



Translation Training from Nungalinya in Maningrida

By Louise Macdonald



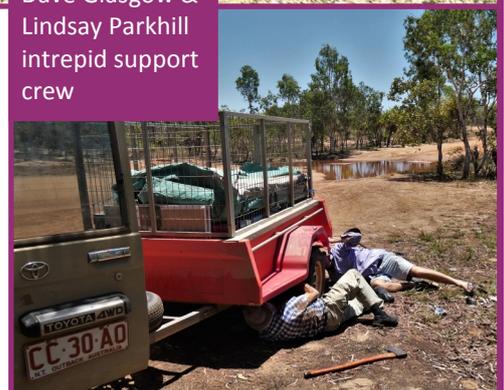
Dave Glasgow & Lindsay Parkhill intrepid support crew

As part of the Nungalinya translation training project our first community based workshop “Introduction to Translation” was held in October in Maningrida. This workshop was open to Bininj with an interest in translation who are either unable or ineligible for the Diploma in Translation run at Nungalinya in Darwin.

This first workshop was held at the Maningrida trades training centre and we had between eight and twelve students over the week. Mally McLellan was the lead teacher with support from Lizz Martin. The week covered naturalness and accuracy in meaning based translation and an overview of the

Bible. We had a support crew that managed all the logistics such as finding a suitable classroom (thanks to

A PROJECT OF THE NORTHERN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITING ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER CHRISTIAN CONGRESS AND THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA NORTHERN SYNOD



Translation Training from Nungalinya in Maningrida

Continued



Charlie Margot Marshella Faylene Stanley.
Kunwinjku and Djinang students

Carolyn Coleman the teacher linguist at the Maningrida school – without whose support we could not have managed the workshop), finding students (thanks to Kathy and Dave Glasgow who have worked for decades as Burrarra Bible translation advisors), transport and catering. A highlight each day was the huge freshly baked wholemeal damper that came out of Carolyn’s oven each morning and ensured the day started with full stomachs. There were four language groups represented: Burrarra, Eastern Kunwinjku, Njebbana and Djinang.

The success of the workshop in the short term can be gauged by the extent to which both Bininj students and Balanda supporters would leave the classroom discussing the days learning at great volume and return in the morning still discussing the same material but with significant new insights. Mally chose a verse from Proverbs: “Sons, listen to what your fathers teach you” In West Arnhem languages there is no particular word for sons or daughters, you can say children – wurwurd or teenager- yawkyawk. So, what age are the sons in



Gideon & Diddo



Diddo Mally & Lizz

this verse? To get around the age problem our Kunwinjku group thought we could use a kinship term like Korlonj which is what a father would call his sons and daughters regardless of their age. But then students started mentioning the words for calling your Uncle and Aunt and Grandparents – Ngadjadj, Berluh, Kakkak, Mammam. It wasn’t until the next day that we realised the quandry – Bininj fathers do not instruct or discipline their children, their job is to nurture, care for and love. It is the Uncles and Aunties and the Grandparents who do the teaching.



Faylene & Margot with damper



Marshella and Faylene



Debbie & Lizz

Mally had anticipated this dilemma and brought us all back to think about the meaning of the verse: is it asking just sons to only listen to the teaching of their foathers? Or is it asking all young people to listen to the wisdom of their elders? Lizz Martin our resident Hebrew reader helped out in grappling with the accuracy of meaning in the verse.

Each student was awarded a Nungalinya accredited certificate of attendance and now the challenge is to ensure ongoing support for Bible translation in Maningrida. The value in conducting these workshops in community is considerable and it became apparent that Nungalinya is the only training institution in the Northern Territory



that is providing this level of adult education in the community.

The Translation training Steering group at Nungalinya has recently met and agreed to ongoing provision of translation training in Maningrida, Alice Springs and commence workshops in two more communities starting from next year. Please pray for the ongoing work of Bible translation in Maningrida and that we continue to find the resources to expand and sustain this exciting project.

