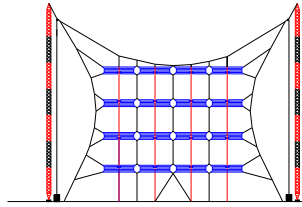


# GABBIE'S SAIPAN SIFTINGS



Dear Friends,

Three trips to the airport in the last month! Two of them when we would normally be sleeping. Two of them saying farewells to FEBC staff who have left permanently - Brubaker's for retirement, and the Myers for medical reasons. Pray for both as they re-acclimate to life back in the states. The third trip was to welcome back the Kimball's who have been in the states on furlough. Pray for them, too, as they get back into the swing of things here. We are thankful that Neils has been added to our duty engineer roster. This makes for a 3 week rotation instead of the two week one, once Dean left! Please continue to pray that God would provide more engineers to join us in our work.

Owen & Caleb have spent time on the towers, doing a variety of maintenance tasks - electrical - changing some wiring for the tower lighting, 6 replacing blown lamps, and the usual job of replacing rusted braces as and where needed. It's a long slow job, as only one brace can be replaced at a time. If more than one is done at a time, it would weaken the structure quite considerably. Owen has also had some transmitter problems to help solve, too. One job had the guys working all day Saturday til 8pm, which was just in time for the evenings broadcast. It was a long day! The problem turned out to be a failed component on a circuit board.

Irene has continued to volunteer at the local hospital's gift shop, and enjoys meeting people there. Twice a week she is assisting a friend who is a physical therapist, with pool exercises for those who have had surgery or injuries. This is at one of the nicer resorts on island, which happens to be close by! Another way of meeting people! Now that school is back, she has continued helping our friend Terry in her classroom, too.

We continue to enjoy the home group we attend. With the recent start of the new school year, a few of the new teachers have begun to attend. Vacation Bible School went well, with plenty of helpers to lead and guide the 120 kids that attended! 37 made a first time commitment to follow Jesus! Long time island friends of ours lost a daughter in a tragic car accident. The resulting Memorial Service for her was a real testimony to the community because of her strong faith in the Lord. The family is well known on island because of their sporting involvement.

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> was Labor Day here, and we joined the Marriage Encounter "family" for a potluck BBQ lunch and games afternoon at one of our beach-side parks. We had fun! We are now looking forward to the visit of friends from our home church in Waihi, in a couple of weeks time!

A listener from Shandong, China writes....

*It was during the year between 1979 and 1980 that I followed my parents' footsteps and became a Christian. My parents' faith in God was strong. At the time, we listened to Christian radio broadcast very often. We knew the anchormen well. We went to church together as a family to worship God. In the beginning, my faith was from my parents. It was in the spring of 1985 that I came to God personally. That spring, I contracted an unusual illness. I slept for nine days and my body temperature rose to about 41 to 42 degrees Celsius. I went through a lot of medical examinations. No conclusive diagnosis was made. No one knew what disease I had. My parents knew that I was a child of God. God would heal me. They took me home. They prayed for me and they invited brothers and sisters from church to pray for me. Later, my parents invited brothers and sisters from churches in our area to meet at my home and to pray for me. That day, I was healed. That day, I experienced God's presence and his power. I had a clear mind and my temperature was normal. That day, I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and I offered myself for His service.*

*"I live in the northern region of Russia. One day, as I was riding in the train, returning home from Moscow, a man started a conversation with me. We talked about God. I felt that he had something I never had, a sense of a greater purpose in life. Before he exited the train at his station, he recommended I listen to FEBC radio. That's how I became your listener. I listened for maybe a year before I accepted Christ. God completely transformed my life. I am a new creation in Him, and this is not an exaggeration. I am now a member of a great church, and we are changing our city for Christ." - Sergey from Petrozavodsk*

As mentioned in our last newsletter, we will be coming back to NZ in December, to spend time with family, catch up with as many of you as we can, and share what God is doing with and through us. We are planning a family holiday, between Christmas and New Year, but at this time we don't have a place to stay. If anyone wants house sitting done - preferably in the mid North Island, we may be the ones for you! Please let us know if you can help us out. Our deputation will start in February, so we are open for bookings! Please email us, or contact the NZ office with available dates. Once again, we want to thank each one of you for supporting us either in prayer, or financially. May God bless you!

*Owen Irene*

September 2009