



## Gifts for Si Saiwap Schools Indagen Primary School.

On Wednesday March 9 2011, I woke up at 3:30 am, an hour earlier before the alarm on my mobile phone was to go off. I didn't want to miss the early morning flight because I was the 13th passenger, a 3rd on the wait list for the flight to Indagen on the single engine aircraft that can take only 10 people including the pilot. I wanted to get to the airport before anyone else and check in and hope that one or two passengers who were confirmed to fly on that plane will either be late or decide to cancel their plan so I will have a chance to fly. Sure enough, when the boarding call was made, I was among the eight



*Students of Indagen Primary School assemble for the presentation*

names called out. Thirty minutes of flying over the beautiful Sarawaged Range the plane landed at Indagen where I was greeted by Max Gimo who is the Chairman of the Board of Governors of Indagen Primary School and Geamkes Bugere —Chairman of Waran Elementary School.

After having Breakfast at Max's house Barnabas and Soti joined us as we proceeded to the School to present their gift. Before the presentation which was done by Barnabas and the Si Saiwap committee [upon my request] I spoke to the school children and those that came to witness the presentation, about the importance of conserving our forests and managing our environment in a sustainable manner. I also suggested that the school start a orchid farm in the school ground for educational and conservation of our native flora.

We had lunch at the school and than headed for Waran Elementary School.

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Barnabas Presenting the brass cutter



Crowd of witnesses at Indagen Primary School

# Waran Elementary School.

We arrived at the Elementary school where we were greeted by the children and the teachers with some parents. After the formal traditional greetings we were led to their assembly ground where I asked some members of the Si Saiwap committee to present the gift. The Committee members who did the honors were Barnabas, Soti Ribon and Dien Honeo.

The head teacher and the board chairman spoke on Behalf of the children and parents expressing deep gratitude for the gift.

We were given a bilum [string bag] containing their three year development plan [SLIP] and a traditional arm band that signifies prosperity, which I gladly received on



behalf of Si Seiwap.

Teacher In Charge [TIC] organizing the Children of



Parents and Children of Waran Elementary School performing a Seiwap [Thank you] Dance before receiving their gift.

## Three Years School Learning Improvement Plan [SLIP]

Here is an extract from the *SLIP* that was presented to me.

### 1. VISION STATEMENT.

*‘TOGETHER LETS SHAPE WARAN’S FUTURE’*

### 2. MISSION STATEMENT

In the early stages of life, Waran’s children will be shaped wholly—physically, socially, emotionally, mentally and spiritually to take on challenges of life.

### 3. BACKGROUND

Waran Elementary school was established in 1998. The school serves children of Waran village in Komba

Local Level Government [LLG] in Kabwum District of Morobe province. The children in this school are learning cultural based curriculum in Komba language and English. The school has one semi permanent building and the rest are made of bush materials. The buildings are in good condition because parents and the community members are very supportive in looking after the buildings.

### 4. STUDENT POPULATION AND PERFORMANCE

From 30 students in 1998, the school has grown to a steady student to

*Together lets shape Waran’s future*

teacher ration of 40:1. More than 150 students have graduated from this school and have continued onto 3rd grade at Indagen Primary School. Of the 120 students we have every year, 60% are boys and the rest are girls. Currently there are 129 students.

## Orchid farming

I have mentioned last year [August] that more and more people are beginning to grow orchids around their houses as flowers.

I am pleased to inform you that people are growing orchids, not just in Waran but in Indagen and Musep as well.

Barnabas showed me his “secret” orchid garden, well we didn’t actually go into his farm but showed me from a

distance and promised me that, should I go back in August he will show me what he has been doing.

I am also happy to inform you that Lee has been working very hard to expand his little orchid garden. He has also rebuilt his house so the family have a better house than what you saw few years ago



Lee’s “Water Glass” inside his orchid garden

## Future Developmemnt

On Thursday Barnabas accompanied me to go on a survey trip. We left early to travel to the forest area where you and Bob camped out back in 2001[?].

Barnabas showed me places he took you to. I travelled as far as the Walep creek at the foothills of Mt. Kirrin, this is the mountain where you camped at it's foothill.

As we came back I revealed to Barnabas that I was actually scouting out a possible location for us to set up a commercial orchid farm, so I wanted some place that would accommodate such a project.

We talked about that and he pointed

out a piece of land he owns and said he has already discussed with his family and in fact that's the same area where he has started his "secret orchid garden".

It seem to me that it is a very convenient location and there is room for other developments such as building guest houses, lab and easy place for us to build tracts and roads, if we do venture into



*Possible project site*

such a project in the future. He even suggested that I relocate my house so we both could live and work on the project on site. I must confess that I am excited about it.

This may be the place for us to achieve our dreams.

I asked you if you were willing to come and work in the district remember? This may be the place for us to start from.

## Modern Communication Technology reaches Indagen

PNG being a third world country has lots of hurdles to get over before it can reach develop country statues.

One of the hurdles is in communication. In many parts of PNG there are no communication net work, no phones, no TV etc. Indagen has been one such place until last year when a mobile Phone company [Digicel] set up towers that has open up the district to the outside world. But Mobile phone call rates are so high so only few people can afford to make calls.

For the people of Si Seiwap community, that won't be a problem any more, thanks to Telikom. A week before I went to the village, a V set disk was set up at the Health Center with 5 phones and the call rate is less than .10 toea per minute. Yes finally communication technology has landed in my remote village, and I am one proud citizen.

Telikom has also installed V set disks in other centers around Kabwum district, so lack of Communication hurdle is out of the way now. We have

*"finally communication technology has landed in my remote village, and I am one proud citizen". W. Wosse.*

overcome. Thanks to our local MP Hon. Bob Dadae, the PNG Government and Telikom for opening



*Proud custodians of the communications equipment at Indagen Health Centre . L—R Mr. Soti Tibon; Barnabas [obscured] Mr. Albert—OIC Health Center, Sister Cathy, Ben and Bafi Donao*

# Si Saiwap

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*[Ruth may have sent you this information already, if so you can ignore this]*

## Distribution of funds

Rec'd C\$ 1000-00 + 100-00 = \$ 1100-00  
@ 0.3802 = PGK 2630-00

Air fare & Travel cost	K 800-00
Housing Scheme	K 580-00
Diru (LO)	K 450-00
Paps Bugere	K 300-00
Others **	K 500-00

- Lee\*\* K 100-00
- Bob\*\* K 100-00
- Wes\*\* K 100-00
- Rezi \* K 100-00
- Kiari \* K100-00

**\*\*These are orchid growers from Indagen. Gave them funds as incentives so they could continue to work on their orchid farm.**