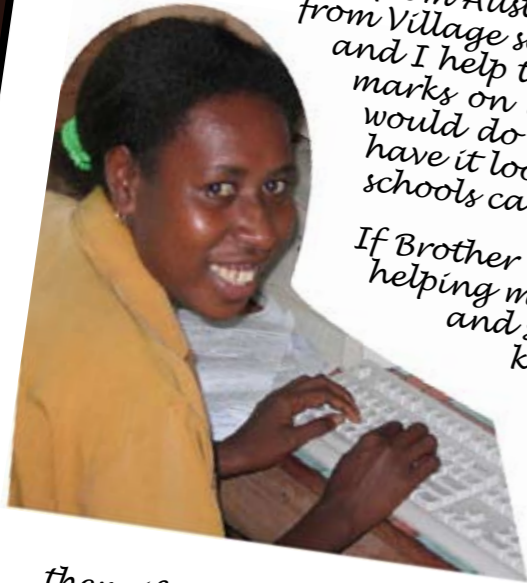


Papua New Guinea



PAPUA NEW GUINEA

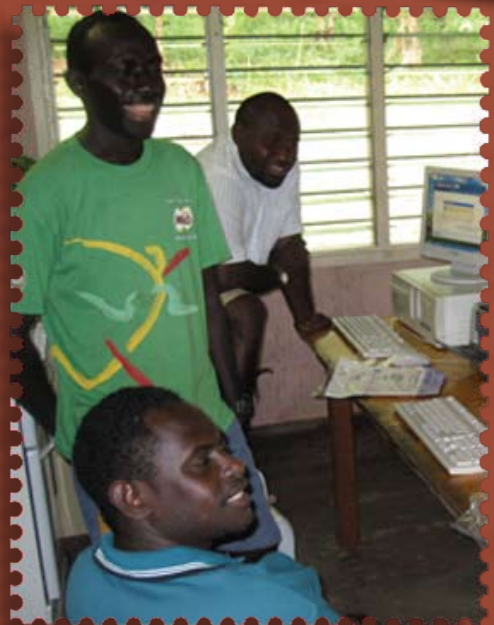


I am a Grade 10 graduate and have just left school at Yangoru in PNG where the Marist Brothers teach. I am learning to type and use a computer and I am the operations officer for the Yangoru Educational Resource Centre which was started by funds from Australian Marist Students. We are very lucky. All the teachers from Village schools around Yangoru come and use the Resource Centre and I help them type their lessons and their letters and fill in the test marks on a spreadsheet. If the Resource Centre was not here they would do all this by writing and not be able to make copies and have it look good. There is no electric power in the villages and the schools cannot afford to have equipment of their own.

If Brother Donovan had not recruited me for this job, I would be helping my mother in the food gardens. We grow all our own food and sell some at the village market. Sometimes we can sell five kina's worth of sweet potato and vegetables. There are no other jobs near my place for girls and only a few for boys. I could go down to the big town of Wewak and work in the fish cannery but I would only get K3 for each day and the truck fare is more than that.

Everyone knew about the computers for the Centre before they came and were very excited. We know what computers can do and we need to work with them if we are going to develop. We just have not had the opportunity to touch one or use it. Mobile phones have come to Yangoru now and this is another development. I haven't ever used a phone but I hope I will soon





Capital City: Port Moresby
 Area: 462,840 sq km
 Time Zone: GMT/UTC +10
 Languages: English
 Tok Pisin & Motu (official)
 750 indigenous languages
 Religion: Christianity
 Pantheistic beliefs
 Currency: Kina (PGK)
 Exchange Rate: AUD \$1 = PGK K2.30
 Dialling Code: 675
 Cost: AUD\$750 1/t to POM
 about \$400 r/h to main centres