

Butterfly Trust Cyclone Pam Update – June 2015



Villagers from Mataso island unloading a shipment of clothes. The Trust organised two large importations of new and second hand clothes into Vanuatu on the P&O Cruise ship Pacific Pearl. These clothes have now been distributed in the Shepherd Islands and Erromango with the assistance of 2 large private yachts and the Rainbow Warrior.

Photo credit: Kaleva Yachting Services.

The Trust's building education adviser, Ian Hyde-Hills spent 10 days on the badly affected island of Tanna where, working closely with CARE International, he analysed and documented local buildings, their successes and failures in the cyclone, and also carried out building workshops. See below.

Pictured above: Damaged school on Tanna (story on page 7). Photo credit: Ian Hyde-Hills

Community disaster committee (CDC) members on Akhamb Island in south Malekula distributing rice to villagers. The Trust organised food assistance to Akhamb and Sangalai School in the Maskelynes.

Photo credit: Iven Meltely, CDC member and head teacher of Luwoi Primary School.



Hear from Iven Meltely
<https://youtu.be/jYzU5u9d-dw>

The power of teamwork

One of the most impressive aspects of the relief and recovery effort is the willingness of all stakeholders to work together. This includes the Vanuatu government, the NGOs and outside governments. Almost every day, the Trust has attended "cluster" meetings with representatives of each of these groups to plan and coordinate the response to the damage caused by the cyclone. It is not a perfect system, but probably never will be in a disaster zone. It is, however, uplifting to be involved with so much willingness to help. The Trust has worked closely with the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC), the Shelter Cluster, the Logistics Cluster, the Education Cluster, the Health Cluster, the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Cluster (WASH), and to a lesser extent, the Infrastructure working group.

Activities update

It has been over 3 months since Cyclone Pam and Vanuatu is slowly returning to normal. Life is similar to what it was before the cyclone with the caveat that food is less abundant and more expensive, clean drinking water is scarce in some areas, some schools and many kindergartens are functioning at less than full capacity or not at all, and many services are only slowly coming back on line eg. outer island transport. There is also a marked reduction in the number of tourists coming to the main centres of Port Vila and Luganville.

The attitude of the people, however, remains as it has always been, fairly upbeat and accepting. In addition, many houses and other buildings have been rebuilt or protected with temporary tarpaulins, food distributions have been made to the worst affected areas and water has been provided to many affected areas. The local economy is stuttering back to life, food is appearing in the markets and local ships are operating again. Power and water supplies have been restored in Port Vila and government offices are open for business.

Since our last update, the Trust has been involved in a number of relief (short-term) and recovery (long-term) initiatives.

Water to Akhamb and Avock

The Trust organised through the logistics cluster for two Australian Army Blackhawk helicopters to fly clean drinking water into the small island communities of Akhamb and Avock in South Malekula. The water was sourced from the desalination plant on HMNZS Canterbury and transported in water containers provided by UNICEF.

Attempts to repair desalination plant on Maskelyne Islands

The desalination plant was installed by another NGO about 3 years ago. It has seldom worked. After consultation with the WASH Cluster it was decided the Trust would attempt to fix the plant so that it could provide clean drinking water to the surrounding areas. The Trust

organised a local engineer and agent of the makers of the desalination equipment, Pete Wederell, to fly by helicopter to the islands to fix the plant. He flew in twice, the second time with spare parts, but unfortunately was unsuccessful. The plant required further parts and repair. Consequently the Trust arranged the water drops referred to above.

Villagers in Akhamb and the Maskelynes (including Avock) have managed to replenish the community water supply from recent rainfall. The Maskelynes' villagers have requested additional water tanks for each of the 4 kindergatens.

Clean drinking water for the Akhamb community (far right) and local engineer Pete Wederell attempting to fix the water maker in the Maskelyne Islands (right).