Scripture in Use Network Inaugural Meeting

By Louise Macdonald

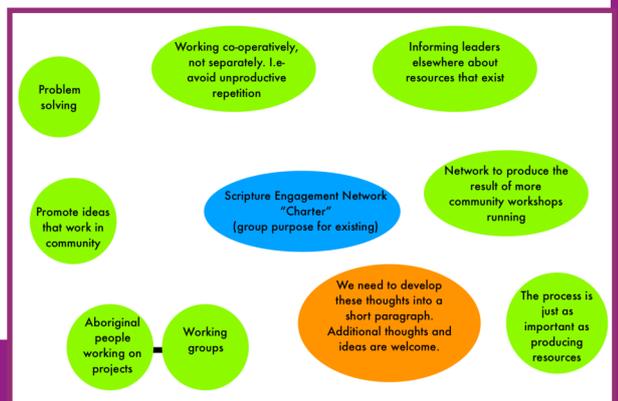
November saw the launch of our first Scripture in Use Network meeting thanks to the work of Paul Kube from the Bible Society. Paul brought together numerous organisations and denominations from across the Northern Territory to share an incredible wealth of knowledge and experience around Scripture Engagement. Coordinate was represented by Margaret Miller using the Zoom app from her furlogh in Sydney and myself in Darwin. We hope that this is the first of many such meetings.

The initial sharing lead Paul to initiate the development of numerous working groups on issues that particular participants have a passion for. These included areas such as: Discipleship training from the Epistles and Belt/Salt training, Video stories in drama or oral form, App production of Bible games and embedded Youtube Channel, Oral Bible stories and painting workshops, Visual Arts, Scripture in music, song production and Audio production and training.

We're hoping that through collaboration we can share resources, avoid doubling up on activities, grow our ability to conduct workshops in communities, problem solve and create processes that engage people in community more directly with Scripture.

Themes that repeated throughout the meeting were the need to base all work in personal relationships, to create materials from within communities so that local speakers, actors and artists are at the centre of all our work.

We pray that this is the beginning of many new and exciting projects.



Translation Training from Nungalinya in Alice Springs

By David Blackman (ITECA & AuSIL)

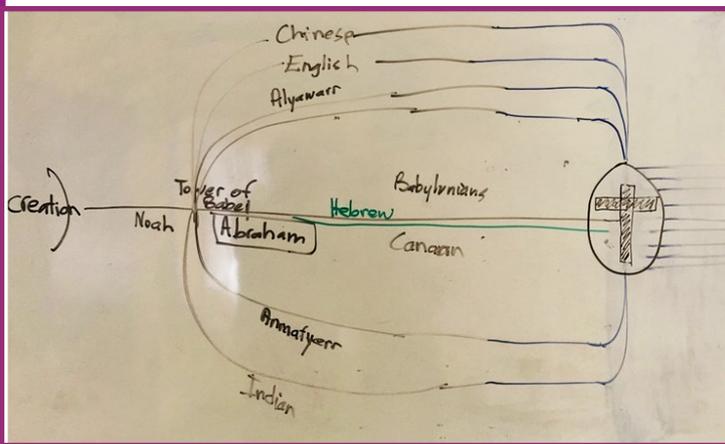
Praise God for a very enjoyable workshop last month. There was the usual challenge with participants not being able to attend all the time, but a core group was there much of the time, which made it worthwhile. There were speakers of Pitjantjatjara, Luritja, Western Arrarnta, Anmatyerr and Alyawarr, most of whom were new to Scripture translation work.

Presenters Paul and Ann Eckert have a great deal of experience in training translators, in addition to their many years of translation with the Pitjantjatjara people. Lizz Martin, Diploma course coordinator at Nungalinya College, also assisted. They were well-received by the participants.

The first day was spent introducing the Bible. Using Lizz's expertise in Hebrew and Greek, a fascinating and useful overview was presented, including a time-line of the Bible story and its books.

Paul then drew a different, very instructive, timeline on the whiteboard. It showed how all the peoples of the earth, following the separation of the languages at the Tower of Babel, had their own stories. All are equally important to God. It's just that the Bible focusses on one particular story, until the death and resurrection of Christ, when all stories became one again.

