

# Free Wantok Today

End Violence Against Children!

Gender-Based Violence is often seen as 'normal' in PNG - P3



Monthly English edition - Issue 14 June 2015

## A Historical event for the Anglican Church in PNG

By Frieda Sila Kana

The consecration of Bishop Denny Bray Guka in Port Moresby on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May marks a fully nationalised Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea Province.

Bishop Denny Guka is from a small village of Katuna, Ambesi Parish in the North Coast of Popondetta, Oro Province. After 20 years of being a priest that Fr. Guka has now been elevated to a higher office. However, he admitted that it was an office which he had feared when he was called to the priesthood.

"Ever since I became a priest, I had always been afraid of being given a bigger task, but now I can accept it because I know I'm not alone. I have my wife and all of you to help me along," he said.

"Today I feel humbled to be taking this office. I would like to be a

door mat on which the people I serve will walk upon. Just like the gift mat that was brought for this occasion by a rural congregation from a remote area of the Gulf Province, which had my name, 'Bishop Denny Bray Guka' woven into it. Today as the ushers were looking for a place to put this mat, I said to them to put it at the doorway of the church, so that everybody will walk on it as they enter. Some of you may not have noticed but it was there and you walked on it," Bishop Guka said.

He encourage all other priests that they should humble themselves and be like a mat so that people can walk on us.

"I am an ecumenical Christian. I want to work with the whole body of Christ. Not only the Anglican brethren. If I have to say something significant today, I would say this. "If some people want to know what kind of Christian believer I am, and

they cut me up, they will discover that I am a truly ecumenical person," Bishop Guka said.

The new bishop said he had invited other brethren from the Body of Christ to his consecration but only a few turned up because perhaps it was the day for worship, the day being the 'commemoration day of Pentecost.'

To emphasize his determination for the unity in the body of Christ as believers, the new bishop quoted a common saying in Kenya which he heard during a visit some years back, "You are not alone – I no yu wanpela tasol – Yumi yet, We are!"

On this note, Bishop Guka cited the words of a priest in a rural area who used to send him inspirational and encouraging texts everyday who on the morning of the ordination, sent one text that said, "brother my prayers are with you this day." He cited this to emphasize the importance of those in the

work of God to stand together in prayer in support of one another.

He also quoted the words of the Lord Jesus' prayer for his disciples, "that all may be one", to emphasize the importance of the 'Unity in the Body of Believers', saying that although people think that PNG Council of Churches may be 'dead', it is surely alive.

"PNGCC is still alive, we just need to get our house in order," Bishop Guka said.

Thus he acknowledge the presence of notable people such as the Ecumenical Representative from the Catholic Church, Fr. Joseph from Bomana, Rev. Martin Wayne, the deputy chairman of the Evangelical Alliance, Colonel Boude, Chief Chaplain from the PNG Defence Force and other chaplains, the current and former governors of the Bank of Papua New Guinea. Also present was the Governor for

NCD, Powes Parkop and his wife and former Prime Minister, Sir Mekere Morauta and his wife.

Bishop Guka was consecrated by the Head Bishop of Anglican Church of PNG province, Archbishop ... Clyde supported by....

The signing of the legal documents were witnessed and approved by the Chancellor of the Anglican Church and deputy chief justice of PNG, Justice Bernard Sakora.

The bishop was handed over the symbolic shepherd's staff by his predecessor, Rev Bishop Peter Ramsden and a symbolic ring placed on his finger as the symbol of authority and covenant to the office as well as a cross necklace to complete the requirements for visibility of the office he would occupy.

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### Word Publishing Company Limited

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#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Business Meeting of Shareholders of Word Publishing Company Limited will be held at the company office, Top Floor, Section 58 Lot 02, Able Computing Building Complex, Waigani Drive, NCD, Papua New Guinea on Friday 5th June 2015, commencing at 9:00am.

##### ORDINARY BUSINESS

##### 1. Financial Statements

To receive and consider the Financial Statements; and the reports of the Directors and Auditors for the period ended 31 December 2014.

##### 2. Directors

##### Election of Directors:

Rev Sommy Setu retires by rotation in accordance with the Company's Constitution and being eligible, offers himself for re-election.

Fr Denny Guka retires by rotation in accordance with the Company's Constitution and being eligible, offers himself for re-election.

