

Butterfly Trust Cyclone Pam Update – 31 March 2015



It has been over two weeks since category 5 Cyclone Pam tore through Vanuatu leaving widespread destruction and damage. Since then the Butterfly Trust has been working hard to assist with the relief effort and put in place programmes for longer term recovery.

The Trust's team on the ground in Vanuatu consists of Dave and Lynn Colbert, our local advisory trustees and committee members, Don Bradford, Linda Trenkner, Benson Tangou, Abed Kamsel and Viran Tovu, our in-country manager Tony Batten, and our coordinator Aya Pigdon. Our fundraising team (Vijay, Hannah, Cathy, Ken, Barbara, Helen, and Anne) is also working hard in New Zealand, as are Huck and Doris Chua, Jane Spear in Hamilton, Liz Price in Nelson and Anne and Eric Simmons, also in Nelson.

We are also working closely with a number of organisations such as Yacht Aid Global, Kaleva Yachting Services, and Rotary.

Strategy

The Trust's strategy is to assist in the relief work wherever possible, but also to maintain its focus on the long-term objective of providing access to education and health services.

To achieve this, the Trust has been working very closely with the international relief effort and the Vanuatu government. There is a coordinated effort going on which is overseen by the government. The NGOs gather into groups called "clusters" which work on specific areas of need. The Trust has been working with separate clusters for food security and agriculture (FSAC), water and sanitation (WASH), shelter, education, health, and infrastructure.

Immediate relief work

The Trust has been appointed the coordinating organisation for gathering informal assessments from overlooked areas. We have been appointed by the Food Security and Agriculture cluster (FSAC) which is responsible for getting emergency food to affected areas.

So far, we have identified south Malekula as an area previously overlooked. It has suffered a lot more damage than previously thought. As a result, South Malekula has now been made a Priority 3 food distribution area. We have no other information that indicates any other areas have been overlooked.

Since the declaration of south Malekula as a Priority 3 distribution area, the Trust has been working to get food, clean water and shelter to the area. On Sunday, we arranged for 32 000 water purification tablets (Aquatabs) to be helicoptered to the Maskelyne Islands and Akhamb Island in south Malekula. Water supplies there are short and drinking water is contaminated. We are also working to get food from Santo sent down to south Malekula to alleviate the immediate food shortage. We are working with Caritas and the French Red Cross to get shelter supplies eg. tarpaulins, to south Malekula, especially to the larger centre of Lamap.

We are exploring with the Ministries of Education and Public Works, ways of getting the large number of schools which are damaged, rebuilt as quickly as possible. We are particularly focused on the island of Tongoa which is one of the worst-affected areas.

We have a number of doctors and nurses available to come to Vanuatu if required by the Ministry of Health. Luckily, because of the relatively low death toll, they have not been required yet on an emergency level.



Maganua School on Epi

Exhibitions Gallery and artist Simon Payton are very generously donating 10% of all sales from Mr Payton's "Noughts and Crosses" exhibition to the Butterfly Trust's Vanuatu recovery effort. The exhibition runs till 18 April at 19A Osborne Street, Newmarket, Auckland. Simon has exhibited extensively since 1969 with shows in USA, UK, Germany and New Zealand. He has won numerous awards including winner of The National Bank Award for Contemporary Painting, New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts.

www.exhibitions-gallery.co.nz

Photo credit: Kiery Manassah,
NDMO Infrastructure Working
Group and Uma Bani



In just under 2 days, Cyclone Pam wreaked havoc across the nation's schools and kindergartens. Many classrooms and school facilities are totally destroyed and educational resources lost, causing major disruption to classes at all levels. This has huge implications on the education of Vanuatu's children and the long term development of the country, already curtailed by the disaster.

Butterfly Trust is partnering with the Ministry of Education to facilitate the reconstruction process. We need your help.

We are seeking organisations willing to "ADOPT-A-SCHOOL" and help with the rebuild. Please contact us. Please encourage an organisation or group you belong to, to consider helping one of the many schools affected.

EDUCATION IS THE KEY TO DEVELOPMENT.

**Email: david.lynn@butterflytrust.org
Phone: 006421 981553 or 00678 5977929**

Longer term work

We are in the early stages of establishing a rebuilding education programme in collaboration with a number of the larger NGOs. This is designed to work closely with the islanders to develop ways in which their housing can be strengthened in readiness for any future disaster.

We are also in the early stages of setting up a community health education programme which now has particular relevance given the possibility of disease outbreak after disasters such as Cyclone Pam.

All our usual programmes such as school fee subsidies, medical treatment, dental treatment and community oral health education will hopefully continue as usual this year.

Donations and fundraising

We have had a wonderful response to our call for funds to assist in the relief and long term recovery work. You have all given so generously, both individuals and corporations. We are incredibly grateful for all the support and encouragement. It is amazing. Thank you so much for thinking about the small island nation of Vanuatu which has been devastated by the cyclone. The people here are very resilient and are showing great heart in picking up the pieces of their lives, but it makes it a lot easier for them to know that people like you, actually care for them.

A big 'tankyu tumas' to all those who responded to our call for clothes. An overwhelming response.

Fundraising events update from Auckland

"A wonderful afternoon was spent with the Auckland City Football Club at their Kiwitea Street grounds on Sunday March 29. Walk up crowd donated almost \$1100 in gate takings and the club pledged a further donation of \$2,000 for the Vanuatu Cyclone Pam appeal. In return donors were treated to chocolate donated by Whittakers. In addition, the club donated playing strips for senior teams, a goalkeeping kit and 100 youth playing tops for distribution in Vanuatu."

Cathy Mahoney, fundraising team committee

"Navy Blues donate cash to Vanuatu..." Read more here <http://www.aucklandcityfc.com/news/article.asp?ID=1273>

"I am very happy to report that \$516.80 was deposited into the Butterfly Trust cyclone relief account this afternoon. This was made possible because of the generosity of Wild Wheat in Mt Eden in supplying 90 Hot Cross Buns and the kindness of Ef students and staff who supported this cause by buying the buns."

Hannah Dunlop, fundraising team committee

Upcoming events to watch out for in the Nelson area

"We have several Quiz nights throughout the Nelson region, these will include a Vanuatu component (string bands, Mamas singing etc) and we aim to have auctions and raffles with prizes donated from local and Vanuatu businesses during these to gather more funds. These will happen in May, dates to be confirmed."

Anne Simmons, Nelson VanAid

"Ni-Van NIS-UP - April 28 at the Boathouse, Nelson - a lively, fun & beautiful event to raise funds for the Ni-Van people due to Cyclone Pam. There will be a silent auction with some very special experiences being auctioned including a holiday package in Vanuatu. Tickets are \$50 each and include all food and some drinks and will be available from RED Gallery from next week. All money will directly benefit education & health programmes already established in rural Vanuatu through the Butterfly Trust. Spread the word and gather a group together to come along!"

Liz Price and team, Nelson VanAid

Butterfly Trust is assisting in the immediate relief effort as well as projects for longer term recovery. 100% of your donations goes directly towards relief and recovery work. The Butterfly Trust does not deduct administration or other costs from donations.

**Bank details: 12-3233-0464934-50 (ASB Bank)
Ground Floor, Botany Town Centre, 588 Chapel Road,
East Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand
Swift Code: ASB BNZ 2A**

Or donate via the following givealittle links

<https://givealittle.co.nz/org/butterflytrust>

**<https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/giveakidachance>
(a separate fund to help disabled children attend school)**