Photo credit: Iven Meltely

Clothing to the Shepherds and Erromango

The Shepherd Islands were some of the worst hit in the cyclone. The Trust organised two large importations of new and second hand clothes, linen and footwear into Vanuatu on the P&O Cruise ship Pacific Pearl. The owners of MV Mystic Moon also helped transport a smaller quantity of clothes to Port Vila. These clothes have now been distributed in the Shepherds and the southern island of Erromango with the assistance of two large private yachts and Greenpeace flagship, Rainbow Warrior. Distributions have been made through chiefs, schools and community disaster committees so that they are carried out fairly. The distributions have been overseen by our friends from Kaleva Yachting Services, Sam and Jess as well as Isaac from Care International (Erromango).



Loading and unloading at the wharf in Port Vila. This shipment was bound for Emao and the Shepherd Islands of Emae and Mataso. The list of thanks must include Tim Rountree, John Hickey, Tracey Martin, ISS Mackay, Geodis Wilson, John and Kathy Youngblood, and Robbie and Bev from SY Mersoleil. This has all been made possible by the readiness of Carnival Australia and P & O to make space available on the Pacific Pearl, at no cost, for such relief supplies.

Food assessments and distribution

The Trust organised for Don Bradford, one of its Vanuatu team, to go to West Ambrym and South Malekula to assist the FSAC with assessing the availability of food in those areas. Don travelled by Blackhawk helicopter and the HMNZS Tobruk. The data he collected was very useful and was instrumental in the Trust providing drinking water and food to areas of south Malekula.

It is taking some time for local gardens to come back into production and therefore food assistance has been required in many of the islands. The Trust has worked closely with the FSAC in this area, and while supporting the official distributions to the worst affected areas in Tafea and Shefa provinces, it also organised a distribution to less affected, but still needy areas in south Malekula. In this regard, the Trust sent almost half a tonne of rice to Akhamb Island and the boarders at Sangalai School on the Maskelynes. The distribution to Akhamb Island was carried out with the assistance of a small boat subsidy made available to the Trust by VSA (Volunteer Services Abroad.)

As part of its work with the FSAC, the Trust did a lot of work investigating the possibility of supplying traditional island food instead of rice prior to this distribution. Traditional island food has higher nutritional value. However, the difficulties in sourcing

undamaged traditional food and transporting it without it spoiling, proved too risky. Hence rice was favoured for this interim assistance.



Photo credit: Iven Meltely

Assistance to schools and kindergartens



Photo credit: Eric Gaujoux

College de Lamap sustained damage to the boys' dormitory, sanitation facilities and dining hall

The Trust is assisting a number of schools and kindergartens. So far, Nofo School (Emae), Napangasale Junior Secondary (Tonga), Sangalai School (Maskelynes) and College de Lamap (south Malekula) have received replacement school supplies and stationery, tarpaulins, supplementary food for boarders and a chainsaw. Kindergarten materials and resources are currently being printed locally. When ready, these will be distributed to kindergartens in both Shefa and Tafea provinces. In the Maskelynes, Sally Thompson and Piers Johnson, representatives of the Trust, have spent time assisting with support to Sangalai School and organising the Trust's school fees programme to address hardship caused by the cyclone. Sally has also organised a programme, selling in Australia, mats woven by the women. Some of the income from these sales the women want to donate to the school fees subsidy scheme.

Auckland City Football Club (ACFC) has generously supported the Trust over a number of years. In the wake of the cyclone ACFC donated a large number of soccer uniforms to Vanuatu for use by schools who lost gear in the cyclone. In addition, ACFC also raised \$3,000 for the work of the Trust. The Trust organised shipping of the gear to Vanuatu and the uniforms were handed over by the Trust to the Vanuatu Football Federation at a ceremony which included the Ministry of Climate Change (that ministry is helping coordinate the relief and recovery effort.) The uniforms are being distributed to schools in Shefa and Tafea. Many thanks to Auckland City, Oceania champions for another year!



Photo credit: VFF

Students at Epi High School, Lamien Bay, in their new soccer gear (right) and supplies being loaded on the yacht, Llyr in preparation for sailing to Emae (below).



Photo credit: Peter Whitelaw

Once again, what fantastic team work! Big thanks to individuals and organisations for your donations, both monetary and in-kind, and those of you who assisted with logistics, transport and distribution, some of which is still happening.

More books and stationery are coming, thanks to Pukekohe Hill School, Waiua Pa and Puni as well as Tuakau Primary schools in Auckland, and Office Max. These are being transported by another private yacht.

