



# Brandell e-Scr@pbook

*A monthly report on our life in Vanuatu*



### *From the home-front...*

“Halo” again from Vanuatu. July proved to be an extremely busy, but rewarding month around the Brandell household. We had a full house with guests from New Zealand and the US. What a great group of Christians. We really enjoyed housing the young men from OK and CO. They kept us laughing.

I was so excited that after several months of studying, Leikavei expressed her desire to be baptized into Christ. We are continuing to study each week to strengthen her new faith. I also study each week with Maybel and Rema - which I thoroughly enjoy!

We ask that you continue to join us in prayer for our adoption. We are still hopeful that we will be able to adopt before the end of the year.

Thank you and we love you all.

- Shawnda



### *In this month's issue...*

We participated in lots of physical and spiritual work this month. Much of our time was spent on the buildings in Vila and Epau.

We spent a large part of our time this month working on the building project here in Vila along with our brethren from Vanuatu and New Zealand. Check back

next month for a full review of the Vila building project (hopefully it will be almost complete by then).

A new sister, Leikavei, was added to the church here in Vila.

A group from the States [photo] arrived on the 25th and hit the ground running with PIBC courses, preaching and painting.

## PROGRESS: PORT VILA BUILDING PROJECT



We completed the foundation for the building here in Vila last March [left], and got back to work in July. By the end of the month, we had completed the walls and windows, and got a great start on the bathrooms and roof [right].

Antony Raine, John Shepherd, Trevor Timoti, and Alan Parr all





came over from New Zealand to help with this project. Work on Phase 2 started on July 3 and went through the 22. Our team and the brethren here in Vila will continue working until the project is complete. We are all quickly becoming masons, plumbers, electricians, carpenters and roofers (of course, making a few mistakes along the way). We will include more in our next issue.



End of workday one



Building up the walls with 20cm concrete blocks



Shem digging a hole for the septic tank

A NEW SISTER IN CHRIST

Leikavei was baptized on July 5 after a series of studies with Shawnda. We were introduced to her by her husband, Patrick. I met and studied with him at the beginning of the year. It was beautiful to see this excited husband baptizing his wife into Christ!



CAMPAIGNERS FROM THE STATES: PIBC, PAINTING & PREACHING



We were blessed to have a wonderful group of Christians from Oklahoma and Colorado come and work with us this month. Tom, Thomas and Becky Bailey came from the Elm & Hudson congregation in Altus, OK; Wayne Burger, Mark, Drew and Amy Fitzgerald, and Alec Robison came from the Columbine congregation in Denver, CO; and Rachel Wilkie came from the Bear Valley congregation in Denver, CO.

Tom and Wayne came to teach in the Pacific Islands Bible College (PIBC). They taught courses on Acts and The History of Israel (Joshua-Ester), which were held in Epau Village each morning and in Port Vila each evening. The classes were well-attended and brought about much spiritual growth in the students. Our mission team also thoroughly enjoyed getting to sit in on the classes, as we are usually the ones doing the speaking.

The teens were given the task of painting the new building in Epau, a task which they seemed to enjoy completing. Epau is an hour and fifteen minute drive one-way from Vila over very bumpy roads, so just getting there each day was a commitment in itself. We first added a coat of primer to the cement block wall, and the next day primed the steel (top half) of the wall. Some of the guys also helped me cut, install and paint the fascia boards. A few days later we painted the walls dark green and off white. We also took time the last





day to install louvre windows. We were all very pleased with the finished product! The building itself isn't quite finished, but I certainly appreciated all that we were able to accomplish in such a short amount of time.



BEFORE



AFTER

Also during their stay, the youth were able to share Bible lessons with the locals. Rachel, Amy and Becky each taught a lesson during the weekly ladies' Bible class. Word is, they did a wonderful job. The local ladies seemed very impressed with their talents. Alec preached in Epau Village on Sunday morning, while Thomas preached in Eton Village. Drew, Mark, Alec and Thomas all preached during our July edition of Preaching in the Park. For many of these young people, it was their first time to deliver a lesson in public. The locals really enjoyed hearing them share from God's word.