Ann & Paul Eckert



Paul and Ann introduced the concept of translation by emphasising the importance of first working out the **meaning** of words and whole sentences, before thinking about how to translate them. Languages place their words in different orders. Sometimes incorrect word order really changes the meaning. Translating word by word results in a text that is not good language, and doesn't make sense to people who read or hear it. It frequently misses the point of the whole passage.

The participants were given exercises which encouraged them to first think about the range of meanings one English word might have, and then decide which one is correct in a particular context. The importance of using a source text in easy English was stressed. Examples from the RSV were compared with the versions in more readable translations, such as the NCV, CEV and PEV. It was agreed that translating directly from older English versions was too hard.



Vicki & David

Paul and Ann take the view that people learn how to translate by actually doing translation. The participants were given two passages to translate, starting with 2 Kings 4:1-7, the story about Elisha and the widow. Paul provided a 'front translation', a pre-draft in simple English, which avoided most of the pitfalls that arise when translating into Aboriginal languages. The various resulting language translations are being put into an illustrated booklet, which will be given to the participants.

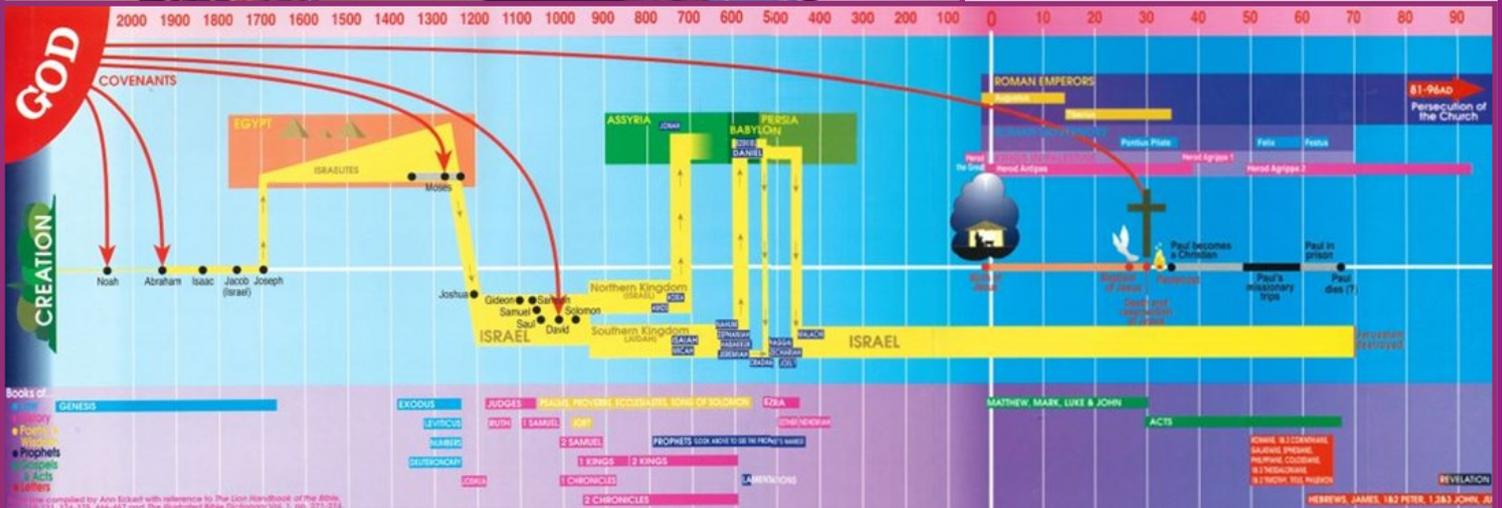
The next translation exercise came from the following chapter, 2 Kings 5, about the healing of Naaman the Syrian. This time, translation was done at the 'story level', not closely following the original wording or including verse numbers. Paul provided a front translation again. Not all participants were able to finish this exercise by the end of the Friday session.

