

## Dental training offered at CLTC

*"Now to Him who is able to do super-abundantly more than all that we dare ask or think (infinitely beyond our greatest prayers, hopes, or dreams), according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be the glory."*

Ephesians 3:20



**Eighteen months ago God challenged me... did I really believe that He could do "super-abundantly more than all I could dare ask or think"?**

There are so many needs here in Papua New Guinea, but one that stuck out to me was the massive need for dental care. Nearly every smile I looked at illuminated decaying teeth. Nearly every day there was someone in our health clinic with toothache. According to World Health statistics for 2013 there were only 13 qualified dentists outside of Port Moresby (for 7 million people).

I couldn't escape from the nudge of the Holy Spirit to help do something. I prayed, "God show me how I can start up a dental service to help the PNG people."

Jump forward 18 months. After lots of prayer, faith for his provision, contacts and ideas, CLTC now has a dental clinic that has nurses

trained in dental hygiene and tooth extraction! God has done super-abundantly more than all I could ask and think!

Two weeks ago a team of seven came from the USA to train 10 people in dental hygiene and tooth extraction. Four of those who were trained came from other rural health clinics, four from our own clinic, and two are students here who will start a clinic when they return to their own village at the end of the year.

***"There [are] only 13 qualified dentists outside of Port Moresby..."***

After two days in the classroom, we went out to find patients to practise on. No trouble finding plenty, and at the end of the week 235 teeth had been removed and approximately 30 sets of teeth cleaned!

Since then our dental clinic has been open every day and we

have received a steady stream of patients. Pictured above are Shemiah and Nyree who extracted a very decayed tooth that had caused this girl pain for a long time. Both the girl and her mother were very thankful for the help we could give.

Every day I hear multiple stories of the positive impact our dental clinic has had on someone's life. A 15-year-old boy shared, "I have had problems with this tooth since I was seven years old. It gives me so much pain. Until now, I haven't been able to afford to have it removed." An old lady came in with many broken and decaying teeth, which gave her constant pain. She has never been able to afford dental treatment. She was overjoyed when we were able to remove seven teeth. She left the clinic with a big smile and shook our hands profusely.

**by Jill Tait**  
Health Promotion Officer at CLTC

*See more dental class photos – p3.*

# Newton & Daisy Ekoda

## New Students



The start of an academic year fills the CLTC Banz campus with new faces. Meet Newton and Daisy Ekoda, a couple in our education program. Newton is from Erero in Oro Bay, Oro Province, and Daisy is from Oro and Jiwaka.

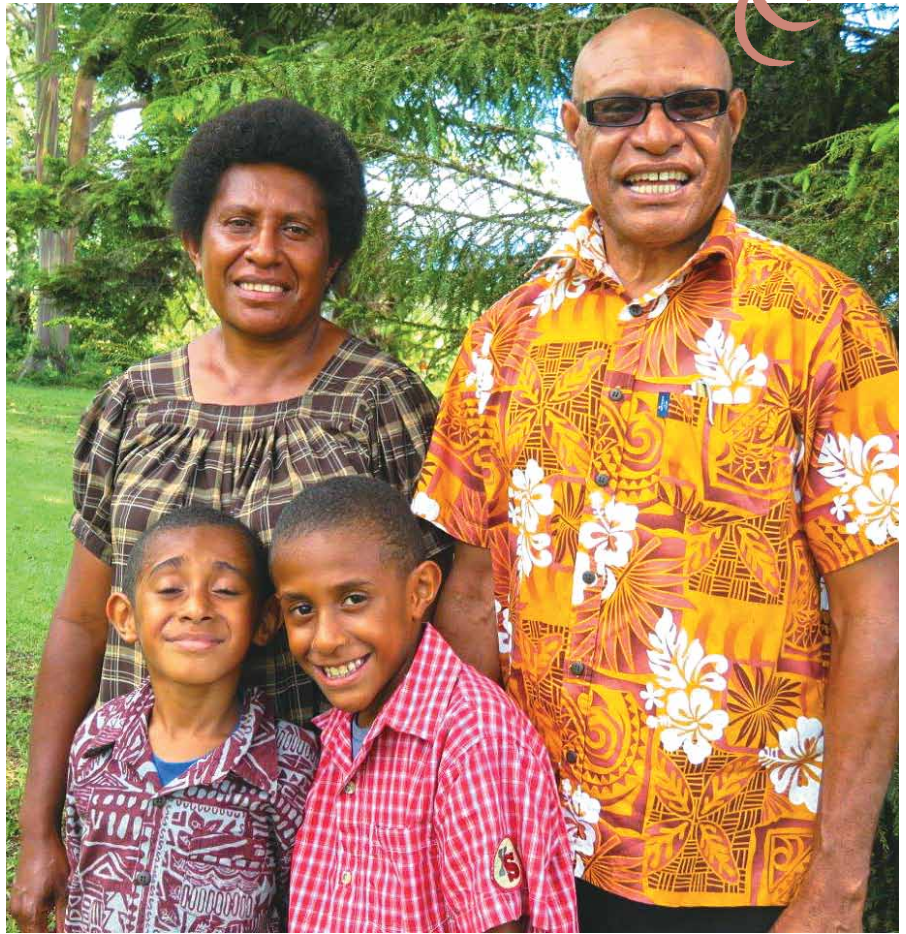
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Newton and Daisy are not complete strangers to CLTC. Newton came to know about CLTC back in the early 80s through the *Come Follow Me* booklet, and in 1996 enrolled at the college. Daisy has attended Missions Week programs and has done TEE courses. It was at CLTC that Newton's and Daisy's paths crossed. Newton said he met Daisy while he was a student here and they got married in 2006. 12 years on, they have two wonderful boys – Gardham, 9, and Garland, 6.