The Trust is providing further assistance with kindergarten and school repair, water tanks and ongoing assistance to school and kindergarten development.



Hear from Richard John, head teacher at Napangasale Junior Secondary School on Tonga.

<http://youtu.be/IH74tsce4MA>



Photo credit: Salu Laurenson

Thanks to students and staff at Richmond Road Primary School in Auckland, at a 'Crazy Hat Day' fundraising event in May. Funds raised have been put towards purchasing school supplies.



Ian Hyde-Hills assisting with 'build back safer' building training at Lume Rural Training Centre on Tanna.



Damage to a school on Tanna.



Photo credit: Ian Hyde-Hills
Failure of galvanised strapping.

Building training on Tanna

The Trust's building education adviser, Ian Hyde-Hills, is advising the Trust on a programme to increase the likelihood of local building withstanding future disasters. As part of this programme, Ian spent 10 days on the badly affected island of Tanna where, working closely with CARE International, he analysed and documented local buildings, their successes and failures in the cyclone, and also carried out building workshops. He has documented the teaching process for these workshops. The Trust hopes to expand this work into a longer-term recovery programme (see below).

Medical support

The Trust has an ongoing programme of facilitating volunteer medical personnel, particularly to support outer island health facilities. At the request of, and under the direction of, the Vanuatu Ministry of Health, the Trust has also had a number of medical professionals working in the two main hospitals at Port Vila and Luganville, Santo as well as the outer islands.

Dr Anne-Marie Gajoux was the first to begin at Lamap Health Centre in South Malekula. She was accompanied by her husband, Eric, an engineer, who helped repair the solar power system at the clinic. Henry Hole, a laboratory scientist and transfusion specialist supported the blood bank at Vila Central Hospital. Aside from laboratory work, Henry is involved in drafting the transfusion guidelines and hopes to return later this year to complete training and implementation of these guidelines.

Dr Liz Bevan is performing a medical mentoring role around the islands of Southeast Malekula and the Shepherds. Her husband Martin is assisting with building and maintenance work. They will be engaged in this work for about 3 months. Already, Dr Liz has identified a number of patients who have required referrals to the main hospitals. Dr Franz Rieger has been carrying out training work in Port Vila Hospital in his speciality of ENT, and he has now flown to Luganville to continue his training work there. Anna Vesty is a lab scientist, supported by the Trust, working and training staff at Port Vila Hospital. Dr Michael Kahan arrives in Port Vila today to embark upon work at Norsup Provincial Hospital in Malekula. Dr Gerhard Van Blerk arrives on 12 July and will also be providing support to Norsup Hospital.

Dr Anne-Marie Gaujoux (right).



Repairing the solar power installation at Lamap Health Centre.



Photo credit: Eric Gaujoux



Photo credit: Eric Gaujoux



Photo credit: Don Bradford, Kaleva Yachting Services, Iven Meltely and Ian Hyde-Hills

Recovery assistance

Build back safer

The Trust has investigated ways to ensure that in another disaster, fewer houses and other buildings are damaged. The research of Ian Hyde-Hills, our building adviser, shows that it is the quality of the construction which determined whether or not a building survived the cyclone. Traditional and western-style buildings both suffered if they were poorly built. From his experience as an educator, Ian has identified a systemic problem of inferior building standards. He says there are some very good local builders, but thinks their training can be improved.

The Trust has been very involved with the Shelter Cluster and the Build Back Safer programme. The Cluster officially ends on 31 July so we are working together with the Cluster members and the Vanuatu government to ensure it continues in some capacity after the end of July. This will mean there is an apparatus in place to design and carry out building back safer programmes,

prepare for future disasters, and design building codes and guidelines for both urban and rural Vanuatu. The Trust has been named as a member of the Strategy group for this work.

The Trust is therefore working closely with the Shelter Cluster and local stakeholders such as the rural training centres to design a programme of training the local building tutors. Training will encompass traditional and modern methods. It may also be possible to design a standard for a traditional Vanuatu house – this has been requested by representatives of the Vanuatu government on the Shelter Cluster.

