



Talua: Just a pile of timber?



What do you see in this photo? Perhaps simply a pile of timber. But it's far more. It's the first sign that rebuilding has commenced at Talua Theological Training Institute following the devastation caused by Cyclone Harold in April this year. In a nation such as Vanuatu it can take some time to arrange for such work to take place. The fact that rebuilding has begun is good news!

These repairs will make these buildings safe for the upcoming cyclone season, thus preventing further damage when the next cyclone hits — and it will come!

At the moment the main priority is housing for staff and students. Talua closed a few months ago because of the damage caused by Cyclone Harold and plans to re-open in May 2021.

We, the Presbyterian Church of Australia, have been the primary donor for these essential repairs. Where did the money for this come from? From you, the many generous individual members and congregations who can see the strategic importance of Talua.

Although Cyclone Harold inflicted much damage in northern Vanuatu, APWM has made the rebuilding of Talua a priority. For any church, theological education is an essential part of the

church's life as it seeks to train and equip the next generation of pastors and lay leaders. It is a privilege to have the opportunity to help the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu do this work.

The Talua Cyclone Recovery Committee has asked APWM to thank you, its supporters, for your generous support in rebuilding the college.

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.
PHILIPPIANS 1:3-5



Repairing a staff house



Same Presbyterian Church building

The Enemy becomes the Builder

In the late 1970s Timor Leste suffered what was often a cruel occupation by Indonesia. In the south of the island lies the major town of Same ('sar-may'). Many had fled from Same in fear of their lives and for years lived in the mountains, to evade the Indonesian troops. Some starved, others were killed. Some fled from the country. Many were eventually captured.

One of the captured men was a Christian, and when the Indonesian troops searched his meagre belongings they were surprised to find a Bible. The commandant asked the man "We were told that you were all communists. Why do you have a Bible?" The prisoner replied that he was a Christian, not a communist, at which point the commandant shared that he too was a Christian. After that, many of the prisoners were released and the commandant set about helping them construct a church building.

Over the years that congregation has grown to become many hundreds of people. When the original church building had reached the end of its life, the Same congregation, with government aid, built this beautiful new church building.

Please pray that this building will always be used for the glory of God and the spread of the gospel.



Malawi Prison Aid

Better Than Socks!

This Christmas, why not give something that will have a greater impact than socks?

Why not buy an item from the APWM Christmas Catalogue.

1. Choose the item(s) on our list that you would like to purchase for a gift.
2. Send APWM your order, including payment. Please note that these gifts are **NOT tax deductible**.
3. We will send you the cards and you are then free to give these cards as Christmas gifts. The cards state which gift(s) you have purchased, on their behalf, for someone in one APWM's ministries. There is no monetary value printed on the card.
4. APWM then sends the money to our overseas partners to purchase items locally.

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