

# Newsletter

REACHING INTO THE FUTURE



  
**God hears our cries for help...**  
*Jeremiah 33:3 "Call unto Me and I will answer you and show you great and wonderful things..."*

## A New Hope

In 2006, Captain Brian Sloan began pursuing a vessel to see a YWAM ship serving in Europe and the Mediterranean. In March 2007, YWAM England purchased a 42-meter training vessel, the T/S Elida IV, later renamed Next Wave. For thirteen years, the vessel served throughout these regions, running training schools on board including schools of seamanship and navigation. However, much of the ship's time was used for humanitarian relief work. With thousands of refugees fleeing war and poverty in North Africa, the crisis could not be ignored.

As part of the Marine Reach family, the vessel sailed for Greece where her crew worked with refugees, bringing hope and humanitarian relief to thousands. However, growing resentment from governments towards humanitarian aid for refugees put a great deal of pressure on the ship's crew to leave.

After completing a refit in Turkey under the leadership of Captain Marvin Wilson, the ship sailed for the Bahamas in the Caribbean in early October. Entirely made up of volunteers, this courageous

group of young people helped refit and crew the vessel, under sail, across one of the most unforgiving oceans of the world. After a challenging three-week crossing, the vessel met up with the M/V Pacific Hope, supporting ongoing efforts to restore the Bahamas after the desperate destruction brought by Hurricane Maria.



**Captain Brian Sloan**  
Marine Reach Director  
for Europe and Mediterranean

**The ministry is currently looking to recruit on-going crew and administrative staff for the vessel, as well as medical staff for ongoing relief work. Contact details are on the back page of this publication and at: [www.mvpacifichope.org](http://www.mvpacifichope.org)**



## Mat Time With Patick

A fire crackles in the humid air of Vanuatu. Young men emerge from the darkness and greet one another, their friendships add a warm glow to the atmosphere. This gathering has greater purposes than simple comradery, however: it is a place of conveying value and honour - first for those who join the fire-lit circle, and then beyond them.

As a patriarchal society, men carry power in Vanuatu. Domestic violence is a major problem. Men feel a sense of entitlement to dominate over women. But this is not the way to a good life, and one man wants to demonstrate and facilitate a better way.

Patick was raised in Vanuatu. He has traveled widely in missions and speaks five languages. But his heart desires to make a difference in his own nation, so he pioneered "Mat Time."

Recently married to head nurse Mel Thacker of the Family Care Centre, Patick meets with local young men once a week. They gather in a special nakamal built for this purpose. The small, grass-covered enclosure is the traditional meeting place where men in a village go to discuss community issues.

As chicken pieces roast, Patick talks about subjects that men need to understand: how to be a good father, why violence is not the answer, that respect for women forms a cornerstone of stable society, and how providing for your family is a God-given responsibility.

Slowly, as young men sit around on woven mats listening to Patick's instruction, changes begin to take place. His perspective shared during "Mat Time" comes as a surprise to these young men, who have been raised in repetitively violent homes with no mentoring on how to be responsible members of the village community. In some cases, rape is considered a rite of passage! Attitudes change and men begin to express their desire to have a better life, as better husbands, better sons, and better workers for the village.

It is through friendship - acceptance and honor - that discipleship happens, and discipleship leads to transformed lives. Patick faithfully extends friendship to these men - and the nation of Vanuatu will never be the same.

[www.familycarecentre.org](http://www.familycarecentre.org)



Patick & Mel Thacker. Young men gathered in the nakamal.

---

*"To train, empower, equip, and spiritually support local islanders."*

---





## Exploring Middle Earth

**Springtime hangs in the air as a band of hikers pause their trek to gulp water from their bottles, fill their aching lungs, and admire the panorama of the volcanic-formed landscape of New Zealand.**

Hikers foray into nature to disconnect from the distractions of life, and Marine Reach's Pilgrimage DTS offers the chance to do that whilst also seeking and discovering God in his Word evident through Creation.