Fr Janusz Skotniczny, SVD retires by rotation in accordance with the Company's Constitution and being eligible, offers himself for re-election.

Following is the current list of directors and when their terms end;

Bishop Francesco Sarego, SVD term ends 2017

Rev Bernard Siai	term ends 2016	alternate, Mr Uvenama Rova
Fr Paul Liwun SVD	term ends 2016	
Rev Sommy Setu	term ends 2015	
Mr Lawrence Stephens	term ends 2017	
Fr Denny Guka	term ends 2015	alternate, Mr Amos Misirait
Fr Janusz Skotniczny, SVD	term ends 2015	
Fr Joseph Maciolek, SVD	term ends 2017	

##### 3. Appointment of Auditors

Kapi & Clarke Chartered Accounts, the auditors for the past year, being eligible; offer themselves for re-appointment as auditors of the Company.

##### 4. Any other business of which notice is given.

Dated this 21st Day of May 2015

By Order of the Board,

Elizabeth Konga,  
Company Secretary.

Publisher of:



WANTOK

Today

YOUTH SAY...



# Empowering youth in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century...



**Name:** Enoch Johannes  
**Age:** 25  
**Home Province:** WHP  
**Dream Job:** Civil Engineer  
**Employment:** Technical Officer at National Airports Corporation

**What do you say about implementing the death penalty?**

The Death Penalty should not be implemented in PNG.

**What do you think will happen if the death penalty is implemented?**

It will add fuel to the fire meaning it will create a lot more problems. In a setting where payback killing is becoming a norm, the idea of implementing death penalty will create more and more problems. It can even fuel a fierce tribal fight in the highlands where more damage and harm will be done.

Blood shedding is against the biblical principles. Who are we to take a brother's life. Let God alone judge.

At this age and time, every offender is equipped with at least ammunition and a gun. There will be no such thing as surrender because the culprit knows that he is a dead meat if the police catch him so there will be an exchange of fire which can result in the death of a police officer or the offender or both being severely injured.

A death will cause pain to the family and relatives of the victim/offender so there will be no corporation or a good working relationship between the police personnel and the victims' relatives in the process to investigate and apprehend the offender.

My recommendation is to maintain the current penalties in place with hard labour. Maybe he/she can change for better while serving their sentence. There are living testimonies of people who gave their lives to God and become some of the mighty preachers and also hard working Papua New Guineans. The government should look to improve the living conditions of the inmates and implement programs that will help them so that they can turn from their bad habits and become better citizens.



**Name:** Jones G Maioni  
**Age:** 25  
**Home Province:** Northern Province  
**Dream Job:** Environmentalist  
**Employment:** CC Agent - Support Team DIGICELPLAY

**What do you say about implementing the death penalty?**

It's a great approach taken by the Law and Justice sector. We should not call ourselves a Christian country while innocent people become victims of very offensive crimes and the offenders are treated lightly for their crimes. The bible states clearly that the "Wages of Sin is Death" - so be it.

**What are some of the things you think will occur if the death penalty is implemented?**

Upon the implementation of death penalty surely crime rates will decrease simply because it will bring fear into all the criminals of what the outcome of their crime would be if caught by the law and justice and found guilty of it.



**Name:** Linda Asi  
**Age:** 23  
**Home Province:** Southern Highlands  
**Dream Job:** Lawyer  
**Employment:** Student at the University of Goroka

**What do you say about implementing the death penalty?**

I think the death penalty should not be implemented because we are a Christian country. We should get down on our knees and pray for change. I think the communist way of living is trying to make its way in. If death penalty occurs killing will be going on as nobody's business and things will get out of hand.

**What are some of the things you think will occur if the death penalty is implemented?**

The Papua New Guineans are good at paying back and if a father is killed in death penalty the sons and brothers will want to kill the person responsible for killing them and things will get out of control. The good side of it, death penalty I think will reduce corruption in PNG.

**Name:** LyanneTogiba  
**Age:** 23  
**Home Province:** Madang Province  
**Dream Job:** Doing my dream job  
**Employment:** Journalist

**What do you say about implementing the death penalty in PNG?**

I'm not for death penalty. Taking another person's life is a bit extreme. However, today's crime rates and the length criminals go to, in stealing is mind-blowing. Still that doesn't warrant the death penalty, there should be a wide consultation on how a better penalty is applied to people who commit crimes. That is, something not too over the top but just right for the crime committed.

