

## Visit Us On the Web

We feel strongly in the importance of developing real partnerships with our prayer and financial supporters. Bringing God's Word to an unreached people group requires a team of people working together. Developing the kind of partnerships that we envision requires a high level of communication concerning the people we are working to reach and specific prayer needs related to the ministry.



A few years ago it was difficult to maintain that level communication. Now, however, the Internet provides a handy means of making available information about our

work, the people we are working to reach, prayer needs, and other information. With that in mind, we decided to develop our own web site. That site is located at [www.flyingfox.org](http://www.flyingfox.org).

When you visit that web site you will find information about us and our ministry, Papua New Guinea, and other mission organizations that we work with. Our vision is that this site will offer a comprehensive overview of anything that you may want to know about us, the country, and the people to whom we are ministering. Since we develop most of this information anyway as part of our cultural and linguistic research it will be easy to just format it for the web and make it available to you.

You may notice that when you attempt to access the "Prayer Needs" page under the Partners' Resources section you will be prompted for a user name and password. We did this in order to allow us to share sensitive information about the people and the work with our prayer partners. If you have signed up as a prayer partner you should have received the username and password. If you have not received it or if you would like to sign up as a prayer partner, please let us know and we will send

you what you need to access this section.

Some people have asked about the flying foxes. Madang, the location of PBT's offices in Papua New Guinea, is somewhat famous for its large colonies of fruit bats (flying foxes). They roost in trees around town and at night fill the sky as they spread out looking for food. We decided that this would make a memorable name for our site.

We invite you to check out the site and let us know what you think. The site has been tested using Netscape and Internet Explorer browsers. If you have trouble viewing the site with your browser please let us know so that we can attempt to solve the problem.

### **Kyle and Kathy Harris Pioneer Bible Translators**

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Pioneer Bible Translators is a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability.



## Across The Way

Kyle and Kathy Harris  
Pioneer Bible Translators



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### On the Road Again

One part of missionary work that we enjoy is the time when we travel and speak to churches, camps and vacation Bible schools about the work of Bible translation. It is a privilege to be able to share the vision of how God's Word can change lives of unreached peoples when it is presented in their heart language. It has been fun this summer to travel and speak.

Our summer started with a trip to Cincinnati for Pioneer Bible Translator's annual Pioneer Mission Institute. PMI is designed to introduce potential new recruits to the ministry of Bible translation and to give further training to those who are preparing to serve in the translation ministry. Missionaries who are home from the field serve as staff for this event, making it a great opportunity to renew friendships.



Kathy teaches a class at Camp Christian in New Castle, Colorado

The high point of the week for all who attended was to see and hold the translation of the New Testament in the Kire language. This is the first New Testament to be completed by a PBT team in Papua New Guinea. Dave and Sharron Pryor, charter members of PBT, have worked among the Kire since 1978. It was gratifying to see the fruit of their long labors.

After our week in Cincinnati we had the opportunity to present our ministry at churches in Indiana and Dallas, and to serve as VBS and camp missionaries in Indiana and Colorado. We especially enjoy our camp and VBS times. Besides having the opportunity to share about the work, we feel that these are important recruiting opportunities as we cast the vision for a new generation of missionaries.

Our summer speaking schedule draws to a close in August and then we shift gears almost immediately to prepare for departure. There are supplies to purchase, crates to build, and a house to get ready to sell. We hope to have all of that done by the end of September in order to have a couple of weeks before leaving to tie up loose ends, spend time with the family, and hopefully relax a bit. Our tentative date for departing for Papua New Guinea is October 10th or 11th.

# Ottilien Bible Translation Project

The Ottilien language family is composed of five languages; Mbore, Awar, Bosman, Kaian, and Marangis. These people groups are located in an area of about 350 square miles around the mouth of the Ramu River in Papua New Guinea.



Map of Papua New Guinea with the area encompassed by the Ottilien languages indicated.

