



*The Evangelical Royal Rangers raising the Vanuatu flag at the AOG Provincial Conference.*

# Asia Pacific: VANUATU

## ROYAL RANGERS AROUND THE WORLD

by Pastor Russell Harbour — Australian Assemblies of God Missionary

When Robyn and I arrived in Vanuatu as Assemblies of God missionaries in January 2007 we found a very different type of Royal Rangers. The program had been brought to Vanuatu by Ron & Joy Killingbeck, US Missionaries to Vanuatu from 1973 to 1983. After the departure of these Missionaries the program slowly changed. The purpose of Royal Rangers to Reach, Teach and Keep Children for Jesus had become lost over the years. Boys were still called Royal Rangers, but there was no program. Instead, they came together to march and raise flags at special church events and conferences. Most of the groups throughout Vanuatu, while excelling in precision drills and marching skills, did not know the Royal Ranger motto, code, or pledge, had never seen the Royal Rangers emblem, and did not know of the ministry's evangelistic focus. Of all the groups in Vanuatu, only two groups running in Port Vila and Luganville had some sort of program and were working with very old American handbooks.

As we had both spent many years in different positions in Royal Rangers at our local church in Bendigo, Australia, the General Superintendent asked Russell to take on the position of National Director and stand the program up strong again in Vanuatu. He said he always felt that there was more to Royal Rangers than marching and raising flags.

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**VANUATU** is a 'Y' shaped archipelago of 83 islands situated in the South Pacific Ocean about 1750 kilometers east of Australia. The 220,000 population is spread across 78 inhabited islands. The Ni-Vanuatu people speak 102 different village languages. Vanuatu is often called the modern day Babel as it has the highest concentration of languages per capita in the world. Until its independence in 1980 this country was governed by a Condominium which consisted of British and French Governments ruling together. There were French and English Hospitals, Police forces, Armies, Banks, currency and schools. The result is that some people speak French and some English. Because of the language difficulties they developed their own, a common pijin language, called Bislama which has become the nation's official language.







The 2010 Royal Ranger year was started with a games day held at Mele Beach.



Tanoliu Royal Rangers made salvation bands then went to school to share the Gospel with their friends



Sack races



Start for the Natora Unit sprint



The Nambuka Boys Relay



Making a ladder using lashing.



Making kites at Camp Kamtugeta 2009 – sanding the cross bars



Ifira Outpost boys on Tripod



Participants of the Asia Pacific Summit and World Class Outpost Seminar

## 2010 Royal Rangers Asia Pacific Summit

By Jim Guneratnam, RRI's Asia Pacific Representative

Leaders from five nations in the Asia Pacific region: Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Solomon Island and Vanuatu, met in Brisbane, Australia on January 11 & 12, 2010 for the 2nd Royal Rangers Asia Pacific Summit. Held in conjunction with the Australia National Camporama, the summit brought leaders for the region together to strengthen and expand the Royal Rangers ministry in reaching, teaching and keeping the children and youth of Asia Pacific for Jesus Christ.

Together with the Summit, the national leaders also had the opportunity to receive further training with the World Class Outpost Seminar. Below are some testimonies from leaders at the summit:

"Thank you for everything you have provided for us during the Summit. I personally have received so much more from the Summit and am now putting in practice what I have learned from you all during the Summit. It has a big impact on my life for the Royal Ranger ministry here in the Solomon Islands.

I have never expected to receive a big surprise from our General Superintendent who came looking for me after Church to hear what I have received from the Summit and I shared with him and he was very happy to hear it. More doors are opening for the Royal Ranger as the message thru the General Superintendent has passed on to other Pastors and they are asking me to go to their Churches and introduce the Royal Rangers ministry to them."

— Lilian Buaraf, Representative of Royal Rangers Solomon Island



National Leaders at the Asia Pacific Summit (L-R), Joy H Luhukay P. (Indonesia), Jim Guneratnam (RRI Asia Pacific Representative), Russell Harbour (Vanuatu), Richard Leworthy (Australia), Doug Marsh (RRI Director), Chia Eng Kiat (Singapore), Gideon Lee (Malaysia) and Jezreel Sikwauta (Solomon Island)

"I am very blessed by the Asia Pacific Summit in Brisbane, Australia on 11 - 12 January 2010. I thank you very much for your support and believing God to bless all of you more.

Most of all I was very blessed by the meetings and world class outpost seminar as this will bless my country because it will help me and my staffs to get more understanding and knowledge to reach, teach and keep our young generation in Indonesia.

We believe God will use us to spread His Words and Kingdom through Royal Rangers ministry."

