

# Associate Action

## Welcome to the first edition of Associate Action

The purpose of this newsletter is to encourage volunteers and supporters of Wycliffe Bible Translators by providing information on what is happening. We also want to present opportunities for ministry and how you may be able to support the vital work of Bible translation around the world.

**WYCLIFFE ASSOCIATES** is the support arm of Wycliffe Australia. Over many decades volunteers and supporters have quietly worked supporting Bible translation in Australia and overseas. Often without recognition, these volunteers continue to support Wycliffe, so much so that it would be impossible for the work and ministry of Wycliffe to continue without their help.

Is God calling you into ministry? Can **you** help? Whatever skills God has given you, volunteering is a great choice!



**Volunteer Barry Martin assists in Darwin**

Barry and Kaye are based in Glenrowen, Victoria—and are regular volunteers in Darwin. They have also assisted in Kupang, West Timor and Barry was part of the Solomon Islands team this year.

***'Whenever you are a blessing to others, you receive a blessing in return'.***

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## New National Coordinators Appointed

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Peter and Yvonne Gillespie as National Coordinators of Wycliffe Associates. Peter and Yvonne come to Wycliffe with many years of experience and a deep commitment to mission and the Bible translation movement.

Over the past two years Peter and Yvonne have been able to help with building projects and maintenance in Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, and Darwin, and in doing so have seen the possibilities that exist for Christians from all walks of life to use their skills to meet the specific needs of translation projects.

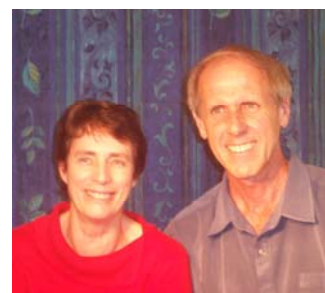
In their role as National Coordinators of Wycliffe Associates, Peter and Yvonne will liaise with Wycliffe work both overseas and in Australia, and make known short-term needs. These needs may be met by work parties or individual placements.

Members of Wycliffe Associates also play a number of other vital roles within Australia such as coordinating Wycliffe prayer meetings,

providing hospitality, welcoming returning missionaries with dinners, supporting new teams, being Wycliffe advocates, fund raising events, etc. If you are interested in participating in some of these ways please drop Peter and Yvonne a line and they will get back to you or forward your request on to a Wycliffe Associate group nearest to you.

Personally I also express my appreciation to Peter and Yvonne for their willingness to take on this role. They have the kind of servant heart that forms the basis of Wycliffe Associates and I know that under their leadership Wycliffe Associates will be known not only for what they contribute but also for the encouragement they bring by the way they get alongside our Wycliffe colleagues around the world.

In His Name  
**Barry Borneman**  
Executive Director  
Wycliffe Bible Translators Australia



### Special points of interest:

- New First Edition
- Meet the new National Coordinators
- Work Party news
- Coming Events

## 24 DAY 2009 RED CENTRE AND WEST COAST TOUR

This is truly an amazing opportunity and one you will never forget. Come and see the Red Centre and West Coast of Australia with Wycliffe Associates Australia on their 2009 Tour.

The tour starts on 22 August from Melbourne. Travel will take you to Adelaide, Coober Pedy, Alice Springs, Uluru through to Katherine and on to Kakadu. From there you will visit Kununurra and travel down the west coast to Perth.

Check out our website:  
[www.wycliffe.org.au](http://www.wycliffe.org.au)

or contact John Walder  
Ph: 03 9431 5028  
Mob: 0427 524 914



## God Provided: Alice Springs AuSIL Office relocated

In June, an urgent SOS was sent out by the Director of the Alice Springs AuSIL office. They had just been given notice to vacate their rented accommodation. This was a major concern as at that stage they had nowhere to go, nor anyone to assist. Wycliffe Associates were asked to help. An SOS was sent out for prayer and volunteers who may be able to assist.

