



# NTM AVIATION JOURNAL

JULY-AUGUST 2013

## Grandma Tae

was a witch doctor in the village of Tiko. She lived just over the mountains from a Wana village that heard the Gospel 30 years ago—but she might just as well have lived worlds away. Grandma Tae is maybe 65 years old. But her village had not heard. Until 5 years ago.

Grandma Tae had studied for 5 years under a very powerful shaman named Kalomba. It was believed that Kalomba could transform himself into the likeness of a horse-like animal. Tae tells of traveling great distances in the Wana area on the back of this horse while flying over the jungle. She herself had become a very powerful shaman and was often called upon to interact with the Spirits and manipulate them in order to bring healing to the sick and provide better crops.

While in a trance one day trying to heal a sick woman, Tae had a vision of this woman's soul going into a fire. There was a person standing near the fire who told her she must not follow that woman's soul into this place of torment, that she must follow a different road. When she came out of the trance, the woman had already passed away; but Tae would never forget that man's words. She did not want to end up in the fire like that woman.

**Just two days** after Grandma Tae moved to



the Wana tribe. These Wana believers had come to share a Good News message about a God who gives eternal life, a God who was more powerful than all of the spirits that Grandma Tae's tribe worshipped and

feared. She sat in on the teachings every night. The missionaries explained that they had

a Book from this God. The Book would explain why there was sickness and death, where they had come from, where they would go after death, who was the greatest Spirit of all, and how He offered all who would believe in Him eternal life.

Tae was shocked by this. She had often communicated with the spirits but could not answer

questions about life and death. She did not know for sure where she would go after death. She was still envisioning going into the fire. The missionaries taught everyone who God was and how He created the world. They introduced Adam and Eve and told how sin entered the world and separated people from this God. They explained how all people are sinners condemned to Hell (Lake of Fire) because of their sin against God. This she knew was true... but was there another way like the man had told her? The missionaries went on to explain how God had provided a sacrifice just like in the story of Abraham and Isaac. Jesus was the sacrifice for all our sins. He gave His life on the cross and shed his blood to pay for the sins of anyone who would believe in Him. He then conquered death and rose from the dead. It all made sense to Tae and she confessed all of her sins and put her faith in God. Today she is a

great testimony for Jesus to others in the Wana area.

Carl F. Henry once wrote, "The Gospel is only GOOD NEWS if it gets there in time." The Good News was truly GOOD NEWS for Grandma Tae

and others in the village of Rapangkalemo. •



*—NTMA helicopter pilot Justin Wallhoff and his wife Courtney also serve the tribe where Grandma Tae lives. Justin translated this story given to him by NTMA helicopter mechanic Yuspiter Yambung, a native to this Asia-Pacific country, whose wife Fitria is distantly related to Grandma Tae.*

# A House in Hewa

“It was a very surreal experience,” writes Jag Dunn, of his first visit to the Hewa tribe. “I had always heard of tribes asking for missionaries. But when they actually asked me and my family to come, I was humbled at the thought that God could use me in this tribe.”



Jag and Abby Dunn were convinced that God wanted them to play a part in the Hewa tribal group of Papua New Guinea. They

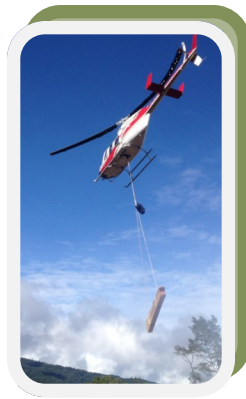
would have to learn the culture and a dialect of the Hewa language, translate Scripture, and teach God’s Word so the believers could ultimately function on their own—a long term project not to be taken lightly!

First they would build a house that would be very serviceable so that they could devote their time to culture and language learning. For such a house, they would need supplies more durable than what is used for a typical jungle hut.

NTM Aviation pilot John Meerstra flew many one-hour shuttles to transport all of the needed house-building supplies from a small coastal town to the airstrip closest to the Dunn’s house-building site. The loads even included a disassembled tractor, with the hopes of building a village airstrip in the future.



Then NTMA helicopter pilot Mike McGregor spent nine days with the helicopter at the airstrip moving the tractor piece by piece and carrying plywood, corrugated roofing, plumbing pipe, appliances, and other needed supplies into the remote village. However, the lumber that should have come from the coastal town was not at the airstrip. Four weeks prior, the hardware store in the coastal town had given notice



that they could not supply the required wood that had been ordered 6 months before. So Jag Dunn had recruited two missionary men who were handy with chainsaws to come in for a visit. For an entire month these guys had hiked up and down a nearby mountain ridge and cut dimensional lumber from trees

so that this missionary family would have the material needed to build their house.

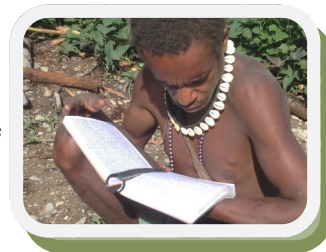
Now the lumber was waiting—newly cut, still wet and heavy—high on a mountain ridge.

“Because of the confined space and rough terrain on the mountain ridge, I was unable to land,” relates pilot Mike McGregor. “The guys had to hike each morning for an hour to reach the logging site and then I would fly up and drop them a bag of ropes and sling gear for them to rig the loads. Once they were ready, they would call me on the radio and I would begin to move the timber down the mountainside to the house building site below. By the time we were finished, I had flown fifty trips, moving 22,000 kilograms of lumber.”



What began as a “surreal” experience when the Dunns first visited the tribe is now very real. Though still waiting for finishing

touches on their house, they have already begun learning the language and culture of the tribe they have come to teach.



Jag Dunn writes, “We would not be able to be here if it wasn’t for the helicopter or plane.”

Using the tractor that is now assembled, the tribal team is working to build an airstrip near their village, and it is close to being completed. “But until it’s open, we rely on the helicopter 100%!”

Recently when the tribal team needed a medivac flight (which thankfully turned out not to be serious), they were especially grateful for the availability of flight service.

“We would not want to be anywhere else,” says Jag. “But we need NTMA!”

“Thanks so much for getting the word out so that people see the importance of every part of the puzzle. I love that we serve a big God and that He chooses to use each of us in His plan!”

Can you be a part of the puzzle? Ask God how He wants to use you—

- Praying
- Giving
- Serving as a missionary
- “Making disciples” who can be future missionaries

“He chooses to use all of us in His plan!”

To help NTM Aviation offset the costs for flights for national missionaries like the Wana believers going to reach Grandma Tae, or missionaries like the Dunns in the Hewa tribe, send your gift to: **NTM Aviation, 3870 W Volunteer St, McNeal, AZ 85617** and designate it for the flight sponsorship. Or go to the internet at <http://usa.ntm.org/projects/missionary-flight-sponsorship>