Before returning to CLTC, Newton and Daisy were ministering in the remote Jimi District of Jiwaka Province. Newton taught at the Kerina Anglican College for four years and did evangelism work among the surrounding communities. Daisy taught at the nearby primary school, ran a literacy program and Bible study for the students' wives, and took Sunday School.

In the last term of 2017, Newton taught Youth Ministry and Daisy taught in the Kindy and Elementary Schools. During the Christmas holidays, Newton filled in the position of Chaplain while the Chaplain was on compassionate leave.

Newton enthusiastically says, "I want to further my knowledge in Theology at a higher level whilst Daisy equips herself in Theology, so we can work together as a couple in Kingdom business." Indeed, Newton and Daisy have been training and improving their education as God continues to use them for his ministry. Newton went to Popondetta High School from 1975-1978 and completed secondary training through CODE in 1994. In 1996, he came to CLTC, and graduated with a BTh in 2000. Now he is back to



Newton and Daisy Ekoda with their sons Garland and Gardham.

***"I want to further my knowledge in Theology at a higher level whilst Daisy equips herself in Theology, so we can work together as a couple in Kingdom business."***

do his Master of Theology (MTh) to sharpen himself for ministry.

Daisy, a qualified primary school teacher, is training alongside her husband. She attended Hagen Park High School from 1990-1993, then entered Holy Trinity Teachers College in 1994 and graduated with a Diploma in Primary School Teaching in 1996. Daisy says that the TEE courses she has done have given her the knowledge to provide leadership among women and children. To further equip herself, she is currently enrolled to do an Advanced Diploma of Ministry.

Newton, Daisy, and their children are excited and ready to start their new schools. "Gardham is doing Grade 3 and Garland is doing Big Kindy; they are excited about their new schools." Newton adds that he and Daisy are looking forward to what awaits them in their programs of study and hope to teach together wherever the Lord leads after studies. But he sees that their daily walk with Christ together with the upkeep of their home, and how this affects life in the college will be a great challenge to them.

Nonetheless, Newton says that to study here will not be a problem. He says, "We and our children love it here. We call it home."





# Isaachar Meikwar

Student President



**Tell us a bit about yourself, your family and your program of study.**

I am married with four children. My wife, Elizabeth, and I are doing BTh 1 this year. Our children are in Grades 9, 8, and 4 and the eldest is doing his Diploma in Community Development here at CLTC. My wife and I were both school teachers and are from a remote village in the East Sepik Province.

**How and when were you given the responsibility of student president?**

In 2016 I was one on the list of those chosen by the Faculty and was voted in by the students.

**As the student president what are your areas of responsibility?**

I have many responsibilities such as issuing work duties, running the students' canteen, organizing meetings, attending faculty meetings, visiting students, helping out in various events such as Crossroads Easter Camp, Missions week, and many other events in the college.

**Who are your partners or people who work with you to ensure that responsibilities are met?**

My wife and children help me do urgent work when it is needed. The SRC (Student Representative Council), class mates, my provincial group, denominational group, Deans,



*Isaachar and Elizabeth Meikwar and their family.*

Principal's Assistant, and Chaplain also assist in all the work.