God answered the prayers and provided volunteers. A number of Associates responded to say that they were going on holidays through Alice Springs and would be happy to adjust their travel dates to coincide with the move.

New premises were obtained and the shift began.

'Along with Peter & Marta from Adelaide we did most of the moving over five days. It was good to help out and meet everyone. The new office is a blessing to the staff,' said volunteer David Thompson.



Neil Broad, David Thompson and Rachel Bigg at the new premises

Neil Broad, AuSIL Director said, 'It was indeed an answer to prayer for us'.

The people who helped were David & Anne Thompson, Peter & Marta Greeneklee and Bryan & Janet Ezard helped with unpacking.

*'God answered the prayers and provided volunteers'*

## New Missionary Accommodation in the Solomon Islands

Wycliffe Associates from Australia and the USA combined to help nationals construct new missionary accommodation in the Solomon Islands earlier this year. The work entailed a two-storey extension to the MAF building, known as the 'Loft'. Although the work was not completed we were able to get the building to secure lockup stage. National staff were taught building skills and now have the task of completing the project. The work would never have been attempted without the aid of the work party.

God's 'providence' was revealed time and time again as the weeks passed by. Although there was heavy rain most evenings, we did not lose any time due to wet weather. It was only during a break in the work that the rain fell during the days, however when we started again the rain stopped and stayed dry until the roof was finished.



The happy team

The work is now being completed by national staff, who gained many skills by being able to work in a mixed team. They are now finishing the internal lining and flooring. However there is still a lot of work to do.

Other members of the team were able to assist with projects including soft furnishing replacement, curtains and upholstery, library cataloguing, data entry, maintenance, catering and many other tasks.

One of the themes that keeps coming out in short-term mission, is discovering that it is not about the work but how God touches lives for eternity.

## Interview with new National Coordinators

'Our passion has been to support the work of the gospel of Christ,' said Wycliffe Associate Peter Gillespie. 'Retirement presented a new opportunity of time not available during a working career'.

Peter and his wife Yvonne had been financial and prayer supporters of the work of Bible translation for over 40 years. But as retirement neared, they began to consider how they might become more involved.

The couple dipped their toes in the water by signing up for a Wycliffe Associates USA short-term mission in Vanuatu, where Peter assisted with building maintenance and painting, while Yvonne used her skills as a seamstress to sew curtains for the Bible translators' accommodation. But that was just the beginning. This trip followed with another mission trip to the Solomon Islands to assist in renovating mission houses. 'One of the missionaries was so appreciative of the fact that we bothered to help, that she was moved to tears,' Peter recalls. 'Whenever you are a blessing to others, you receive a blessing in return'.

By this time the Gillespies were convinced that God was leading them in this direction and that such service would be the best use of their time

and resources in retirement. A Darwin trip followed doing building maintenance.

As retirement approached Peter received an SOS email from Vanuatu, asking for help to complete a partly built home for Bible translators before the cyclone season hit the Maskelyne Islands. 'I immediately thought, I would love to do that job,' Peter said. 'I discovered that by adjusting my retirement date, I could'.

Peter moved his retirement date, was able to take leave, and within a week was hard at work helping to complete the construction of David and Sue Healey's village house.

It is a privilege to be able to serve with Wycliffe Associates. Their efforts are not only a blessing to missionaries, but are helping to accelerate Bible translation by freeing up translators to focus on their important work.

Peter and Yvonne have been accepted as members of Wycliffe in the role of National Coordinators, Wycliffe Associates Australia.

This year they have already spent 8 weeks in Solomon Islands and 3 weeks in Vanuatu assisting Wycliffe with building construction and maintenance.