Community health education

Prior to the cyclone, the Trust already had plans in place to carry out training of community health educators in Vanuatu. This programme is being carried out in partnership with the Australian Red Cross, Rotary and the Ministry of Health. The pilot programme will run for one year beginning later this year. The programme will be piloted on Tongoa, Ambae and South Malekula.

Following the cyclone, material on cyclone prevention and cyclone recovery will be added to the subject matter.

Medical and dental support

The Trust has over a dozen medical and dental practitioners arriving in Vanuatu this year to assist the Ministry of Health in provision of health services after the cyclone. Further, it plans to carry out dental awareness workshops in affected areas so that regular health practices are maintained, despite the temptation to ignore them and focus solely on repairing cyclone damage.

Aya Pigdon continues her good work based out of Lamap in assisting the Trust and Nurse Sally Peet provided very useful liaison work in the Maskelyne Islands for the Trust's programmes.

In addition to the above work, the Trust has also spent a lot of time liaising with other NGOs, local government agencies, and individuals to assist them in their programmes in cyclone relief.

Impressions of Tanna by Ian Hyde-Hills

Part 1: Jimmy Lomas' story

It was a pleasant afternoon sitting chatting with Jimmy Lomas and his two young daughters, Iasa and Arafat. We shared stories of our previous careers as police officers and spent considerable time celebrating the achievements of his favourite sports team, the All Blacks. No chance for him to follow any of the games now because, as can be seen from the wall-less shelter they have called home for the last 5 weeks, there is very little but a roughly thatched roof and local ground mats.

The attached sleeping area for the family of four is a 2 square metre area curtained off. The roof, surprisingly, does seem to keep most of the overhead heavy rain out.

Jimmy is happy for me to share his story of the night cyclone Pam dismantled his cherished concrete block and corrugated iron family home in the roughest manner. During that wild night of terror, the family huddled together as concrete blocks, corrugated iron and personal possessions became potentially deadly missiles. All gone forever apart from the very heaviest of items. Although all that he worked so hard for is gone, Jimmy feels blessed his family survived.

Jimmy has trouble moving now because he has suffered a stroke that has mostly paralysed the left side of his body. There is no insurance for anything but he tells me he knows of others worse off than himself. "I don't know how but I know we will get through", says Jimmy.

I feel incredibly humbled as if standing before this frail and crippled but one giant of a man.

Story and photos by Ian Hyde-Hills



The family home, pictured above 5 weeks after the cyclone, was destroyed on the night Cyclone Pam ravaged the island.

Part 2: Lamenaure School

On the night of Cyclone Pam, school principal and survivor, Margaret, believed she was guided by God to seek shelter in what turned out to be the least damaged classroom. Although the roof was blown away, the concrete block walls mostly held together. Injury was minimal.

During the tempest the scream of the wind and noise of destruction drowned any form of communication between the family. Margaret stated it was beyond all possible description.

The storm passed. Twilight brought forth a whole new world. The classrooms were devastated. Some of the concrete block structures were lying down as if exhausted by their overnight struggle. The pride and symbol of connectivity in the community, the traditional school chapel and special meeting place which had resisted many previous storms so successfully was now just a pile of disorganised rubble.

Damaged classrooms (top left) and temporary classroom (bottom left). What was left of the school chapel (below).



She shared that the greatest mystery of the whole event was the complete disappearance of their recently opened corrugated iron preschool. Everything went including the wooden floor. The school community spent some time searching downwind for considerable distance but there has been absolutely no sign of it. Looking at the site it looked 'swept clean. Hard for me to think it through.

Margaret is struggling to keep the school functioning with only one tent shelter provided by the government. She is also finding the tarpaulins provided by various other relief organisations difficult to be kept held down over the roof. She wants the children to stay in school as she feels teachers have a certain level of expertise to help them through the very apparent trauma some of them are suffering.

At the local government meeting on the request of the local chief, I was able to offer some ideas to the local head of education for Tanna that they could use in schools.

Margaret is striving to make the school a place where children can come to heal.



Grandma Lesbeth Kalip, her daughter Eliot and granddaughter Elisah all seemed very proud of their traditional community meeting house, even though all that remains is a pile of broken pieces on the ground. It had taken 5 years of hard work for the local community to realise their dream of a traditional style meeting house. They had only managed to enjoy it for one year until the night when Cyclone Pam visited. Lesbeth told me proudly that they are going to rebuild their community and its buildings. A truly amazing witness to the power of positive thinking.

