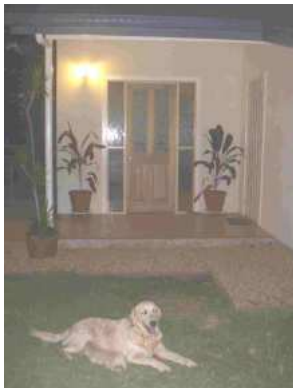


IMLA NEWS — DECEMBER 2007

HELP! We really need help! This year has been so busy with new and exciting ministry as well as maintaining and seeing the existing works go ahead that we have not had the time to sit down and report all the exciting news. We really need help with administration and reporting IMLA news to you! **PLEASE PRAY for this vital part of our ministry.**

2007—Has been a year of huge blessing to the Musch Family and the whole IMLA team because of the work that has been done on the IMLA base, Mossman Gorge Community Church, vehicle donations and the number of tremendous people who have contributed in various ways .



New Grand Entrance complete with Lady and New Pup

THANKYOU to all who have blessed us with prayer, finances, time and encouragement .



But don't think you've missed out on all the fun! Shed-Workshop repair / extensions have just begun! See p5

Missionaries from PNG to Oz

We now have with us for a six-week trial period Haniel Joe -- associate pastor from the Wingei AOG, former mission station of PNG. Haniel has sensed God's call as a missionary to Australian aboriginal people for the past 10 years. For the past two years we have been corresponding until I was able to go to Wingei and meet Haniel, his wife and family who now live in the old mission house of the station. He is the associate pastor to Francis Seni, the senior minister there who preached with such effect at Beswick last year. **Haniel has a wife, Litina and two daughters-Joy and another born last night not yet named.** Haniel has come over with the endorsement of his district churches to work with IMLA and hopes to bring his family over in the new year. He has been saving and raising support for five months for the airfare and travel expenses.

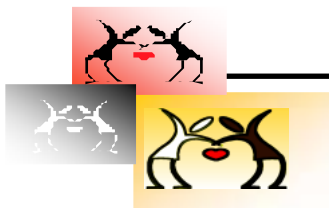
Since receiving God's call as a missionary Haniel has been diligent to prepare himself. He has served as the youth leader/pastor, district youth pastor, completed three years Bible College, led church planting teams planting a number of churches and been the principal of the regional Bible College.



Haniel with Kuku Yalanji family Bush camp @Shipton's Flat, in Cape York.

His qualifications amazed me as does his faithfulness to the call despite there having been no door opening that he could see to come to Australia for many years.

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW EMAIL ADDRESS— we have had to change our address because of all the spam emails coming through. We are updating our database and wanting to send our newsletter by email more so please send us your contact details and we will be able to email prayer points and



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Haniel's wife Litina (below) has some experience



Litina

in administration which will help her to support her husband in their future work together. Please pray for Haniel as this is his first trip overseas and his first exposure to aboriginal people and ministry. By far the majority of people who step into leadership in this

field of ministry including Australian Aboriginal Christians, find the pressures overwhelming. However we believe, those that God has called, He has been preparing. Please pray also for his health as our western diet and possibly a recurrence of malaria has been knocking him around since he got here. Obviously his wife and family back in PNG also need prayer with his wife having just given birth to a baby girl last night at 8.30 PM



Joy

Right now Francis, and when he returns, Haniel will be coordinating the raising of support from among the believers in their local church and the district. As the average wage in the area is approximately \$12.50 AUD / week it is a huge challenge for them to raise the necessary support that is required by the Australian government before he would be given the appropriate Visa. **In an effort to support their missions vision we see to have got involved in Vanilla importing in that we have connected Wingei Church vanilla growers with a wholesaler that supplies Coles, Woolworths and IGA. If all goes to plan you might be able to buy fresh vanilla beans from your local supermarket and be supporting PNG missionaries.** This could prove to be a considerable economic advancement for the community. If you or your church may be interested in helping to support Haniel and his family as missionaries who will initially work with us in the Cape York region please contact us. If you are in the southeast Queensland region we may be able to meet with you in the first couple of weeks of January 08. Give us a call!

Outstations Ripe for Harvest - Whole Communities Crying Out for the Gospel.

