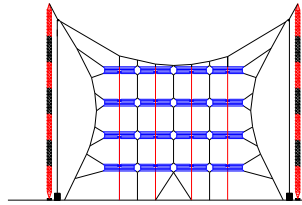
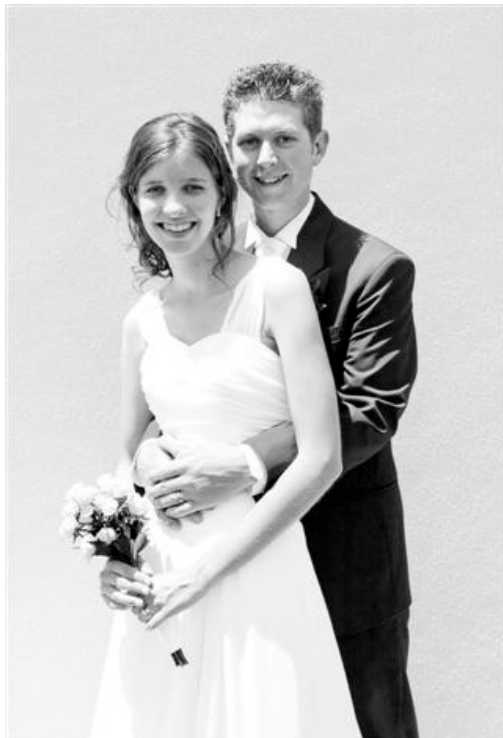


GABBIE'S SAIPAN SIFTINGS



Dear Friends,

We trust your Christmas and New Year were special for you all! We celebrated Christmas on Saipan, having Christmas dinner with the McLean Family, who have since left FEBC Saipan, and are now living back in Australia. New Year's Eve found us in Cairns, Australia, as we were on our way to NZ for Aaron & Jess's wedding! We were given free accommodation, and free use of a car in Guam by a friend who is a teacher there, so we did the tourist thing there for 1 night and a day before flying to Cairns, where we were looked after by Owen's aunty.



Irene bought her wedding outfit there, as we had 4 days to fill while waiting for our flight to NZ. We were able to watch Caleb participate in his 2nd Tauranga Half Ironman, Irene & Owen's Mum watched Owen and Caleb do a tandem skydive - a Fathers Day/ Christmas present from the boys, help

move Aaron & Jess's "belongings" to their new apartment in Auckland, help with wedding preparations, and then enjoyed the wedding. It was a lovely day, with a garden reception at Jessica's parents home and of course Jessica looked beautiful! During our time in NZ we felt very blessed with the hospitality shown to us, especially in Hamilton, and we had an awesome time with the family.

March has been a busy month for us - the alarm went off at 4am, one Saturday morning, and Irene was on her way to help with registrations for Xterra Saipan, an off road triathlon known as the

"jewel of the Pacific", then the following Saturday the alarm went off at the same time. This time, Owen was the "run" part of a team doing the Tagaman Triathlon. Grace, the 12 yr old daughter of one of our missionary families, did the 2K swim, another friend did the 60K bike, and Owen did the 15K run. He was pleased with his 81 min run, finishing 10 mins earlier than he was expecting! Easter Sunday we were up early again, to take part in our anual Easter morning sunrise service , on a hill overlooking the lagoon. It was a beautiful morning, with NO rain, little wind, and blue skies, as we sang, worshiped and celebrated our Lord's Resurrection!

Work wise, Owen has been doing a lot of tower work and has changed out a lot of rusted fittings on the guy wires. The job is taking longer, as there is only Owen & Caleb to do the tower work, now that Kevin has left. It also means that for each guy wire being worked on, there are 4 trips up and down the tower! A side benefit is that this provided extra training for the triathlon for Owen! As a matter of interest, there are 40 guys that need attention, and it can take up to 6 hours to do a guy! We are about 75% complete at this time! There is still much to do once the guy project is completed - the 3 antennas need to be lowered and repairs done to them, and while they are on the ground, some other related parts will be replaced as well.

Letter from a listener from Guangdong:-
*Ever since I joined the VFS some time back, I have reaped great benefits indeed. In the past, I have tried self-study, followed plans of some sort but soon fell by the wayside for lack of self-discipline. Things became different after I enrolled for the Bible classes -- I felt that I was a student once again! There was an air of apprehension as I attended the regular sessions. I appreciate the meticulous effort of the teachers and their great lecture notes. They explored the historical background to every book in the Bible with their lucid explanations, imparting a sense of continuity as we move from one book to the next. The Bible could thus be appreciated in its entire perspective. Tests carried out after every topic made us go more in-depth and appreciate the Word, as well as its Author, all the more in a way not possible otherwise. We might be tired out, but neither could we afford to slacken!)
VFS is "Voice of Friendship Seminary, a program that we broadcast from Saipan.*

Well, this has been our life since we last wrote to you! Thank you again for your love, prayer, support, emails, and letters! May God bless you!!

Owen Irene

March 2008