

# Matzkes on the Move

September 2013

## *One of the beautiful scenes we enjoyed in New Zealand*

On June 26th, we started our journey to the South Pacific. From Dallas we flew to Australia and on to New Zealand. We had almost two weeks to enjoy this beautiful country and visit with colleagues and friends on the North and South Islands. It was a wonderful time of enjoying God's creation and we were blessed by the hospitality of many. We are thankful for a bit of a holiday before heading back into our life in the Solomon Islands.

After 10 short days in the Solomon Islands, we headed to Papua New Guinea to help Sarah settle into **Ukarumpa International School** where she is in grade 11. The transition went well and Sarah settled in very quickly. Tim and I used the opportunity to meet with colleagues and Tim also attended meetings. We are grateful for a good start for Sarah and for the teachers and youth hostel parents who serve there.

As soon as we got back to the Solomons, Tim was packing his bags for a trip to Makira Island for a writer's workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to write stories in the Arosi language in preparation for the 2014 school year. The teachers wrote more than 135 stories and excitement is growing for this pilot program in which children will be taught in their own language. In early September, Tim hopes to travel to the island of South Malaita to hold a similar workshop in the Sa'a language.

Martha has jumped back into her networking with friends in the government and media. Trips to see Bible translation in other parts of the Pacific include upcoming visits to West Timor and Australia. Our suitcases are not gathering much dust in between trips!

We are thankful to be back in the Solomon Islands and grateful to be back doing the work we so enjoy.

## **Praise and Prayer:**

- **Emily** is settled in an apartment in Arlington, Texas. Please pray for healing for a shoulder injury and more hours at her security job in order to help make ends meet.
- Praise for **Sarah** settling into her new school and life in Papua New Guinea
- Pray for our upcoming biennial group conference September 19-27. Pray for good fellowship and a sense of unity as our group gathers for spiritual feeding and business meetings.
- Pray for safety in travel. Martha has plans for trips to West Timor and the USA in October. Tim will be traveling to the provinces to hold workshops and to Thailand in November.



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# Bits and Pieces...



We recently attended the 71st Anniversary of the Landing of the Marines on Guadalcanal. Our friend, Effie, received this medal for the part her dad played in WWII - paddling President Kennedy to safety in his dugout canoe. How cool is that?

Our house is located on the other side of the valley from the memorial.

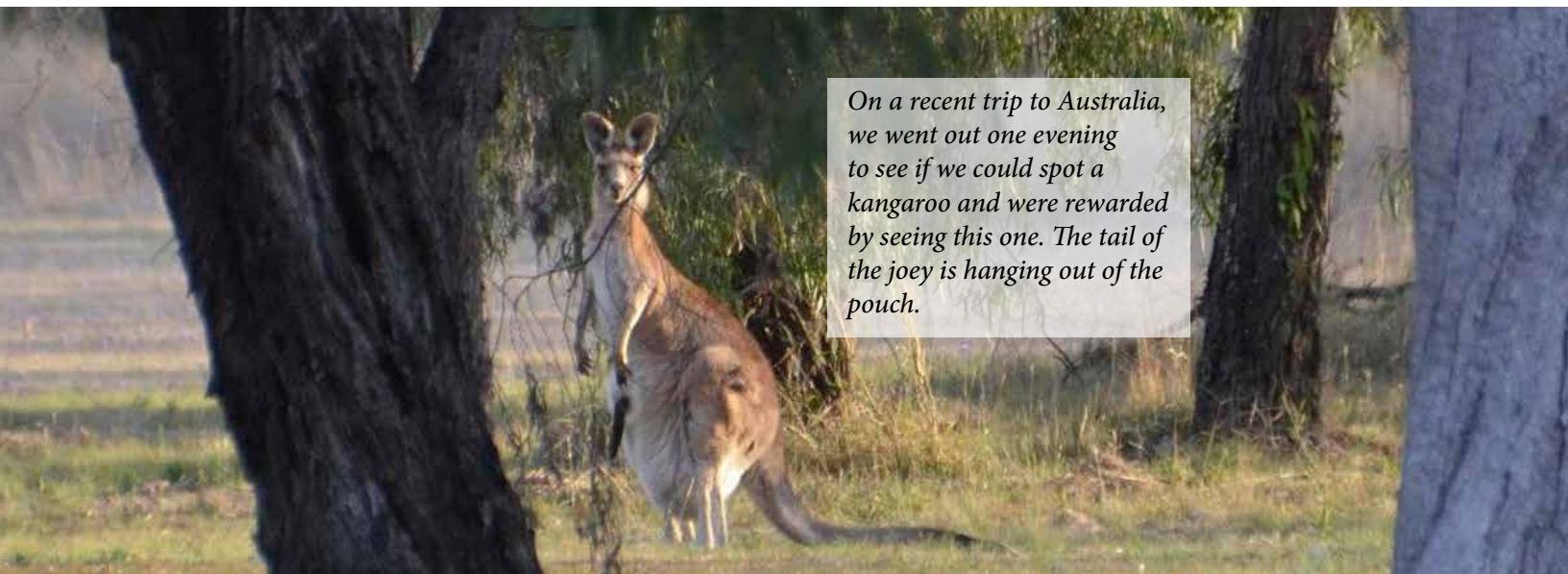


A couple of months ago, the bodies of three American soldiers from WWII were discovered not far from the American War Memorial. Their sacrifice was recognized at this year's celebration. Their bodies were sent back to the USA to confirm their identities and for burial.



It's nice to be back in our house again. It's in pretty good shape, but we are working our way through a 'to-do' list after 4 years away.

We first met Margaret and her family when we arrived in the Solomons in 1998. She is a gifted literacy teacher and in 2000, she attended a 2-year literacy course in Papua New Guinea. Today Margaret is the Arosi language coordinator for the multi-lingual education program in which Tim is consulting. It's great to have her skills and experience to help develop the program.



On a recent trip to Australia, we went out one evening to see if we could spot a kangaroo and were rewarded by seeing this one. The tail of the joey is hanging out of the pouch.