**How do you balance your responsibilities as the president and your studies?**

I have time to do my studies and I also have time set for each activity. Even when I am busy, I still make space in my schedule to have rest and spend time with my family.

**How do you find your work? Challenging? Exciting?**

I do find my work very challenging when I have my assignments and

then in addition I am called for various meetings like Worship Committee, Faculty, SRC, Easter Camp, Missions and other class meetings. I find it hard when I issue work on Tuesday and Friday each week and find that students often don't turn up after the announcement has been made. Sometimes paying school fees is a challenge but I still continue serving in my responsibilities.



## Dental training offered at CLTC – from page 1



*The team from USA with the participants. Jill Tait, third from the right.*



*One of the dental training sessions.*

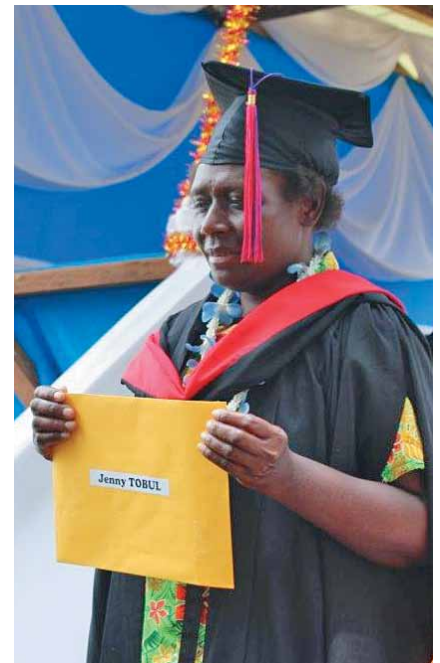




*The 2017 Graduating Women's Retreat participants.*

## Graduation 2017

There were 36 students who graduated at the end of 2017. The theme of Graduation was *Committed to Serve*. Dr Roshan Allpress, President of Laidlaw Bible College in New Zealand, was the guest speaker. Four students gave testimonies: Alison Maris, Wives program; Joel Iwo, Diploma of Ministry; Caleb Dankro, Bachelor of Theology; and Jenny Tobul, Master of Theology. They spoke about God's faithfulness and sustaining power and shared their experiences of God's goodness as they went through their time here at CLTC.



*Jenny Tobul.*

## The 2017 Graduates' Retreat

The Men's Retreat was held in the Faculty Building. The theme was *Listening to God in the time of Choosing*. From our speakers, the Rev Langsoon Lamamao and the Rev Dr William Longgar, we received the challenge that wherever we are called to go we must always listen to God and follow. If we are sent to a remote area where there is nothing, we cannot worry about the education of our children and the standard of living. God will always be there to satisfy needs. We have only to listen to Him.

— by Joe Piwi

Our theme for the Women's Retreat was *Follow in His Steps through Self-Control*. We learned how we can apply self-control in our ministry and in our leadership. Pate Wayne and Rachelle Haon took us in our studies on this theme. Iru Longgar led us in the communion service. Rebecca Yandit and Elizabeth Meikwar led us in devotions. Specifically, we learned that as Christians we need self-control in life if we are to be a model or example to others. I realized at this time that I was one who didn't have self-control, but now my life has begun to change little by little.

— by Marguerite Tom

## New CLTC Internet Service Provider — faster and more reliable

*Interview with Jonathan Zureo, IT Manager*

Jonathan, I understand we now have a new Internet Service Provider. Can you tell me who this is and what speed of access this gives us?

The speed of the new internet system is 2 megabytes per second, up from 512 kilobytes previously, so it is 4 times as fast. This new service uses a VSAT system, which is a satellite stationed over the Pacific Ocean, and we are getting this from an Internet Service Provider called Excite PNG Ltd.



How is this different from the previous provider? Are there any new features?

The features are much the same, but the speed and cost are more attractive. One important advantage is that the service is up and running

almost all the time, contrary to our previous provider. A new feature is that the content is filtered by the service provider.

What activities and/or networking benefits, not available on the previous system, does the new system allows us to use?

The major benefit is that the new system allows the staff and students more reliable access to their email and the internet. I'm sure they appreciate this!



## From the Principal Rev Dr William Longgar

*Greetings to all our generous supporters in the ministry  
of Jesus Christ at CLTC.*

# God's Blessings through Evil and Suffering

When my son Richard turned seven in 1992, my wife and I decided to throw a little party for him. At our invitation, his cousins and other friends from Rabaul came to the party. Naturally, there were lots of birthday presents. After the relatives were gone, Richard started opening the presents.