New Zealand is a land of great beauty. Made famous by the Lord Of The Rings films, it is a perfect place to explore God's creation. Crystal lakes, lush flora, and snowy peaks invite a greater understanding of God's character and infinite love for the human race. And situated just one hour from Hobbiton, Marine Reach's Training Centre is a perfect place to begin tramping through this beautiful land.

A pilgrimage is a journey with a purpose – to find God, to know Him, and to experience His Presence. In ancient Biblical times, this meant a physical trek to the temple in Jerusalem. Today, a pilgrimage is often a period of spiritual exploration. The Pilgrimage DTS combines both types of pilgrimage – both physical and spiritual – to experience something deeper and more meaningful in life.

Peter Jouanne, from Jersey, Channel Islands, reflects on his experience as a Pilgrimage student: "It was an opportunity to step away from the busyness of the world and take a breath. I learned to find God in all circumstances and to find the beauty of his creation in the smallest thing."

A fellow pilgrim, Soila Imponen of Helsinki, Finland, adds: "As much as the DTS was my own spiritual journey, I wasn't doing it alone.

---

*Crystal lakes, lush flora, and snowy peaks invite a greater understanding of God's character and infinite love for the human race.*

---

We shared the burden, helping each other to continue – up physical mountains and through spiritual valleys. And as the DTS went by, my own burdens got lighter and lighter."

The Pilgrimage students journey into the beautiful New Zealand wilderness, and the deep places of their own hearts. It's an adventure that may stretch them to their limits. But, all who come looking for Him will find that our wild, creative, and loving God is there every step of the way.

[www.marinereach.com/event/pilgrimage/](http://www.marinereach.com/event/pilgrimage/)

*Thank you!*

## MONTHLY DONATIONS

Your support is crucial to us as we seek to double our efforts and reach out across the Pacific into the lives of those who need us the most. Simply scan the QR code with your smartphone's camera, and click the link that appears on your screen to set up a monthly donation. Even a few dollars can go a long way.



## DONOR PROJECTS

- Deeply needed dental and medical supplies for Vanuatu; \$5000.00.
- Replace hot water system at our Training Centre: \$25,000.



## PRAYER PROJECTS

- Please pray for students for our 2021 Foundations Internships.
- Please pray for wisdom in pioneering new initiatives across the ministry.



**For more information on Marine Reach, contact:**

**New Zealand:** [info@marinereach.com](mailto:info@marinereach.com)

**Vanuatu:** [info@familycarecentre.org](mailto:info@familycarecentre.org)

**Fiji:** [info-fj@marinereach.com](mailto:info-fj@marinereach.com)

**USA:** [maipayne@att.net](mailto:maipayne@att.net)

**M/V Pacific Hope:**

[volunteer@mvpacifichope.org](mailto:volunteer@mvpacifichope.org)

**M/YNext Wave:**

[volunteer@mvmynextwave.org](mailto:volunteer@mvmynextwave.org)

**Websites:**

[www.marinereach.com](http://www.marinereach.com)

[www.familycarecentre.org](http://www.familycarecentre.org)

[www.marinereachfiji.com](http://www.marinereachfiji.com)

[www.mvpacifichope.org](http://www.mvpacifichope.org)

Cut along the dotted line and include your donation with the slip below in the enclosed postage-paid return envelope.

Amount:	\$25	\$50	\$75	\$100	\$1000
General Donations					
Family Care Centre					
This months donor project					
Other Amount:					
Purpose:					

\* Please include your Marine Reach Donor Number on all cheques and as a transaction reference. If you've lost it, or would like to get one, please let us know.

Write your email address below to subscribe to our newsletter:

### For Bank Transfers:

Account#/IBAN:

**06-0241-0291419-00**

Routing #/Swift Code: **ANZBNZ22**

ANZ Bank New Zealand Limited

### Or Online at:

[www.marinereach.com/donate](http://www.marinereach.com/donate)

### Bank Address:

ANZ Centre

23-29 Albert Street,

Auckland 1010, NEW ZEALAND