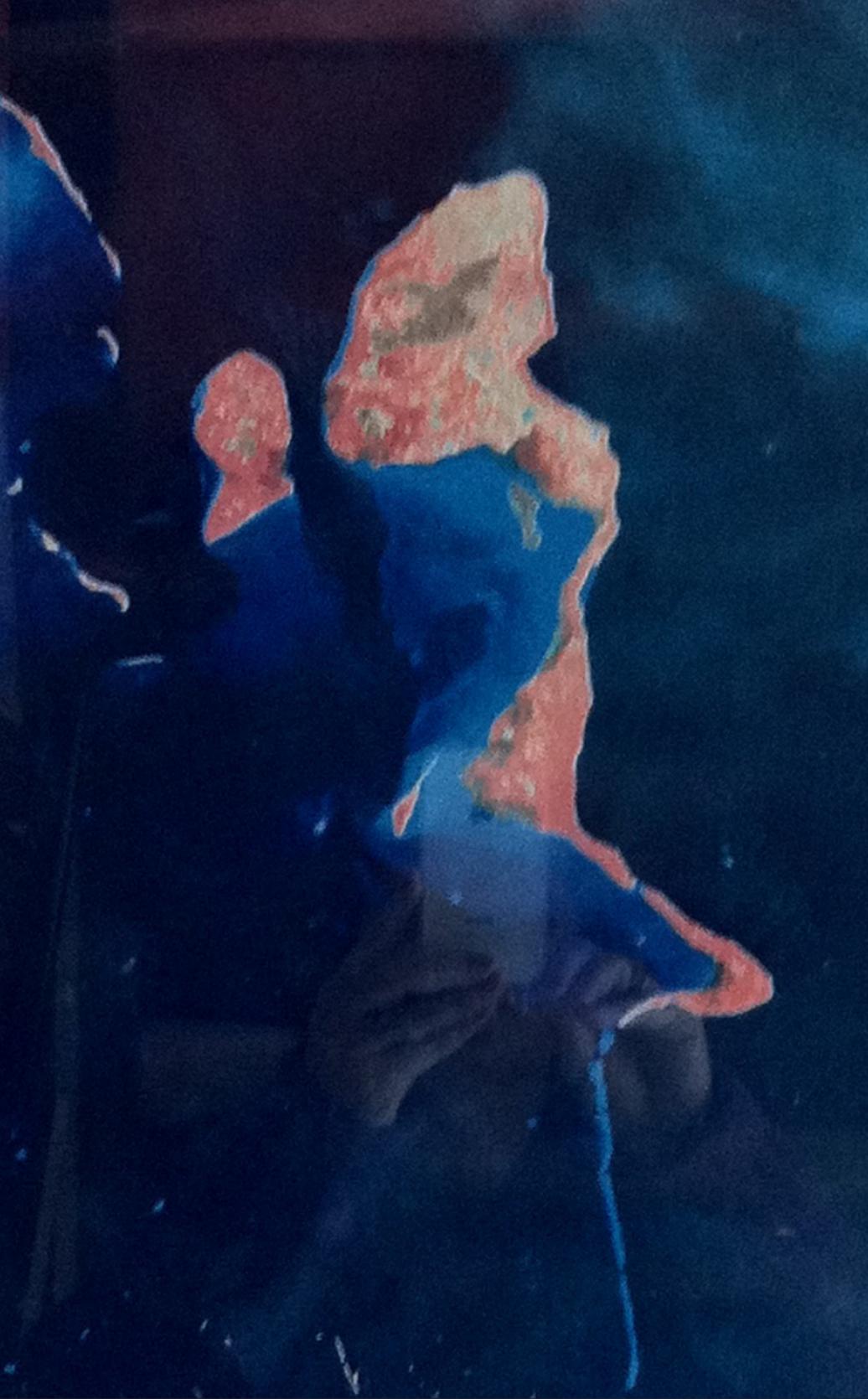




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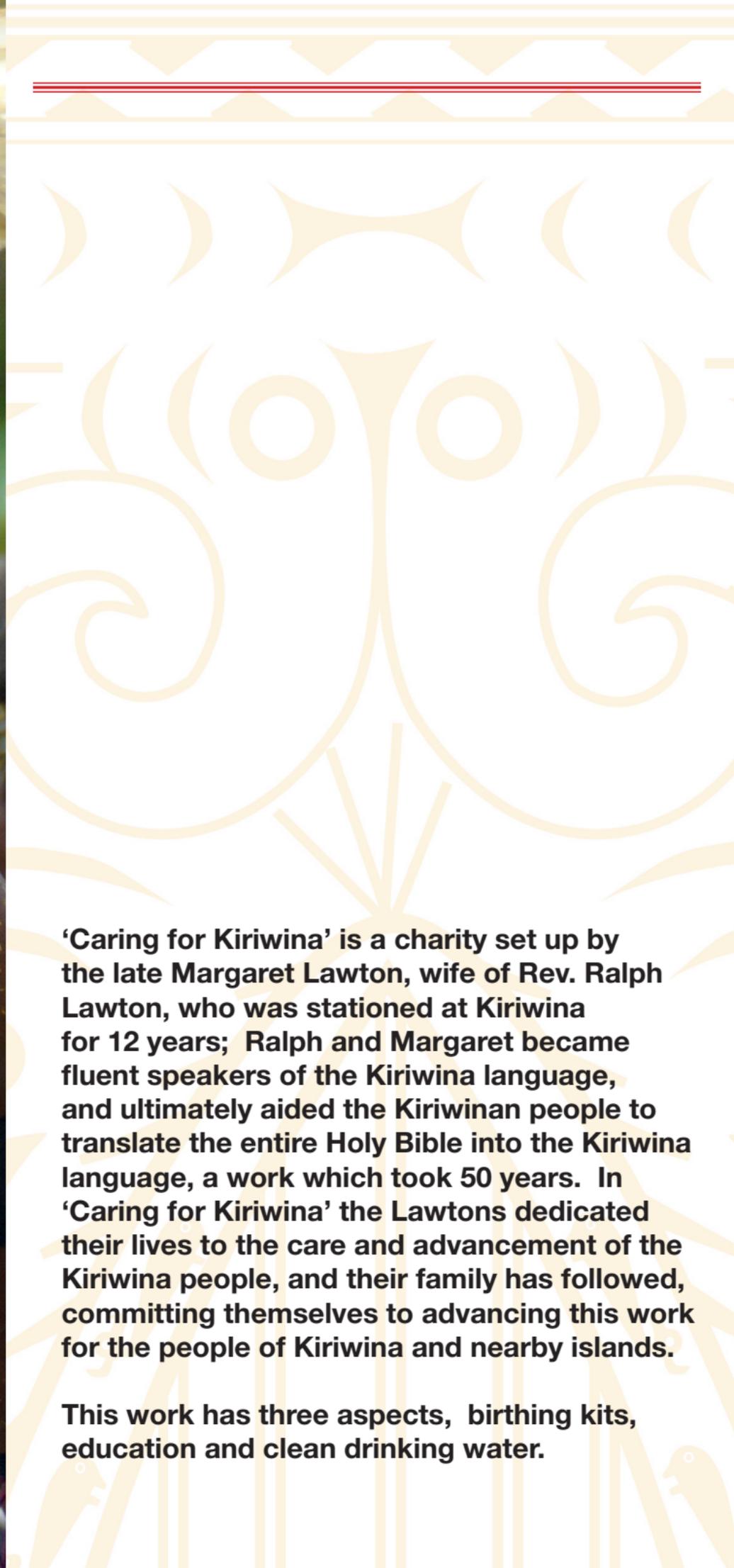


Trobriand Islands Papua New Guinea.

The name of the biggest island is Kiriwina.

The Trobriand Islands are an archipelago of coral atolls off the eastern tip of New Guinea. They are situated at the northern edge of the Milne Bay Province, Papua New Guinea. The largest island in the Trobriands is called Kiriwina Island. It has a population of about 25,000 indigenous inhabitants, who live by subsistence gardening and fishing.