TO ALL DONORS, SPONSORS, SUPPORTERS – **THANK YOU**

We have had a wonderful response to our call for funds to assist in the relief and longer term recovery work. You have all given so generously - individuals, organisations and companies. We are incredibly grateful for all the support and encouragement. Truly amazing.

The Trust's fundraisers have been very busy since the cyclone struck. Many thanks to the team in Nelson - Liz Price, Anne and Eric Simmons and every single one of their supporters at Nelson VanAid. This amazing team organised a series of successful fundraising events - "A Ni-Van Ni's Up" and four quiz nights. Big thanks to all sponsors and participants, without you this would not be possible.

Vive Vanuatu

AN EVENING OF FINE WINE AND INTERIOR DESIGN

Help the Ni-Vanuatu people recover from Cyclone Pam. Proceeds go directly to the Butterfly Trust who are actively supporting health and education programmes in Vanuatu.

In the aftermath of Cyclone Pam, the people of Vanuatu are still struggling to piece their lives together as they once were. Please join us for an inspiring evening dedicated to this peaceful island nation's speedy recovery. Be assured, your contribution will make a huge difference to so many.

- » Let Sylvia Sandford take you on a journey through the magical world of interior design and decorating.
- » Join Lis Burt from Eunice Taylor for her presentation of "Lois the Lampshade - a story of her travels through time."
- » Open your eyes to infinite floral possibilities as Davina Pranker, founder of leading floral design studio Vida Flores, presents her how-to guide to stylish flowers.
- » Sit back and soak up the knowledge of Mal McLennan, owner of Maimai Vineyards, as he showcases their superb Hawkes Bay wines.
- » Enjoy the ambience of the James Dunlop Textiles showroom and view fabrics, furniture and rugs at your leisure.

THURSDAY
23 July

SILENT
AUCTION
AND RAFFLES
ON THE NIGHT.
PLEASE
BRING CASH.

\$35

PER PERSON

FROM
7-9:30 pm

JOIN US AT **JAMES DUNLOP TEXTILES SHOWROOM**
6-10 AKEPIRO STREET, MT EDEN, AUCKLAND

Thanks to our Auckland fundraisers, there is now an upcoming event in Auckland. Join us for "Vive Vanuatu - evening of fine wine and interior design"

Buy your tickets and RSVP by Monday
20 July to Anne Stevenson

annes@jamesdunlop.co.nz

 **JAMES DUNLOP TEXTILES**
EST. 1907

VIDA FLORES

Air Vanuatu

 EUNICE TAYLOR

MAIMAI 

 the Butterfly trust

Purchase tickets and **RSVP** by
Monday 20 July to annes@jamesdunlop.co.nz

BID TO
WIN
A TRIP FOR
TWO TO
VANUATU

Anyone can make an email bid to win
"A Trip for Two to Vanuatu"

Email your bid to
annes@jamesdunlop.co.nz
no later than 3 pm on 23 July 2015.
Include your contact name, phone
and email, and the amount you are
bidding.

Our Grand AUCTION PRIZE

Help the NI-Vanuatu people recover from Cyclone Pam. Proceeds go directly to the Butterfly Trust who are actively supporting health and education programmes in Vanuatu.

The Vive Vanuatu holiday prize package includes:

- » 2 return economy airfares from Auckland to Port Vila*
- » Accommodation for 5 nights at an Ocean Villa for 2 at *Benfor Villas*, situated on the picturesque shores of Mela Bay, Port Vila**
- » Return transfers and a glass bottom boat tour for 2 with *Adventures In Paradise*, Port Vila
- » A couple's massage at *Volcanic Earth*, Port Vila

VALUED AT
\$2,300



Conditions apply. Subject to availability. *The offer excludes taxes and levies.
**23-30 September 2015 and 15 December-15 January 2016 excluded from the package.

Butterfly Trust is supporting cyclone recovery efforts in Vanuatu. 100% of your donations goes directly into projects. 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 link

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