**What are some of the things you think will occur if the death penalty is implemented?**

I believe that if the death penalty is implemented, there will be no point in living anymore, because life will be seen as nothing. People will not care anymore. Our society will be given to the dogs.



## AIDS/ HIV awareness through music

By Timothy Koi

MUSIC has been combined in such a way as to produce beauty of form, harmony, and expression of emotion which is loved by everyone even the little kids. With that in mind, Harvey Sebea Hoeke is promoting HIV/AIDS awareness through music.

Harvey Hoeke established a group, Friends That Care (FTC) in 2002 and this group consists of various young talented singers with the aim of raising awareness through local and contemporary music and video production.

Since the official launch on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2002, FTC has over 1000 artists from all over the country. With the engagement of the artists, FTC uses their songs on Audio CDs, Video Clips, Educational Calendars and awareness booklets.

After its launching in 2002, FTC has been campaigning in night-clubs, markets, schools, shopping centers and other places on World Aids Day and related events. For over a decade now FTC has focused on educating young Papua New Guineans to be free from HIV/AIDS. FTC has been operating on donations from members of Parliament and business houses in the past years.

In December 2, 2013, FTC launched its long-term strategic plan known as "FTC VISION 2020" by Minister for Health Michael Mal-

abag, to promote the slogan "LET CHILDREN BE AIDS FREE CITIZENS" which was initiated by the founder Harvey Sebea. FTC is more focused in educating young children in every way to abstain or protect children from the deadly virus.

As part of the awareness program, FTC in conjunction with Papa Cidy, Jah Boy and Jagarizzar hosted a live performance at The Cosmopolitan on in NCD, last Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

The show saw 3 groups performing late into the night, with Jagarizzar opening the show followed by Jah Boy who belted out some hits including Baby Love which had the crowd singing along too. After 1am, Papa Cidy took to the stage and the crowd dancing away to his popular hit Evalina. Papa Cidy, born Hamidu Sekyeru is a Ugandan singer. He is currently on his South Pacific tour and was supported by Jah Boy from Solomon Island and Jagarizzar from PNG.

In partnership with FTC, Papa Cidy spoke out about his concern and also his support toward the program.

"I would like to say that AIDS is a terrible disease, stay away from drugs which can lead to HIV. Stay away from sex and wait for the right time, AIDS can destroy life but if you can't, use protection. My aim is to teach kids to stay away from HIV/AIDS, educate the young ones



Papa Cidy performing live at the Cosmopolitan on last week Saturday night.

before they grow older. I have lost many friends to AIDS that is why I am saying this, we should not be turning a blind eye to it. It is a great idea to support this program through my music."

Mr. Hoeke said, this is the first

event they hosted together. He said there are more coming up and in the future it will be an annual event. Their next event will be on 27<sup>th</sup> of September, this year. Apart from music, FTC has also produced booklets which will be sent out to all

the schools in the country. So far they have printed 12, 000 copies from the target of 50, 000. Those booklets will be made available in schools around the country by term three of 2015 school year through the Provincial Council of Women.

# JOINT INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER MEDIA STATEMENT 2015 Autonomous Bougainville Government Election

An international observer group observed the polling period of the 2015 Autonomous Region of Bougainville's Election following an invitation from the Papua New Guinea and Autonomous Bougainville Governments.

The group included representatives from Australia, the European Union, Japan, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. International observers were provided operational and coordination support by the United Nations and observed polling across almost all con-

stituencies in North, Central, and South Bougainville from 11 to 20 May.

The international observer group congratulates the people of Bougainville for their commitment and enthusiasm as they participated in an election that has been conducted in an often challenging environment. Polling observed by the international observer group was conducted in a peaceful atmosphere. The Office of the Bougainville Electoral Commissioner and election officials were committed in performing their du-

ties and polling stations were generally run in an effective and transparent manner. The presence of trained candidate-appointed scrutineers at polling stations and of trained domestic observers further enhanced the integrity of the voting process. The Bougainville Police Service and Community Auxiliary Police were diligent throughout polling, which enabled a safe environment for the people of Bougainville to exercise their right to vote.

