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## A New Adventure!

What an exciting month! It is hard to believe that just one month ago we were loading up the van and beginning our long drive across the country! I am sure that you noticed the different header on this Newsletter as well. We are off to Papua New Guinea!

It is interesting, because two years ago when we were assigned to the Caribbean a co-worker of ours wondered how committed we were to the Caribbean, as he assumed that we wanted to be in Papua New Guinea. At the time, however, it seemed that God was leading us in a very different direction, and the Caribbean was the right place at that time.

Many of you that have followed our time in Miami have seen what an incredible blessing that time was for us, and how we were able to support people of the Caribbean in various ways.

Yet through this time God was building in us the desire to be used in the areas we had been trained for – teaching and being a doctor – and in His timing He has brought that to fruition!

Our time in the Caribbean allowed Rosie and me to spend great quality time with our daughters during their early childhood. God used that time to further refine our perspective on quality discipleship, prayer, and many other faith-stretching aspects.

As many of you know, Rosie's medical trip to Jamaica and our combined Discipleship training time in Antigua were some of the most rewarding duties outside of the office. I (Dave) knew when Rosie got back from her trip that God was growing a desire to be back in medicine again, and He has now launched us into a new adventure!



Graduation Parade in Mt. Hagen

Kudjip Hospital



## New Duties

Dave's new job duties are still being revealed over time, but we do know he will be teaching at the Melanesian Nazarene Bible College (MNBC), working with the Extension Program for pastors, and with "Church Development." Maybe we can get a website for MNBC too!

Rosie will be a doctor at the Kudjip Nazarene Hospital. Go to [www.kudjipnazarenehospital.org](http://www.kudjipnazarenehospital.org) for incredible information! The Region has been very generous in allowing her to work part-time around Grace and Anna's needs, but she is also excited to be part of a medical team again.

## A Bit About The New Life

In Papua New Guinea there are over 800 different languages! The rugged mountains and the isolated valleys created communities of people that developed their own languages. The “Lingua Franca” of Papua New Guinea was developed by traders who created Melanesian Pidgin so they could communicate. Today over 1.2 million people speak Pidgin as their primary language, so we will be learning that language as quickly as possible.

Papua New Guinea is located just north of Australia on the second largest island in the world (Greenland is first). The island of “New Guinea” is divided into “Papua” on the left, a state on Indonesia, and “Papua New Guinea” on the right, which is an independent country.

Some interesting words we have run across are:

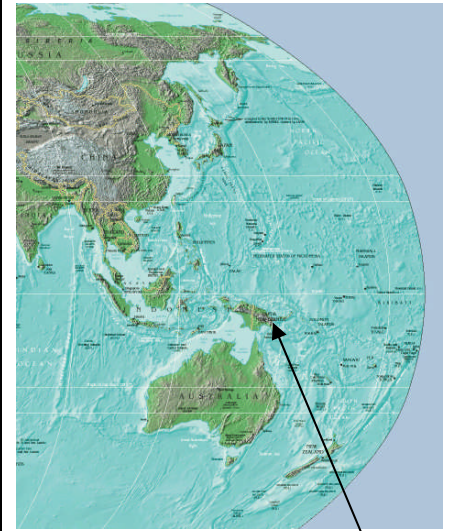
Melanesia (Dark islands) was so named because of the darker skin of these people. Papua New Guinea is in the Melanesian Field.

Polynesia (Many islands) These islanders usually have fairer skin. The area stretches across the Pacific, ending in the North with Hawaii.

Micronesia (Small Islands) includes all of the islands north of Papua New Guinea.

Indonesia (India Islands) This is the country that owns half of the island we will be on. The primary religion of Indonesia is Islam, and Indonesia is the fourth most populous nation in the world. We will be on the “Ring of Fire” which is the chain of volcanoes stretching all the way

around the edge of the Pacific Ocean from Australia to Alaska, San Francisco, Mexico, and into South America.



Papua New Guinea

## It Rains in Papua New Guinea!

Papua New Guinea gets about 800 inches of rain per year! The country has different climates because of the amazing elevation changes. Down on the coast the air is hot and humid most of the year. There is a dry season across the entire island, but being close to the equator there is not much temperature swing.

Up in the mountains where we will be, the climate is much like at Seattle, Washington. It gets cool at night, warm during the day, and a lot of rain!

Our drinking water will come from that which falls on the roof of our house and then into a huge vat. It has been recommended that we purchase a \$200 filter! ☺

We will be shipping about 1600 pounds of belongings in a container, and the water filter needs to be in there with our other stuff!

The rain makes for beautiful countryside, and a Google search of the animals of Papua New Guinea shows a rich diversity of interesting animals.

The rains also make for a transportation nightmare sometimes, so we were told we will need a four wheel drive. More about that on the last page!

Our website has links to the language we will be learning and other interesting sites we have been encountering in our brief studies.

PNG Flag:

A Bird of Paradise with the Southern Cross!



Water Filter:

Filters 2 gallons of water per day!



# Adios | Tot Ziens | Oréwá | Good Bye to the Caribbean

Saying good bye is not very fun, whether it is Spanish, Dutch, Creole, or English! In our case we hardly had time to even say good bye to those we were closest to, let alone the extended Caribbean “family” that we met while in the Caribbean.

