

Feb\March news 2009

Gyday'

Time has flown by and not much has been happening. The monthly newsletter has turned Bi-monthly!

The Kokoda Angels 'Ambo' Ute has been up and down literally before the floods in the last couple of weeks took out the Kumusi Bridge again leaving the 'ambo' cut off with the village. It is still rubber tyre crossing with stores and dried cocoa beans for market still and dangerous over the last week again with more rain.

It will be some time to rebuild the 'temporary' bridge again with trees over shipping containers to be replaced before road surface for heavy oil palm trucks. In the last few weeks I have been speaking with the Kokoda Track Foundation newly appointed Executive Director Dr Genevieve Nelson. As she was due to travel to walk the track and visit the schools and hospitals we were able to help her get to Waju and visit the schools there. The 'ambo' helped bring them from the airstrip to the village where they were welcomed by the village in song and dance. She gets the lucky 'Privilege' to travel in the "ambo" and I am looking forward to hearing from her with photos when she returns.

There is a couple of letters here from the village nurse and Daniel that will be posted. The association had a good end to March with a letter from the SA Premier Mike Rann of congratulations to the Kokoda Angels Inc. assoc. and with a check from him for **\$6800** which is great! Daniel has just been down from the village bringing his cocoa and buying store foods and he let me know that our "ambo" is a "push start" which was the first I had heard of it sorry Dr if it was a bit rough we will have to fix that and more! I have been sending emails around for support and hope that with the Premier coming on board will create a boarder interest to helping the Kokoda Angels. We thank our Premier for his generous support.

Lukim U (cheers)

Jeff Keough
Kokoda Angels