You may remember in a previous newsletter our report of the whole community of Manmoyi coming to Christ. Since then we have done our best to coordinate some follow-up mostly between the IMLA

team and MAF. I was running a day late and when I arrived I found there was nearly nobody there. It was easy to get over the disappointment though when I found out that **they were away doing Ministry on another outstation. The community that they had gone to was a least 100 km off the main road (you would probably call the main road just a track if you saw it- The main Rd is what I'm looking for in the above photo and right.)** Some weeks

beforehand they had gone out to do an outreach in Maningrida. They were greatly encouraged the day after their outreach to find a lady who had come out for prayer because she was stooped over and could hardly walk, now doing her own shopping in the supermarket, walking perfectly upright.



Guyuwanga and Emmanuel lead an open air meeting at Manmoyi.

We are beginning to see the fulfilment of the "word" that God had given me the night this whole community committed to Christ-that to God's plan and purpose for Manmoyi was to become a fishing village from which they would launch out and fish for men, returning simply to mend their nets and care for their families.



Where's that Main Road gone?
Is that a crocodile?

There is still much work to do. On the way to Manmoyi when passing another small outstation called Mumega I remembered that some years ago I had met an old man who loved the Lord, at a Uniting Church Convention in Maningrida. He had asked me to visit this outstation which was his homeland. Both he and his wife were now living in the larger community of Maningrida to be close to medical care. Each time that I have passed that way with local believers they have warned me against going in there because of secret ceremonies. On this occasion as I was travelling



This IS the Main Road!

by myself I felt to make the visit. It was funny to be asked by these very black people if I was an Aboriginal which is "Binning" in their language-I suppose because I spoke and (Cont' p.5)

MUSCH FAMILY UPDATE

Wow! 2007 has been a year of great blessing for our family. We are so grateful to God for His people who are so willing to help and just love us! Thank you for all the support we received this year in prayer, in financial support, in physical hard labour and in just caring and encouraging us. When we walk together it makes the journey so much better!



Musch Family are go! Setting off for a month's ministry itinerary of Qld and the NT



Manmoyi Youth Activity

The MUSCH GIRLS

Gail - I finally finished a teaching degree after a ten year slog of studying off and on, changing units and degrees, health and personal tragedies, I finally did the last three subjects and passed! It was such a battle but I am glad that I now understand the education system better. This degree was not achieved for me to start teaching full time (that would mean a major shift in our ministry etc), rather it is a tool which we can use to start going down the track of establishing educational facilities for Aboriginal children who at the present are certainly being let down by the current system. Health wise I am still not A1 but continue on.



Mechanical Discipleship...
"If it won't fit get a BIGGER HAMMER"

Hope- Has been leading Sunday school at Mossman Gorge, was the lead of the school musical ("Captain" see pic right), participated in the local Rotary Speech competition, continued to do her fantastic photography and Art work, became an assistant Patrol Leader in Scouts, was a representative of her school at the district sports carnival and was a part of the School Student Council. She has received glowing reports from her teachers and school staff. It has been an extremely busy year for her and she has grown so much! She is nearly as tall as me and not



looking at slowing down anytime soon.

Joy- Has been helping Hope with Sunday School, was a part of the school musical (as an alien but a cute one at that!), still in Cubs, starting again with gymnastics, has been doing very well at school and is also growing in leaps and bounds. She also received a great report and we are always being complemented as to what a good girl she is. She loves to read her bible.



Joy the "Alien Choopie"

God is really blessing our two girls and we are so thankful to have them partnering with us in the ministry.

Carl - We all met Carl's biological brother and sister and their families recently for the first time and it was wonderful to be able to start building these new relationships. The cousins all got on like a house on fire—it was great to see.

We had the blessing of **3 days break as a family** with Carl this year (our current holiday record) during which we went to Seaworld and we were able to go to Dreamworld for free because of the generosity of the McAvoy Family. We were in SE Qld due to the generosity of the 'Be Gorgeous' organisation (check out their website www.begorgeous.com.au) and we were helped much while down there by the New Life Worship Centre- Arundel, Nambour Baptists, Coolumb Christian Family and Plains Christian Church.



SeaWorld Ride- Hope, Carl, Joy

We look forward to 2008 and really appreciate your support for the Musch family and the IMLA team.

Please use this Report as a reference to Pray



@ Dreamworld
Gail touches a Tiger for the first Time!

Forgiveness Week 07

Two years ago Rob Warren, Vuniani, and David Newby shared a seed vision with us. It was a vision of a week which is devoted to Christ's teaching and practice of forgiveness. This seed has taken root in the hearts of Arnhemlanders and begun to grow.

This year [Beswick believers took the reins of the meetings \(pic below\)](#) while IMLA coordinated the speakers and program for the week.



speakers and program for the week.

