



## *SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL MEMBER CARE NETWORK*



**The purpose of this newsletter is:**

- To link together Member Care providers from the South Pacific Region who are working both within and outside this region.
- To give a wider perspective of what God is doing in the field of Member Care
- To provide encouragement and support, reducing the sense of isolation
- To provide a platform for sharing resources and ideas with each other that may be helpful
- To provide a forum in which member care providers could offer services to other missions eg. in the field of a trained provider to offer member care to MKs

Your contributions are very much appreciated. Please send details of upcoming events, information and resources that you think will benefit members of the network to Helen Macnaughtan:

[helenmacn@gmail.com](mailto:helenmacn@gmail.com)

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### **COMING EVENTS**

#### **Missionary Enrichment Retreat**

Whatever the role, wherever in the world you have been serving, mission service is unique in the stresses and blessings it brings. MER's are designed for the missionary, giving opportunity to reflect on the experience, to evaluate how you have coped, and equip yourself for the future in a safe place and with people who truly understand.

**NZ:** 20-26 October Crystal Springs, Matamata.

**Enquiries** – Missions Interlink [info@missions.org.nz](mailto:info@missions.org.nz)

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#### **Pacific Island Conference – P2N**



**Vision Statement:** A movement of Pacific people, rising up and launching into the nations, proclaiming the Gospel, and demonstrating God's love and power.

**Dates:** Nov 8-9, 2013

**Venue:** Telstra Arena, Manukau, Auckland

**Enquiries:** Missions Interlink [info@missions.org.nz](mailto:info@missions.org.nz)

The goal of this Conference is about mobilising more PI people into missions, and at this point as I understand it, Member Care is not on the agenda! However, I am planning to attend in the hopes that connecting with them face to face, will give me a platform to share the need for good Member Care.

## South Pacific Regional MC Conference

Yes, after talking about it for some considerable time, plans are now underway to hold the first Sth Pacific MC Conference in 2014. The venue will be Sydney and although no dates have been set, it will probably be in July/August.

I recently sent out a questionnaire to a cross section of MC providers, seeking feedback on what would draw them to such a Conference and what the key components need to be. Thank you to those who have responded to that. For those who did not receive it and would like to, please let me know.

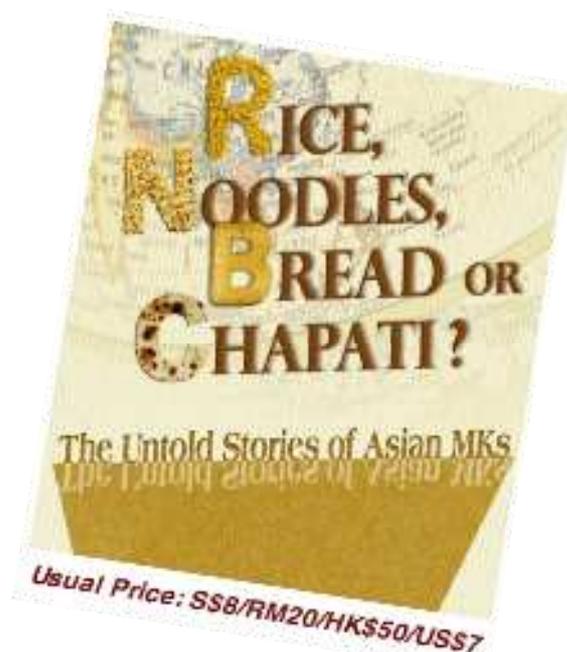
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## Resources:

### The first ever title representing Asian MKs!

*"A ground breaking book indeed! Through poignant personal stories, we see the growing cultural complexity many children face in sorting out personal and cultural identity in today's globalizing world. And we also see hope for the strength that can come in the end. Don't miss it!"*

**-- Ruth E. Van Reken**, Co-author of *Third Culture Kids: Growing Up Among Worlds*



OK – so it's a book with stories from Asian MKs and their caregivers, but MKs everywhere share similar experiences, no matter what country their parents come from, so I think it is relevant to anyone who is either an MK or cares for MKs.

### For enquiries and orders, please contact:

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## A new Ministry and Retreat Centre in NZ

In April we set up a partnership, 'Room With A View Ministries' offering Spiritual Direction, Counselling, Supervision and 'Packages of Care' within the context of Debriefing, Retreat and Pastoral Care.

We are in Feilding, Manawatu, and have created a 'bedsit' room with ensuite at our home, so people can come and stay with us when accessing debriefing, retreat or pastoral care. We are also open to offering this package of care on an itinerant basis.

We have now set up a website [www.roomwithaviewministries.co.nz](http://www.roomwithaviewministries.co.nz) so please do view that for more information about ourselves and the ministry we offer.

**Lew and Bev Marsh**

**And here's an encouraging report from one of our MC workers in PNG.**

“We in OM PNG, are involved in sending Papua New Guinean Missionaries in partnership with the churches in PNG for overseas or global missions. And in doing this, we also see the importance of taking care of our workers, before, during and after their time on the mission field.

To help prepare our workers well, we run a one month cross-cultural orientation training once a year 6-12 months before the missionaries actually leave PNG. We then run another week of training just before they leave for their fields of service to review and check.

While they are away, we maintain communication with them and their churches and their receiving fields (OM fields) on how they are doing both in ministry and life in general, and give spiritual oversight where necessary based on the reports we get from them as individuals and also from their field.

When they return upon finishing their time, we run a one week re-entry training before we bring them back to their sending churches for an official hand over.”

*Kepo Kure  
Interim Field Leader  
OM Missions Ltd*

*Email: [Kepo.Kure@om.org](mailto:Kepo.Kure@om.org)*

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Thank you Kepo for your report and for the good work you are doing in PNG. And if any of you others would like to send in a report on an aspect of your ministry which would encourage others, we would gladly publish it.

*As some-one said, "I would appreciate the "older member care" folks putting together something that encourages and provides stories of member care in action that demonstrates how member care makes a difference..."*

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You are receiving this email because you are linked in some way to missions in the Sth Pacific.