Both exercises generated good



discussion on how to handle key concepts, especially those not found in local cultures and languages. It was encouraging to see new translators making progress and growing in confidence towards the end of the week.

At a debrief afterwards it was agreed that it would be great to hold a follow-up workshop some time next year, hopefully with the same participants.



Vale Mary Nj, loved Scripture in Use worker at Galiwin'ku

Dear families at Galiwin'ku,

17th October 2019

On behalf of the Coordinate family, We are very sorry about the passing of our faithful, strong and hard working Colleague and friend. Her commitment to teaching the stories of the Bible to children and family was unsurpassed. Whenever we met with her, it was her humour and the strength of her advocacy for Scripture, language and culture that we will remember in our hearts. Although we weep with you now at this time of grief, we are comforted in knowing that as a woman of such strong faith she will now be resting in peace with God.



In faith from your Coordinate family

Partnering for a Yolŋu Recording Workshop

by Margaret Miller



Recording at GanGan

Recording God's Word in Gumatj and Dhuwaya was of proportions similar to a turtle hunt! It is nigh impossible to do a hunt for turtle on your own, and that can be said for the recording workshop held 7th-22nd October in Gove, NT.

How do you do a turtle hunt that brings in a meal for the whole community? ...with a clear division of labour, roles and responsibilities. A turtle hunt identifies three major role divisions; the 'ŋurrŋu' - the skilled harpoonist, the 'gandarrŋu' - the support team on board, and the 'dhuḍiŋu' - the captain.

Drawing from the turtle hunt analogy, we needed skilled readers and voices of Yolŋu languages to be up front as the 'harpoonist'. The 'captain',

at the helm were the local church leaders, with a support team of workers; ie. recordists, linguists, providers of accommodation, transport and meals that came on board to assist in the workshop.

Marrpaḷawuy guided us through 2 weeks together as well as being inspired to record the Nicene Creed in Gumatj.



Magnolia Yunupiŋu reads a section of Luke's Gospel in Gumatj.



Partnering for a Yolŋu Recording Workshop

by Margaret Miller

The workshop embraced 9 Christian fellowship groups/churches based in 6 different sites; Yirrkala, Birritjimi, Nhulunbuy and Gunyanara (Ski Beach) on the most north-eastern peninsula of Arnhem Land as well as folk at Gaṅgaṅ homeland who were joined by others from neighbouring Gurrumuru. Over the two weeks there was over 40 people who contributed to making this workshop a success, and every one of them was needed!

We needed many skilled Yolŋu readers and singers in Gumatj and Dhuwaya with 2 sound recordists, Noel and Simon from Global Recording Networks (GRN), Lynette and Mike from AuSIL, Margaret from Coordinate, as well as wonderful local support coming from MAF and other Christians living in Yirrkala and Nhulunbuy. Thankyou to Marrpaḷawuy who helped to steer our workshop with Djerrkŋu and Dipililŋa's support over the 2 weeks together.



NOW AVAILABLE!
"THE CHRISTMAS STORY" Luke ch 1-2 in Gumatj on GRN website

<http://globalrecordings.net/en/program/66391>

and 5fish phone App by Christmas.

Yalmay, Yananymul, Wapit, Djuna and Marrpaḷawuy for giving your best to help get God's Word go out for others to hear.

Together we completed 13 chapters of Mark's Gospel in Dhuwaya, Luke ch1-15 in Gumatj, along with a collection of Gospel songs, a Bible Story from Matthew 14 with a testimony in the Rirratjŋu language and the Nicene Creed in Gumatj. Praise God!

There was a great number of readers.