— Joy H Luhukay P., National Commander, Royal Rangers Indonesia



Tanoliu Royal Rangers playing games in the village



2010 Field Day Parade



2010 Shefa Field Day held at Pango Family Worship Centre on Saturday 17th April, 2010.

— continued Our first task was to look at the program and decide what the best way to make it work here in Vanuatu was. As we live at the Bible College, we were able to spend many hours talking to the Ni-vanuatuan students to find out what would work. We rewrote and simplified the Australian training manual, chose local names for the units to reflect the growth of a boy spiritually, socially, mentally and physically. These names are Gurmang (the small sucker that comes up behind a banana tree), Nambuka (a very pliable and soft wood) and Natora (the strong heartwood of a tree). The next step was to rewrite awards so that they fit in with the culture of the local people who are of Melanesian origin. Once completed, this work was then translated into the local pijin language which is called Bislama.

Since Vanuatu is an emerging third world country resource rich but currency poor, we have kept our uniform to a coloured vest, and three awards earned per year. Often we donate the material for the vest and the church pays for the emblems and awards. Each award takes 5 or 6 weeks

to earn. We have taught the leaders many new games to play and given game bags out to the poorer outposts. During the devotional time, the boys learn one small truth from the Bible that they can apply in their daily lives.

During the past two years we have set up Royal Ranger Outposts in 5 of the 6 provinces. Outposts are small, as most villages in Vanuatu are very small. On the main island of Efate we have 6 Outposts running. The leaders have taken to the new program and are enjoying teaching their boys about God, their culture, and various life skills. Where there is no Missionette group the girls have been allowed to join in with the Royal Ranger Boys.

Since travel between islands is very expensive, our training on islands outside of our own consists of one full day of Royal Ranger Basics and a second day spent running a group in the church with the newly trained leaders assisting. We then leave them with everything they need to run the program. The President of Royal Rangers on Malekula has set up 4 outposts

on his island with only this much training.

Last year we held our first field day in April of 2009. We saw 84 boys plus leaders gathering together for a sports day. Our speaker was Lori Ellison, the daughter of the Missionaries who brought Royal Rangers to Vanuatu so many years ago. We held our first camp, KAMTUGETA, last July with 36 boys and leaders. 15 of these boys gave their lives to Jesus at the camp. We praise God for what he is doing through the Royal Ranger Ministry in Vanuatu.

Two leaders joined us at the Australian Camporama in January 2010. They went back to their church in Pango Village with an excitement and enthusiasm for Royal Rangers. They immediately took their Outpost meeting from the church to the village and held it there. As a result, in one week their numbers went from 10 to 28. It is this outpost that hosted the Shefa Province Field Day this year. This group has included in their program visitation to the sick and lonely as well as evangelistic outreach.

So far this year we have had





## ROYAL RANGERS

— INTERNATIONAL —

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# ERLNER 2010 – Chile

by Fernando Ahumada  
*National Commander of Chile*

The fifth National Leaders Encounter in Latin America and the Caribbean, called ERLNER, was recently held in the nation of Chile in a combined effort with RRI. This regional event is celebrated every two years. This year's ERLNER was attended by 24 leaders from 7 different nations. The seven nations represented were Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, and Panama.

Primary topics covered:

- Promoting communion and unity among the national leaders
- Presentation by the Regional Committee
- Assuring that the Regional Committee has the support of RRI
- Reaching the countries that have never had a Royal Rangers ministry
- Implementing the Navigator software to help local outposts
- The strategic changes that will come in the future, which the national offices can apply
- Revising RRI's Operational Guidelines
- Web Page as a support tool to the national offices
- Planning and projection of youth training

The Regional Coordinator, Jeff Cooper, together with the national leaders, sharing in the unity of the body of Christ, projected the new work and development of the ministry in each country. The Latin America and the Caribbean region was divided into 5 regions to better coordinate the work in a more fluid way, and to better reach the member countries, that they may better apply what is in the leader's manuals and on the training CDs. In each of these 5 regions, a development coordinator has been named to be the bridge of communication

and support between ERLAC (Royal Rangers Latin America & the Caribbean) and the national offices.

We believe in the growth of Royal Rangers in Latin America and the Caribbean, especially in those nations that do not have the ministry, while at the same time supporting growth in the nations that already have Rangers, so the boys together with their leaders can grow in every area of development.

The next ERLNER meeting is scheduled for 2012 in the USA. 🌿



ERLAC team (L-R): Back row: Mirke D'León, Region 3 Development Coordinator; Fernando Ahumada, Region 1 Development Coordinator; Jeff Cooper, ERLAC Regional Coordinator; Hiram Soler, ERLAC Advancement & Curriculum Coordinator  
Front row: Zoilo Pino, Region 2 Development Coordinator; Giovanni Cordero, Region 4 Development Coordinator