The international observer group observed in some cases features

with the electoral roll and voting procedures that could be improved. The observations of the international observer group will be brought to the attention of the electoral authorities.

The Office of the Bougainville Electoral Commissioner is to be commended for its responsiveness to discrepancies with the electoral roll. The international observer group commends the Office of the Bougainville Electoral Commissioner's response to allow as many eligible Bougainvilleans as possible, the opportunity to vote in line

with Bougainville's electoral laws.

We thank the people of Bougainville, the Office of the Bougainville Electoral Commissioner, election officials, and the police for warmly welcoming the international observers. T

he international observer group will continue to observe the election during the counting period commencing on 26 May. We look forward to a continued peaceful process leading to the responsible formation of government by elected candidates.

## Gender-Based Violence is often seen as 'normal' in PNG

By Esther Bralyn Wani

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) is often considered normal in Papua New Guinea. People say it is our culture or give so many excuses for the practice of violence against women. Even some women believe that and continue to stay in that situation without knowing that violence is a cycle, it will continue until the worst happens.

An expert on GBV Isis Oru, who is with the Family Sexual Violence Action Committee (FSVAC) said culture is a living thing, which continues to be renewed and modified and changed in response to both internal and external factors. He says that it is not "static, but dynamic" – changing all the time.

He says by describing culture, we mean culture is beliefs, practices, institutions and technologies of a society. It describes what people believe, how they live, their val-

ues system and the way things are done.

"Gender Relations is not the only part of culture which is changing – we do many things our parents and grandparents would not have imagined. These are also changes in culture," said Mr. Oru.

However, some traditional and religious groups think that women are the keepers and preservers of culture. They say wives, mothers, sisters and daughters must not step outside of traditional culture. They are given names and labels as selfish, without any background or a property of a man and many more. Although, men break most of the cultural practices and beliefs they are still not burdened with the same expectation.

He also added that women also value their religious beliefs, national identity and their culture. However, he stressed that it does not mean that women should con-



Sorcery related violence. Photo: Internet.

tinue to put up with discrimination and violence. He said it is possible to preserve culture, while also making sure that all human beings have equal rights.

Mr Oru outlined, the difference between Gender and Sex. He said that sex is physical traits that identify someone as male or female such as male or female reproductive organs.

to be over possessive. There are so many reasons why people practise GBV but that is not normal.

People must not turn a blind eye on GBV. Most women and men take bride price as an excuse to use violence on women. Most of the men think that because they have paid the bride price, it is their right to discipline their wife. Even some women feel that it is normal for their husbands to use violence on them.

The government has responded to this problem by setting these Laws to protect families from GBV. They are the Family Protection Act 2013, Sexual Offences and the Evidence Act – 2003, Medical Legal Proforma – sexual offense cases, Marriage Act 2014, Gender Equity and Social Inclusion Policy and the Gender Policy- National Department for Health and HIV. Families can now be protected under these laws.

## A Historical event for the Anglican Church in PNG

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While acknowledging the presence of the Governor for NCD, the newly anointed bishop committed the Anglican Church of Port Moresby Diocese to clean the streets of Port Moresby as in partnership with National Capital District, and he invited the ecumenical friends to get brooms and rakes and sweep the city before the 2015 Pacific Games.



Bishop Guka serving the holy communion soon after his ordination at the St. Martin's Anglican Church in Port Moresby.



Archbishop Clyde Igara holds up Bishop Denny Bray Momaendo Guka's hand to present him to the faithful as the new bishop of Port Moresby diocese.

# American visitors overwhelmed by PNG's hospitality and culture

By Veronica Hatutasi

THE hospitality and friendliness of the people, diverse cultures and the pristine natural beauty of the environment has overwhelmed and won the hearts of four Americans who recently visited PNG.

Three sisters Emma Wingert of Nebraska, Rose Sternberg of Iowa, Jane Berkley and cousin, young Zoe Arkfeld came all the way from the USA on a pilgrimage to visit the grave of their late uncle Archbishop Leo Arkfeld SVD, fondly known in the Catholic Church circles as the "Flying Bishop" of Wewak, and also, to participate in the consecration and installation of the new bishop of the Wewak Catholic diocese, Bishop Jozef Roszynski last month.

Archbishop Leo Arkfeld, the Flying Bishop and a long time Divine Word Missionary in the Sepik was bishop of Wewak and also served in Madang, died in 1999 was buried at the Wirui mission cemetery in Wewak.