Thankyou Ma-

Wagnona,
Daylulu,
Rärriwuy,

Billy Gumana from GanGan



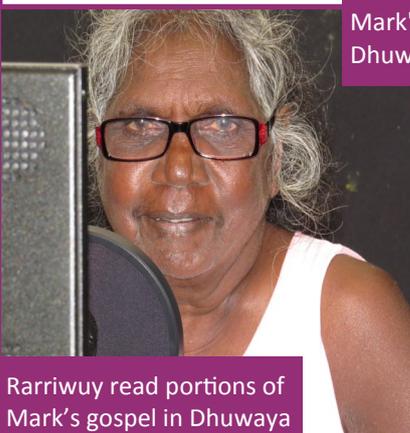
Wapit tackles the headings for each passage in Mark's Gospel with Simon.



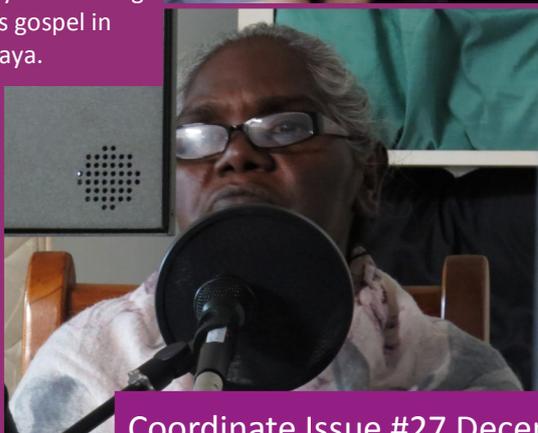
Wayalwara testified of Jesus healing power speaking in her own language Djapu, as she interacted with Gumatj and Dhuwaya Scriptures.



Yananymul reading Mark's gospel in Dhuwaya.

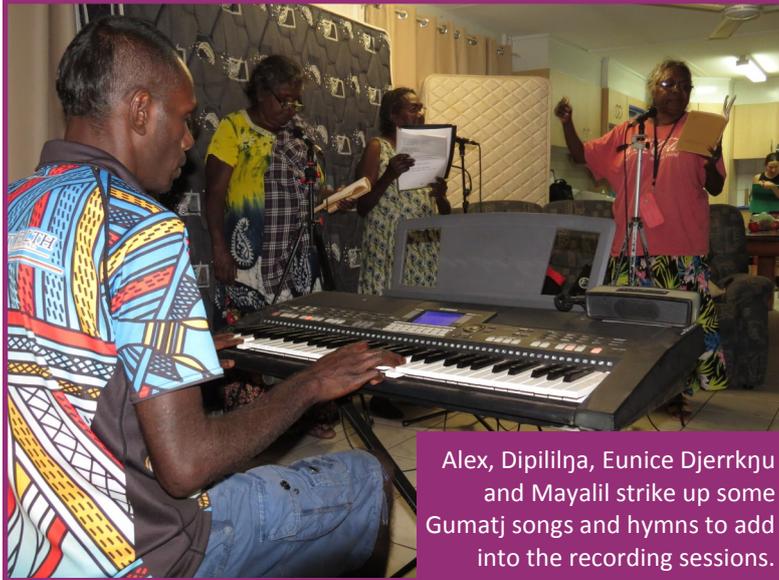


Rarriwuy read portions of Mark's gospel in Dhuwaya



Djuna reading Gumatj

Partnering for a Yolŋu Recording Workshop continued



Alex, Dipililŋa, Eunice Djerrŋu and Mayalil strike up some Gumatj songs and hymns to add into the recording sessions.

Some 'rocks', had to be negotiated as with any boating experience. Identifying a recording Studio needed careful consideration, but also finding various readers for each day, when mobile phones were not always active, presented its own challenges! Through it all, one could testify daily to God's caring hand on the work that joined us together in the most surprising ways, be it on the road, in the car, at the shops or in the studio.

We look forward to the final product being in the hands of people soon, whether it be on their own phones using GRN's 5ish app, on CD or USB devices, to be broadcast on ARDS Yolŋu Radio, or added to the collection of audio files to be distributed by MAF on Megavoice's solar-powered hand-held MP3.

Pray for Noel and Simon, our GRN recordists, who now have the exacting task of editing and preparing these files for availability.



Noel Bachelor and Simon Johnson of GRN record Mayalil reading Luke's gospel in Gumatj

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