'One of the missionaries was so appreciative of the fact that we bothered to help, that she was moved to tears'

### Work Party at Kangaroo Ground — 10 - 31 October

Wycliffe Associates Australia is looking for volunteers to join with WA USA to help during a work party at the National Centre. The work involves renovating some student and missionary accommodation and SIL staff offices. There will be jobs for whatever level of skill you have and accommodation is available for out-of-town volunteers. You do not have to work for the whole 3 weeks. Even if you can only spare a day or two you would be welcome. Pray that God will send helpers for this task. If helping at this work party is what God is prompting you to do, contact Peter Dunstan 0408 329 537 or Don Wake (03) 9717 4032 or 0407 926 751.

There is a need for 6 to 10 volunteers a day. Spread the word!

### WA Team Help in Vanuatu



A Wycliffe Associates team helped national staff with valuable building skills when the main office was extended and a carport constructed during June 2008.



A dugout was part of leisure time activities.

### New Website Launched



New 'Ends of the Earth' website launched for the young generation. Check it out and spread the word.

[www.endsoftheearth.com.au](http://www.endsoftheearth.com.au)

## FAQs

### Q — What is Wycliffe Associates Australia?

Wycliffe Associates Australia is the support arm of Wycliffe Bible Translators Australia. It is not a separate organisation.

### Q — Who are Wycliffe Associates?

Wycliffe Associates are volunteers who freely give of their time to support the work of Bible translation. Volunteers are encouraged to sign up and register their name and addresses so that they can be kept informed of the activities and opportunities available to serve.

### Q — What activities do they do?

Activities include almost any activity that will support or enhance the work of Bible translation. Activities include, but are not restricted to, prayer, leading and attending Wycliffe prayer groups, giving, office support, administration, building construction and maintenance, grounds maintenance, cleaning, catering, attending work parties, sewing and upholstering, library support, computing, child minding, conducting and supporting fund-raising functions and dinners, teaching, short-term mission, promoting Wycliffe in local churches and hospitality.

### Q — Do I have to have a trade skill to help?

No, the most important thing you need to help is a servant heart. Of course there will be occasions when a trade skill is needed on a job, but other times what is needed is a willingness to help and an aptitude for the work.

### Q — How can I help?

For more information contact your nearest Wycliffe office or [info\\_australia@wycliffe.org](mailto:info_australia@wycliffe.org), or any of the address details below.

## Good News In Anyone's Language



Translation checking - Vanuatu

## Coming Events

### 2008

- **13 September**  
South Australian branch dinner  
All Welcome  
Contact Lester Coad 08 8382 5518
- **19 September - 5 October**  
Work party Tree Tops Lodge Cairns
- **10 - 31 October**  
Work party Kangaroo Ground Vic  
Contact Peter Dunstan 0408 329 537
- **18 October**  
Victorian branch dinner  
All Welcome  
Contact Wycliffe office 03 9712 2777

### 2009

- **24 April - 15 May**  
Work party Lae PNG  
Contact Rob McEwin  
[citifarm@aanet.com.au](mailto:citifarm@aanet.com.au)
- **22 August - 14 September**  
Red Centre & West Coast Tour  
Contact John Walder 0427 524 914

Other events are being planned and work requests are being received. Contact the office for more information.

## Please Pray

- that God will send forth workers into the harvest
- that God's Word will become available in all mother tongues
- that we may be faithful in supporting the movement of Bible translation

*We'd like to provide you with daily prayer points for the work of Bible translation. Please let us know if you wish to receive these.*

## Vacancies

Current vacancies exist for a Business Manager & Administrative Officer at EQUIP Training, Kangaroo Ground.

Email: [info\\_equip@sil.org](mailto:info_equip@sil.org)

Many other vacancies exist. For information refer to the website or contact the National Office.

## Please ensure we have your correct email address

If you received this in the mail it is because we don't have an email address for you. To save postage please ensure that we have your correct email address. Please forward your email address to: [peter-yvonne\\_gillespie@wbt.org](mailto:peter-yvonne_gillespie@wbt.org)

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GOOD NEWS IN  
ANYONE'S LANGUAGE

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