did his DTS with Marine Reach in 1993 and Karen in 2010. Greg is now a Marine Reach Co-Director and Karen does the office accounts.

- Daeseong (Korea) and Rowena Kang (Philippines) and their 4 children, originally worked and met in the Philippines in 1999 and have been on staff here since 2002. Daeseong heads up our Korean DTS training and is a Marine Reach Co-Director. Rowena is a qualified dentist and helps out on our medical outreaches when not busy with 4 children.

- Richard and Thelma Dingle (NZ) both joined Marine Reach in 2007 and have staffed and taught on YWAM training schools in Fiji, Vanuatu, Tonga, and NZ. They are currently helping with Pastoral Care in Marine Reach and all the YWAM Fiji bases. This senior couple describe themselves as "old but not cold !"

- Ben and Kaba Rokovu (Fiji) and their 4 children have served with us since Kaba started cooking for our base in 2002 and they attended their DTS with us in 2007. Ben and Kaba have staffed on DTS's, and assisted on the medical outreaches together with their sons. Kaba is well liked for her cooking skills by all our teams! Last year Marine Reach built a new house for the Rokovu family replacing their 40+ year old house in the village.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for the preparations of our 5 new staff coming this year. Bjarte and Ane (and their 4 children), also their need to find a house for rent here in Lautoka.

- That we will continue to re-form and 'knit together' as an expanded staff team.

- For the September Discipleship Training School (DTS). We need more students local & overseas, (only one confirmed at present)

- For Rowena's renewed Dental registration for Fiji

- For the development of our new website and Facebook page

- For a base vehicle eg. used van approx FJD \$50,000 (\$27,500 USD)

- For our long-term desire to establish our own base property on five acres of land near Lautoka.

CONTACT/SUPPORT

If you would like to support our ministry in some way you could:

★ Come on a short term (10 day)

Medical Outreach as a volunteer helper - see details on

www.marinereachministries.com

click on Fiji for details.

★ Donate to us: you can send your donations directly to our Fiji account by

Bank: ANZ, Lautoka branch, Fiji.

Account Name: Marine Reach Fiji

Account number: 05715719 .

SWIFT CODE: ANZ BFJFX BSB 010890