This year much of the planned support team for the week of meetings had to pull out at the last minute. I didn't know to what God was doing but He pulled together a great team of people from New South Wales (Including indigenous guest speakers "Nan and Pop" Button pictured right with Georgie), Queensland and the Northern Territory.



One of the objectives of Forgiveness Week is to engage the community through its leadership. Last year's proposed launch by community leaders was attended by just one elder so we sat down and had a sausage with him. This year we had a State Member of Parliament -- Terry Mills (Pictured below with Chester Hood and Anderson George), NRG Council president- Richard Kennedy, local elder- Jimmy Weeson and representatives of the Clinic, Wardens, Women's Centre, Shop of



and the School Council. One highlight was community leaders were lead by church leader -- Wayne Billy in prayer for the community in for help in their various offices. Church leader -- Loretta Ashley interviewed many of the leaders. MP Terry Mills, with great impact, publicly acknowledged his need of forgiveness for not always putting God first with the pressure of political life. The Church then gathered around community and political leaders laying hands on them as they prayed.

The impact of the week I believe was epitomised by elder Gordon John-Forest (former Ngukkur Community President) who publicly declared that he would step down from his position as a Traditional Ceremonial Law Man.

One of the reasons he gave was that aboriginal law was hard "there is no forgiveness" he said "but in Jesus Christ, that is the only place I have found forgiveness".

Requests for help to launch similar events have come from Manmoyi, Manyallaluk, Elcho Is, and Darwin.

Mossman Gorge Building Completed ! (But Jesus is still building His Church)



Max and Nancy Vanzelst (pictured left with Tony Rodgers on outreach to Wujal Wujal in Nissan Patrol Camper recently donated by Nambour Baptists) from SA were a huge blessing. They stayed at the Mossman Church for 3 Months while they painted it and

they helped with children's, women's and men's ministries on a daily basis.

IMLA Base Nearly Completed

[Mobile Mission Maintenance \(MMM pic below\)](#), Monbulk and Tyabb Churches, Frank McArdyl, Mark Thornthwaite, Max and Nancy VanZelst and many other volunteers from other churches have helped to finish the IMLA base house that now has an outside kitchen and laundry to be used by teams that come. One of the most exciting things is to finally have a front door! We definitely could not have finished it without the help of our Christian brothers and sisters.

However as you can see from the front page photo we need to repair the shed and construct a workshop for our growing involvement in community development



projects, vehicle maintenance, equipment and resource storage. If you can help please contact us.



Typical Meeting—Outdoors at Manmoyi

understood a little of their language or more likely because of the age and roughness of my vehicle and clothes. As soon as I mentioned the invitation by the traditional owner, now a couple of years old, the whole community gathered around for an impromptu meeting. As people were gathering I began to complement the old man on the fineness of the artwork he was painting on a carving that seemed destined for the tourists in the Maningrida art and craft shop. Rather than receive the complement he gestured disparagingly towards the carving and said in Kriol "It's a Mimi spirit. It's Rubbish one" (a Mimi spirit is sort of the *Arnhemland version of a vampire*). I am still struck by the desperation in his voice as he despaired **"What we want is someone to come and share with us the good news about the creator!"**

TONY RODGERS— Cape York Evangelist

Despite the tragic death of his nephew, as our vehicle rolled on the way back from Coen last year, Tony has continued to support Graham and Charmaine Bourke as they labour to plant a church in this Central Cape York Township 500Km North of Mareeba. Though each victory seems hard-won the progress has been encouraging. This year Tony has led teams and ministered in Wujal Wujal, Yarrabah, Hopevale, Mt Garnet, Jumbin, Innisfail and Manmoyi.

He also accompanied his pastor Remi Sesi to Vanuatu. Tony has also found time to begin small business studies in an effort to take his painting to a more professional level. Part of his aspirations include to open a gallery.

Anyone who has travelled in the Australian outback or has read our newsletters in the past knows that the travel involved in this sort of ministry is very expensive. Tony has funded the majority of his ministry through his art over this past year. The pastor of the Mareeba Church of Christ that Tony is part of has accepted a position as a chaplain to an aboriginal College in Western Australia next year. This means that a great deal more responsibility will fall to Tony as part of the leadership as they will be without a full-time pastor



Tony @ Mens Meeting Mossman

from January 2008. Tony is also engaged to be married to Natalie Knapp from PNG about Easter time. So Tony has a big year ahead of him.

Please pray for Tony and the IMLA Team!

