



# Modawa

An ABM Pilgrimage with the  
Anglican Church in Papua New Guinea

"We will come back changed. Of that I am certain.  
But of course, that is why you go on pilgrimage in the first place,  
to find the holy, stumble upon God in action,  
and be changed forever by the experience."

*Trevor Denis*

**ABM** Anglican Board of Mission - Australia  
Working for Love, Hope & Justice



## ***The Destination***

Dogura, near the North-East tip of Papua New Guinea was the first mission station of the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea. The cathedral of St Peter and St Paul sits atop the Dogura plateau as one of the most remote Anglican Cathedrals in the world.

Between Dogura and the provincial capital stand the Eastern tip of the Owen Stanley Range. No roads reach the community and the airstrip has not been used for years. Travelling along the coast by dinghy is the only way to get to Dogura.

The average income along the North Coast of Milne Bay Province is less than \$1/day. People contend with a lack of communications, transportation, education and health services. Many of the services that are available are provided by the church.



## ***The Experience***

An ABM Pilgrimage is a unique opportunity to undertake a journey of reflection and discovery. Journeying alongside Anglicans in another culture we open ourselves to learning more about ourselves, our faith, our culture, the church and the role of mission in situations of poverty and injustice.

Before trying to 'fix the problems' we see in the world, we seek to understand the causes of poverty and to build relationships of solidarity based upon mutual respect.



## ***Physical Requirements***

The Modawa pilgrimage caters for different levels of physical challenge. You choose to hike out to mountain villages or to stay closer to Dogura itself. There is no doctor in Dogura and medical options in PNG are significantly fewer than those available in Australia. You should consult your own doctor about whether you are fit to travel in a remote area of a developing country before deciding to participate in this pilgrimage.



## ***Itinerary***

Day 1 August 6	Early morning flight from Cairns to Port Moresby. Proceed through immigration and fly on to Alotau, Milne Bay Province. Staying at Napatana Eco-Lodge ( <a href="http://www.napatanalodge.com">www.napatanalodge.com</a> ).
Day 2 August 7 (Sunday)	Sunday morning worship with Ascension Parish, Alotau. Opportunity to spend time with local Anglicans after church.
Day 3 August 8	Travel the East Cape road and then cross the Eastern tip of the Owen Stanley Range in a covered 4x4 truck. Come to the end of the road at Awaiama and transfer to a 19' fibreglass dinghy and journey along the North Coast of Milne Bay province to Wedau Village.
Day 4 August 9	Welcome and discussion with Diocesan Bishop and staff. Discover Dogura Station and learn about its history. Call in at the primary school, secondary school, health station, cathedral and diocesan office. Visit the village markets.
Day 5 August 10	St Laurence Day marks the 120th anniversary of the Anglican Church in PNG. Celebrate the past, live in the present and look forward to the future as we visit Kaieta a place which signifies the relationship between the Church in Papua New Guinea and Australia.
Day 6 August 11	Walk 4-5 hours to a remote village and stay with local hosts who will spend time sharing stories and sharing their labours. Far from roads and shops and modern infrastructure, this is how much of PNG lives.
Day 7 August 12	Begin the day with a tour of our host village. Opportunities to thank our hosts, visit the local school and spend time appreciating the joys and challenges of life in a remote village. Return to Dogura.
Day 8 August 13	Rise early with your torch and set out for the peak of Mount Pasipasi, rising above Dogura station. Take in the sunrise across Bartle Bay and pray for the people of Papua New Guinea.
Day 9 August 14 (Sunday)	Sunday worship in St Peter and St Paul Cathedral or in one of the surrounding villages. Time after church to sit under the mango trees and share stories. Evening meal and farewell celebration with the Dogura community.
Day 10 August 15	Rise early to catch the morning Dinghy to Awaiama before the winds become strong. Overnight in Alotau. Hot water, real showers, electricity, traffic and mobile phone reception.
Day 11 August 16	Fly to Port Moresby. Stay at the Mapang Missionary Home. Final reflections as a group and debriefing.
Day 12 August 17	In the morning we will visit Anglicare StopAIDS and the Anglican Diocese of Port Moresby. Meet Bishop Peter Ramsden and Australian volunteers working at Anglicare. 2pm flight to Brisbane.
Every day:	Morning prayer and evening prayer Reflection and sharing as a group Discussing contemporary missiology and development practice



### ***What you will give up***

- The feeling of total control
- Hot, running water
- 24 hour electricity
- Air conditioning
- Comfortable beds and bathrooms
- TV, mobile phones and internet access

### ***What you will gain***

- A new understanding of time
- An encounter with God in the lives of Brothers and Sisters in a different culture
- First hand experience of the challenges of rural poverty
- New understandings of God's global mission
- Opportunities for reflection and renewal

### ***About the name 'Modawa'***

On August 10th, 1891 Anglican missionaries from Australia arrived at Kaieta near Dogura. One of the Rosewood posts from the first buildings they constructed took root and has become a towering tree. In the local Wedau language Rosewood is called Modawa. The tree has become a symbol for the growth of the church in PNG

***When?*** 6-17th August, 2011

***How Much?*** \$1950 + airfares

### ***Who can apply?***

If you are over 18 (or travelling with a parent or guardian who is over 18), fit to travel in a remote area of a developing country and ready to pray and reflect on mission in a group environment then Modawa may be the opportunity for you.

### ***Apply now!***

Because we are travelling to a remote place, Modawa is a small pilgrimage of around 8-12 people. To ensure you don't miss out, and to save costs on air tickets you should apply as soon as possible. Application forms are available on the ABM website or by contacting Brad Chapman. Please feel free to contact ABM if you would like to discuss the pilgrimage further.

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### ***Past pilgrimage participants say...***

"Personally I found the trip a growth experience- both personally and spiritually. The learnings that I have gained will enrich my ministry here in Australia and I know there will be a flow-on effect to the young people I teach.

I would highly recommend ABM's Pilgrimage program!"