We sat watching him excitedly opening all the presents and noticed he was going first for the presents wrapped in beautiful glossy paper. He suddenly stopped when it came to the last present, which was wrapped in old newspaper. At our insistence he finally opened that particular present. When he did, his face lit up. That present, wrapped in old and ugly newspaper, was so beautiful and out-valued the rest of the birthday presents. In fact, it became his favourite.

My son's birthday story reminded me of our experiences as children of God. The beauty of God's blessing in our lives does not always come in glossy papers. It comes through evil and suffering. One often hears critics ask, "If God is good and loving; why does he allow so much evil and suffering in the world? Why do innocent people suffer?" My dear graduates, PNG and overseas friends, I believe strongly in my heart that evil and suffering do not disprove the existence and the mercy of God. If anything, suffering and evil increase God's mercy and make his existence real and deeper in our life experiences.

Evil and suffering are not evidence against God and will never disqualify his love, goodness, and mercy. They serve to enhance God's purposes in our lives. Suffering for me is God's beauty salon; it serves to

perfect and beautify our lives and purifies our faith. Joseph through imprisonment rose to be the Prime Minister of Egypt; Job through great losses and suffering received a double portion of God's blessing; a terminally ill believer may not be healed physically, but through death assumes a new body and a place in glory in the presence of the Creator.

***"The knowledge of our  
Saviour's own suffering  
should give us deep  
consolation and strength  
in the face of the brutal  
realities of life on earth."***

Evil and suffering are an opportunity for God; they affirm God's goodness and mercy, and prove that God is bigger, greater, and more powerful than our suffering. As we hold firmly to him in our faith he turns our sufferings into "beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified" (Isaiah 61:3).

It concerns me a great deal when increasingly in PNG and Melanesia, a "cross-less Christianity" is being preached, declaring that suffering is not of God or from God but from Satan. I wish to counter this heresy by saying that God himself suffered greatly through his Son. Let's not forget the Cross where God suffered much because he loved us enough to send his Son to die for us, and as if it was not enough he turned his back on his Son because he bore our sins in his body on the Cross. He did it

all to redeem us from slavery to sin. The Scripture also tells us that even our Lord Jesus was made perfect through suffering (see Heb.2:10).

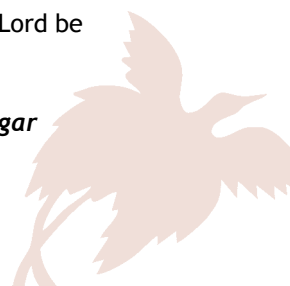
Jesus suffered much; he experienced firsthand despair, rejection, loneliness, poverty, bereavement, torture, and imprisonment – he went beyond even the worst human suffering. Hebrews speaks of him as "the author [pioneer] and finisher [perfector] of our faith who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross..." (Heb.12:2). Therefore, we have a high priest, in the person of Christ, who has pioneered suffering and tasted evil firsthand, and does sympathize with us.

We must take courage in knowing that Jesus, who is God, went to the Cross; he suffered greatly on the Cross. The knowledge of our Saviour's own suffering should give us deep consolation and strength in the face of the brutal realities of life. The Christ who suffered is truly *Immanuel, God with us*, even in our battle against evil and in our worst suffering. When we know this, then evil and suffering is God's beauty and blessing disguised in old newspaper.

It is my heart's cry and prayer that those of us who face evil and much suffering will rest assured that through it all God gives "beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified" (Isaiah 61:3).

May the name of the Lord be  
praised forever.

***Rev William K. Longgar**  
Principal*





# My favourite event at CLTC



Kay Middleton (right, back) and the participants of the Wives Program class with their book presentations.

**I have just enjoyed my favourite event at CLTC – the Wives’ Book Presentations.** There were only five ladies in the Wives Program class this year and two of them knew very little English. The other three knew lots of English so were able to help those two and we have had some great times. They loved coming to my flat. I labelled things and they walked

around and answered questions, having good conversations with each other. We also went to the Auditorium to learn a little world geography from a huge wall map there. But today was the capstone for me – they read their stories from their past – oral history written down. I invited their other teachers and some staff ladies, and it was a fun time.

## **by Kay Middleton**

*Kay has come from Chicago, USA, for CLTC’s 1st term, for the 9th time this year. She teaches English and Study Skills to the new 1st year students, and student wives who want to progress in English. Kay says this time is the highlight of her year.*



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