The girls were excited about going to visit both sets of grandparents, but now that we have begun home school they are REALLY missing Rainbow Academy – and so are we! ☺

Our Redland Church will also be greatly missed! It was fun to attend a place that is excited about seeing people come to Christ. Redland has an incredible future in store for them.

Leaving our Antiguan, Bahamian, and Jamaican Master

Teachers is another sorrow we have. The good thing is that we know that if we labor diligently on our field as they labor diligently on theirs we will have even more friends in Heaven! Sometimes this makes leaving more acceptable and our longing for Heaven more intense!

The Caribbean is a wonderful and needy place of ministry, and we pray the best for our friends even as they pray the same for us. But we do not say Good-Bye so much as “see you later!”

Our new boss has given us three months to raise funds for our service in Papua New Guinea. Since we were adding this to our Christmas break we have been able to spend some great time with our family in the Northwest.



Our Church



Our Master Teacher colleagues



21 boxes, 1556 lbs – goes to PNG! ☺

## Rosie – Another Medical Trip!

Rosie is very excited about an incredible invitation she received. On January 30<sup>th</sup> she will travel with her Uncle Carl Birchard MD and her Aunt Rose Carnes RN with a team to Jinotega, Nicaragua. What makes this trip so amazing is they will have one of their clinics at the place where her grandmother Margaret Birchard worked as a missionary

nurse and they will attend the church where her grandfather Russell Birchard pastored. They will also see where he is buried after his many years of service in Nicaragua. Another bonus will be learning about Kudjip Hospital from Uncle Carl since he has volunteered there. Please pray for the impact of the team, their health, and God’s hand at work.



## Contacting The Kerr Family

If you would like to keep tabs on what we are doing and where we are right now, just visit our new website at [www.OurKerrFamily.com](http://www.OurKerrFamily.com).

We will have our cell phone (509) 833-7397 through mid-April when we fly out. We love getting e-mail from anyone that knows us, so please do not feel shy about sending us a note asking how we are doing and what is going on.



Please pray for  
**Our Kerr Family**  
Your missionaries to Papua New Guinea

Declare His glory among  
the nations, His marvelous deeds  
among the people! Psalm 96:3

Dave@OurKerrFamily.com  
Rosie@OurKerrFamily.com

**Ministry Assignments:**  
Rosie: Doctor at Kudjip Nazarene Hospital  
Dave: Professor at MNBC Extension Program and Church Development

Please visit us online at [www.OurKerrFamily.com](http://www.OurKerrFamily.com)



Church of the Nazarene  
Melanesia Field Office  
P.O. Box 458  
Mt. Hagen, WHP  
Papua New Guinea



Stateside Phone: (509) 833-7397 or (509) 965-4867

Dave Birthdays: 2/19

Anna Birthdays: 2/16/03

Grace Birthdays: 3/27/03

Rosie Birthdays: 2/22

# BIG Need for Transportation!

We will be living on the campus of Melanesian Nazarene Bible College. This is 20 Papua New Guinean miles away from the Kudjip Nazarene Hospital where Rosie will be working and Grace will go to school! It was recommended that we collect \$45,000 for expenses primarily related to a vehicle, as the roads are REALLY rough. We got the full picture of the need when our cousin Keith Birchard, who has volunteered at the

Kudjip Hospital and ridden the roads, said he wanted to start a project to help us get needed transportation. He too said four wheel drive is necessary, so the idea below is all his! He thought that if we all chipped in we could get this car paid for, so if you could help buy even a portion of one of these parts that would be great! (Keith, thanks so much for your great idea in support of the mission to PNG!)

Here is how to give:

Write a check to  
**“General Treasurer”**  
 in the memo line write  
**“Dave and Rosie Kerr  
 deputation”**

Send the check to:  
**Nazarene World Mission  
 c/o Molly Cole  
 17001 Prairie Star Pkwy  
 Lenexa, KS 66220**

Telephone: 913-577-0500



*If you attend a Nazarene Church the church has a “10%” giving goal, and if you donated the money through your church the church would get credit for that, and be appreciative! Talk to your pastor or financial administrator for details*

Part	Price	Part	Price	Part	Price
Tires	\$200 each	Drive shaft	\$400.00	Back Seats	\$400.00
Wheels	\$200 each	Exhaust pipe	\$200.00	Seatbelts	\$ 50.00
Spare tire	\$400.00	Fuel tank	\$300.00	Body	\$2,500.00
Rear axle	\$1,000.00	Radiator	\$300.00	Doors	\$600.00
Front axle	\$1,000.00	Alternator	\$200.00	Windows	\$ 800.00
Springs	\$500.00	Battery	\$100.00	Fenders	\$ 500.00
Brakes	\$500.00	Heater / AC	\$500.00	Bumper	\$300.00
Diesel engine	\$3,000.00	Steering wheel	\$ 50.00	Headlights	\$200.00
Transmission	\$1,500.00	Instruments	\$100.00	Bumper guard	\$300.00
4x4 transfer case	\$1,000.00	Front Seats	\$500.00	Hood	\$500.00
				Roof Rack	\$500.00