Youth Ministry Dynamic Duo (Trio) move to Katherine as "Helping Hands Ministries"

Georgie and Brooke are two young ladies who've not been content to sit on the sidelines and just watch ministry. They have stepped out of their comfort zones and made themselves available for whatever God would have them do.

Originally from the Dream Centre on the Gold Coast,



Georgie

Brooke

Tristan

IMLA vice-chairman Tony Rogers tripped over them as they, along with Brooke's two-year-old son Tristan, were helping out with ministry in Coen, in the middle of Cape York. Before that they had spent a couple of months serving with the AOG in Bamaga at the very tip of the Cape.

They told Tony that they felt God was leading them to the Northern Territory and asked if he had any contacts. He put them on to us (Carl and Gail) I don't know how to say this politely but I have to admit I did wonder if a couple of sheila's in their 20s, from the Gold Coast, wandering around in the outback with a toddler might be more trouble than we could handle but they turned out to be the "Gold" in "Gold Coast". With the ministry they've taken on, they've sure signed up for more refining too!

By way of an introduction to the Northern Territory I recommended that they volunteer as workers for our **Forgiveness Week** program in Beswick. There they confirmed

all the glowing reports I'd heard about them. They demonstrated a real servant heart. As you know Tony and Gilly had been planning to leave the Northern Territory for health reasons for some time. Their vision and prayer was that God would send younger people who would be able to work with the youth and continue the ministry with **"Wheels of Fire"**. We believe theirs and our prayers have been answered. **We will miss Tony and Gilly and ask for your continuing prayers for Gilly's health.**

Georgie, Brooke and Tristan, have moved into the high house at Morrow's farm just outside of Katherine on the river. Together with Gary



Armstrong, Bruce and Alan Morrow and the Wheels of Fire team, the ladies have set up the house as

their home and a base for visiting youth teams in particular.

They have begun to work with the Beswick Church and the new team in Manyallaluk and others in the Katherine Region to help initiate and support youth and women's ministries as a focus. Making disciples of the aboriginal community youth is something that few have succeeded at in the past and they have already begun a very steep learning curve. It is also a desperate need. They are already proving the old saying that "when the going gets tough the tough get going."

Both Georgie and Brook come from some very painful backgrounds. But it is this very pain that allows them to identify with some of the experiences of aboriginal people. Georgie brings with her the experience of a year's missionary service in Africa and Brook experience in children's ministry in her local church.

If you feel to pray for or support these two and in the youth ministry in the Katherine region please give them a call to encourage them on 0401078742 or send them an e-mail. Maybe you could pass this article or newsletter on to your local youth group leader. I believe these young ladies could be a real inspiration to youth for missions. Women's Ministries are another group that may be interested in upholding these young ladies.

Jah and Ting ...Youth Ministry

The discipleship house has pretty much filled up with new Christians over the past month. Jah has grown a lot since joining the team in Nov 05 and his responsibilities are diverse. Jah oversees the ministry of the house and the Mossman Youth outreach. He has also begun to work part-time for Anglicare as a carer and for PCYC with indigenous "at risk" youth.



Daniel Ting has overcome some real issues over the past year. Today, as well as being Jah's right hand man in all IMLA Youth ministry areas and carrying a load in our Media and IT, he has become a Manager of the PCYC youth programmes.

We suggested they volunteer with the PCYC for a bit to get to know the local youth and now they are paid to run the show – a testimony to the character and favour of Christ evident in their lives.



Mick (An indigenous youth saved through the Mossman ministry) has gone on to a Creative Arts

Discipleship training school with YWAM and has visions to reach the world. **Mick needs some help with his outreach fees so please shoot up a prayer right now.**



Remember **Tory (left)**? I recently had the privilege of visiting the **Discipleship Training School** that

he is now helping to run, targeting Indigenous Youth in Tweed Heads with Koori Pastor-Willie Dumas. I have been invited to lecture there in the new year.

Donations to both Carl and Gail Musch and now IMLA can be TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

Through our affiliation with international development and aid agencies we are able to provide Tax Deductible receipts to businesses and individuals for financial donations as well as goods and services.!

Please advise us specifically if you want to use this facility.

Banking Details: For general giving Westpac IMLA BSB: 034197 Acc # 149786

For building Funds ; Westpac IMLA BSB: 034197 Acc # 149778 or send cheques to IMLA address

Please email, write, or phone if you have any specific designation for your gift or you wish to support an IMLA network worker.

Thankyou for your prayerful support.

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