A Bible translation program was started in the Mbore language in 1982 by David and Alice Parrish. The Parrishes did an excellent job of training national translators and literacy workers and helping the Mbore people develop a community based Bible translation and literacy program. Dave and Alice provided exegetical help, training, encouragement, and translation checking expertise while the people they had trained produced the translation and taught the literacy classes.

Unfortunately Dave and Alice were forced to return to the US several years ago due to health reasons. Without the exegetical help and other assistance that they had provided the program is starting to falter. The Mbore people have recognized this and have repeatedly asked Pioneer Bible Translators to send someone to help them complete the translation. After months of praying and considering all the options of where we might work we have decided that God is calling us to provide this assistance.

Upon arriving in Papua New Guinea this fall our plans are to settle in the Mbore village of Tambap Mining and begin work immediately. We will concentrate on helping get the translation program up and fully functioning again and on training additional people to assist with the project.

Our focus will not, however, be just on the Mbore work. The people of the Awar, Bosman, Kaian, and Marangis language groups have seen what has been accomplished among the Mbore and have asked for assistance in developing translation programs of their own. Once the Mbore program is back on its feet we will be working with those language groups to identify and train national translators and literacy workers and to oversee and encourage them in their efforts to provide God's Word for their own people.



Enlargement of the area indicated by the box on the left hand map.

A key element in the above process is the Computer Aided Related Language Adaptation (CARLA). With the scriptures that are being produced in the Mbore language as the base text we plan to work with national translators in the other language groups to produce rough drafts in those languages using a PC and the CARLA software. There will still be a lot of work required to revise and check those rough drafts but at least they will provide a good starting point.

## Ottilien Project (continued)

The above sounds fairly straightforward but we know that working on translations in five different language groups will require every bit of strength, wisdom, and patience that God can provide. Pray that God would be our strength, wisdom and patience. Pray also for the Mbore people and for the other language groups with whom we will be working. Pray that through this ministry the light of the Gospel of Jesus would shine on the people of this area.

## Where the Money Goes

Recently a friend asked, "OK, how do you cash my support check in the jungle?" We got to thinking that others might be wondering the same thing. So here is how it works.

When you send a check to our PO Box in Moline, it is collected by our forwarding agent (Kyle's mom). Once a week she forwards all the checks that have been received that week to Pioneer Bible Translators' office in Dallas. PBT's bookkeeper deposits the checks and produces receipts for each donation. Those receipts are sent back to our forwarding agent to be mailed to the donors.

Then once a month, the bookkeeper does a wire transfer to the bank in Papua New Guinea where the Pioneer Bible Translators maintains an account. From there us missionaries are able to draw out the money that has been donated to our respective PBT ministries. The system works well. The funds donated to each missionaries' ministry are kept separate and no one has to try to figure out how to cash foreign checks in the bush.

## Advance of the Gospel in Pasinkap

During our first ten years in Papua New Guinea, we had the privilege of working among the Angaua people. While there we learned the language, developed an alphabet, and started a translation of the New Testament in the Nend language. We also worked to teach the people about Jesus and how he could free them from their dependence on the spirits to which they traditionally looked for health, safety, etc.

Because of the depth of their dependence on the spirits, the Angaua people were slow to turn from them to put their trust in Jesus. Well, that apparently is changing.

Norm and Jill Weatherhead took over the work among the Angaua when we left and have continued with the translation and evangelism. This spring they conducted a Bible school with over 30 people from the area in attendance. One the evening of the last class they called for a response. Over 20 villagers came forward and so far three have been baptized. These are the first baptisms to ever be conducted in the village of Pasinkap.

Along with the the advance of God's Kingdom, however, has come the anticipated reaction of the enemy. The new Christians are taking a lot of criticism from those who did not respond. In addition, Jill Weatherhead began to experience some health problems that necessitated her going to Australia for tests. Please be praying for the Weatherheads and for those who have or are considering responding to the gospel. Pray that the work of Jesus would not be hindered and that the seeds that have been planted there will bear much fruit.