‘Caring for Kiriwina’ is a charity set up by the late Margaret Lawton, wife of Rev. Ralph Lawton, who was stationed at Kiriwina for 12 years; Ralph and Margaret became fluent speakers of the Kiriwina language, and ultimately aided the Kiriwinan people to translate the entire Holy Bible into the Kiriwina language, a work which took 50 years. In ‘Caring for Kiriwina’ the Lawtons dedicated their lives to the care and advancement of the Kiriwina people, and their family has followed, committing themselves to advancing this work for the people of Kiriwina and nearby islands.

This work has three aspects, birthing kits, education and clean drinking water.



Kiriwina Island VHV's Kavataria Dorathy David, Dulcie Nelson, Doreen Josaiah, Ruth Boaz Mukosaida Loisi Jaccob, Florence Silipaya Oyabia Rhonda Enos



1. The Birthing Kits

In rural PNG the mortality rate in childbirth is 1:7, with a maternal mortality rate of 3 in every 1,000 live births. The need for aid here is great. From the first 100 Birthing Kits that were distributed we saw a significant reduction in both maternal deaths and infant deaths.

Originally supporting the villages of Kavataria, Mokosaida and Oyabia (2,000 people), Caring for Kiriwina (supported by Yarralumla Uniting Church, St Vincents College at Potts Point and Holistic Hampers) has been able to expand Birthing Kit distribution to the villages of Kwemtula, Osaisuya, Gumilababa, Oyuveyova, Teiyava and Tukwaukwa (nearly 5,000 more people). We also distribute torches, warm clothing and aspirators.

Each Birthing Kit also includes a Birth Certificate form, as birth records are not officially kept by the PNG Government.

The Village Health Volunteers (VHVs), who make use of the Birthing Kits, require training in the use of the Kits and we are additionally fundraising for trainers from Australia to provide free training for these volunteers. We will be travelling to Kiriwina on April 22nd 2017 to run the first of many urgent VHV training programs.



2. Educational Initiatives

a. Printing Primers.

A primer is a primary aid for teaching reading in your own language. Other primary aids such as graded simple reading texts are used to introduce young children to themes such as healthcare. Ralph Lawton is giving his time to producing a Kiriwina Primer and other texts, and with the volunteered help of Lawton Design Pty.Ltd. These aids will be published.

Donations will be used to cover costs of printing and distribution.

b. Providing School support

We provide much needed school equipment, and help others distribute them to Kiriwina schools (which do not receive Government help at all for vernacular education).



3. Clean Drinking Water

We are raising funds to promote the supply of clean drinking water. Kiriwina Island is flat, with no rivers and no naturally-occurring fresh drinking water. While the underground water table is easily accessed as it is shallow, it is of brackish quality and frequently not potable, although suitable for bathing (and is so used for the 25,000 Kiriwina inhabitants). The village toilets and household rubbish from about 80 villages contaminate it further.

The PNG government has recently begun supplying corrugated iron roofing for some buildings to help in water collection, but no guttering, downpipe or tanks to aid the water collection. Caring for Kiriwina is trying to fund the supply of these essentials, from your gifts.

Donations and volunteers are crucial for the existence of Caring for Kiriwina. You can make sure that the Kiriwina people continue to benefit from our efforts on their behalf. Who can set a price on things like safe birthing, clean drinking water, and a basic education which enables children to read and write in their own language! Further, it is well known that the best students who go on to learn English are those already literate in their own native tongue, and this is where a country's future leaders come. If we help them to begin right, ultimately we are ensuring a people's future.

It rests with us to keep Margaret Lawton's vision alive.

Caring for Kiriwina is doing this.

And we rely on you.



Caring for Kiriwina's founder Margaret Lawton sits in a village with her children (Jenni, Doug (not visible) and David when they were living in Kiriwina.









Please Donate

Your tax deductible donation to *Caring for Kiriwina*

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Thank you to all sponsors and donors