He was fondly called the "Flying Bishop" as he was a missionary pilot and in the absence of good road network from the 1960's through to the early 80's, Archbishop Leo flew the plane to do his pastoral and missionary work, as well as health, education, mission needs, emergencies and general deliveries to the many rural outstations, mission posts and



EXCITED WITH CARICATURES: Rose Sternberg, Zoe Arkfeld, Jane Buckley and Fr Vince Ohlinger admire their caricature compliments of popular Wantok cartoonist, Jada Wilson.

parishes in the Sepiks and the Momase regions.

Along with the three sisters and cousin was long-time missionary priest in the East Sepik, Goroka and Port Moresby and also, a one-time financial controller and general manager of Word Publishing Company, Fr Vince Ohlinger SVD. Fr Vince is the nephew of late Archbishop Leo Arkfeld. He is now retired and living at the SVD retirement house in Wisconsin, he was happy for the chance to return to PNG, a place where he spent the prime of his life in the service of the church and people of this country. He left PNG in 2001.

The four women were overwhelmed by the friendliness and hospitality of the people they met, saw, spoke with.

They were adventurous even, to have a taste of crocodile meat offered to them on their brief rendezvous along the mighty Sepik River.

By the time they had completed their two weeks in PNG, the 5 visitors had travelled in various modes of transportation including flying from Port Moresby to Wewak, by car from Wirui in Wewak on a three and half hours drive to a mission post in Timbunke in the middle Sepik, by canoe on the mighty Sepik River and by road up the Highlands Highway to Goroka and Hagen.

After completing a degree in combined Anthropology & Sociology focusing in Latin America from the University of Santa Cruz in California, Young Zoe is currently helping out with her parents business

while at the same time, pursuing a Masters in Business Studies & International Development.

She is fascinated by PNG and plans to return one day, if a chance comes her way.

"We all had a great time in PNG, talked to many people on the general happenings and it is interesting to see many different types of people, yet with many commonalities, desires and family structures.

"Everyone was really nice and helpful. This is a unique trip and a pilgrimage to remember our late uncle's 15<sup>th</sup> death anniversary, and also for the installation of the new Bishop for Wewak.

"I didn't know what to expect as I was too young and didn't know the late bishop, and the

work he did in PNG. But from what people said and did showed us he was well known, admired and loved, and he impacted on the lives of many Papua New Guineans.

The four visitors had a memorable experience on their travels and for one, the three hours' drive to Timbunke in mid Sepik was fantastic, though generally, the road was "not too good, but drivable.

"We travelled by canoe on the Sepik River, ate stewed crocodile meat which tasted delicious! But the heat was more than we are used to, however, the beautiful natural scenery, friendly people and the rich cultural activities we saw on our way compensated for that. I would like to spend more time in PNG, and I plan to return in future," Zoe said.

Their fondest memories included their reception in Wewak and also from the villagers at Timbunke.

"The reception we got at Wewak, especially upon hearing that we were family members of the late Archbishop Arkfeld who was held in high esteem by the people, was so great.

"The wonderful welcome at Timbunke by the villagers who gave us young coconuts or kulau to drink and the singing group on the boat was incredible," Rose said.

She also stated that the singing during the new bishop's installation ceremony which was a blending of tradition and the normal liturgy was something unique but awesome.

The biggest changes that Fr Vince has seen in Port Moresby in his 14

years of absence in PNG are, the rapid population growth in the city, and the deteriorating road conditions in some urban towns and cities, but the friendliness and hospitality of the people remains intact.

"There's lots more people now in towns and everywhere else one goes. Roads are a lot worse than previously, especially in Mt Hagen and Goroka.

In Port Moresby though, there are more road-works and roundabouts which can get confusing.

"But the people remain the same as ever, happy cheerful, and everyone greets you and I greet them back, which is nice."

Fr Vince congratulated the Wantok staff for their good work in keeping the newspaper going despite the many challenges faced.

## LINKING YOU TO MT HAGEN, TABUBIL & KIUNGA.\*

Tuesday: Lae - Mt Hagen - Kiunga - Tabubil - POM  
Thursday: POM - Tabubil - Kiunga - Mt Hagen - Lae

\* New route commences June 06, 2015.

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