



Student group in class.

Record Enrolment Brings Growth and Challenges to CLTC

This year, CLTC experienced a remarkable 40% increase in student enrolment, bringing our total to 250 students in theological studies and 35 in our Early Childhood Education program.

We celebrate this growth as a blessing from God, expanding our reach and ministry impact. A key part of this increase has been the dedicated work of our admissions officer, Patricia Kambua, who maintained regular contact with accepted students, encouraging them as they prepared to join us. Thanks to her efforts, far more accepted students arrived on campus this year.

At our Banz campus, we welcomed nearly 50 more students than in previous years. This sudden growth, while exciting, also created a need to adapt our facilities to accommodate everyone. To make room, single male students temporarily moved to vacant staff housing, freeing up their houses for families.

To address this ongoing need, we're excited to announce a new dormitory for single men that is nearing completion. Workers are working on ablations over the Christmas period, ensuring the dorm will be ready when students return at the end of January.

In addition to housing, increased enrolment has put extra pressure on our classrooms. This year, one of our first-year classes in Banz grew to 42 students, with another 14 joining remotely from our Port Moresby campus via live streaming. Thanks to video streaming and online platforms, we're now able to extend many classes to our campuses in Port Moresby and Lae, allowing us to offer the best quality teaching while managing our staffing needs more efficiently.

We hope to be able to renovate and expand three of our classrooms next year. Faculty have been working hard to raise funds for this project. Another challenge is the need for an

additional van or two to transport students out safely for ministry. Vehicles are also needed in Port Moresby and Lae to help students get home after night classes.

This year's increase in enrolment is a testament to the demand for quality theological and vocational training and the importance of CLTC's mission. We look forward to serving more students and further developing our facilities to meet these growing needs. Thank you for your continued support in helping us fulfil our calling to equip future leaders for ministry and service.



Students going out on outreach



Support Our Students – Help Secure Their Future at CLTC

Next year, tuition fees at CLTC will rise by nearly 50 percent – a necessary step toward sustaining the College’s mission and matching rising costs across the education sector.

This increase, however, will be an enormous challenge for many of our students and could stand between them and their dreams of theological training and ministry. To ensure that no one misses out on the opportunity to study, we’re inviting friends and supporters to consider sponsoring a student in need.

The College has faced ongoing financial challenges since COVID with the loss of its farm profit and only through the help of some very generous donors has survived. Staff continue to receive a reduced salary, and expenditure is being managed very carefully. The tuition fee increase will still only mean that student fees cover half of the cost of their training, but it provides a much more sustainable base and allows future farm profits to contribute to necessary capital development.

Currently, about one-third of our students receive government or local sponsorship, which can absorb this increase. However, for the remaining two-thirds who rely on support from churches and family members, this increase is substantial. For \$3,000 (K7,000) a year, you can sponsor a student to cover this new cost, ensuring they continue their studies without the burden of added financial strain.

As a sponsor, you’ll be matched with a current CLTC student, receive updates, and witness the impact of

your generosity on their journey and growth. Your support can change lives and uplift the church by empowering a future leader.

To join us in supporting a student, see information below.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of our students. With your help, we can keep theological education accessible, sustainable, and impactful for Papua New Guinea and beyond.



Students outside the library



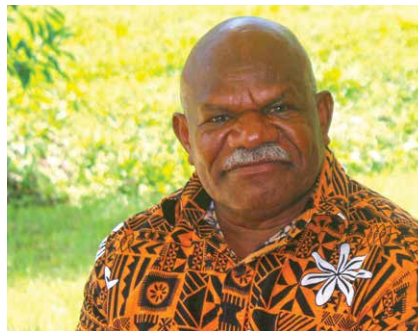
Please consider supporting CLTC. To join us in supporting a student, please reach out through the contact information in this newsletter, or sign-up online at Beacon Partnerships in **New Zealand** (<https://www.beaconpartnerships.org/sponsor-leaders/>) or Local Leaders International in **Australia** (<https://localleaders.org.au/programs/student-sponsorship/>).



There is Sunshine After the Rain

There's a song, *Sunshine After the Rain*, by Ellie Greenwich, and though not a religious one, it expresses a profound truth about life and life experiences through the tumultuous path carved out intentionally or unintentionally along life's pathway.

In some manner this year has been much like *sunshine after the rain*. First, this year our student enrolment was larger than ever before and this came with some financial blessing. Second, DHERST panel recommended the renewal of CLTC's status as an Institute of Higher Education, despite our financial inability, and it is now re-accredited. Third, Farm Fresh Limited (FFL), though not making cash contributions yet, has taken over some of CLTC's debts and



Principal Dr Maxon Mani
Greetings to all our generous supporters in the ministry of Jesus Christ at CLTC.

is contributing more toward operational costs. This calls for thanksgiving and appreciation to God first and to those who became God's hand of grace in the *Sunshine after the rain*.

In summary, I'd like to point us to Habakkuk's pleas with God to become the sunshine during the tumultuous period of his and the people of Israel and their life's pathway (1-3), yet at the end (3:17-18) Habakkuk said, *Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Saviour.* Instead of looking at the circumstances along life's pathway and being overwhelmed by them, Habakkuk sees through the circumstances and sees God as the SUNSHINE. Let God be the SUNSHINE not only after the rain but the SUNSHINE in the rain.

Maxon Mani (PhD)
Principal CLTC

Poru Renagi – From Corporate IT to Marketplace Ministry

I come from the Abau District in Central Province, with a professional background in IT spanning over 25 years, including roles at one Internet service provider and three major banks. I'm a father of three grown children and blessed with four grandchildren.

My faith journey began in 1982 when I gave my life to the Lord at a Scripture Union Camp. Since then, I have been passionate about serving God, both as a board member for two para-church organizations and through volunteer work in missions and prison ministry. For the past eight years, I've had the privilege of chairing one of these organizations.

My vision is to reach the corporate world through marketplace ministry, addressing the need for discipleship among professionals. Earlier this year, I facilitated the Workplace Alpha program in Parliament House, which underscored the hunger for spiritual growth in this space. I have also championed Youth Alpha programs in my community, seeing over 200 young people attend our annual camps over the past five years.

Two years ago, I served as the Program Coordinator for Prison Fellowship PNG, overseeing the launch of key programs in three correctional facilities across the country. This experience strengthened my resolve to bring hope to often-overlooked communities.

Studying at CLTC's Port Moresby campus over the last ten months has broadened my understanding of God and theology, especially from a Melanesian perspective. I am grateful for the wisdom and enthusiasm of my lecturers, who have deepened my faith and enriched my ministry.



Poru and Anna Renagi.

As a result, I now find myself more equipped to serve my local church, leading teaching sessions and facilitating reconciliation programs.

This journey has affirmed my calling to make disciples among professionals and in communities that need God's light. I'm grateful to CLTC for this season of growth and preparation for even greater ministry.



Ensuring clean safe water from the Waghi River.

Clean College Water

For years, providing unlimited clean water has been a key goal for Gordon Mock, a long-time supporter of the College.

Despite the proximity of the Waghi River, the water is unfortunately too polluted for use. Over the years, the College drilled several boreholes, but only one produced water – sadly, not enough to meet our needs. While we collect rainwater from most of our roofs, it is not sufficient, especially during the dry months.

A few years ago, Gordon took on the challenge by installing a deep intake system near the river. However, the water was contaminated with bacterial iron, which discoloured it and clogged the pipes. After trying various filtration systems, none proved entirely effective.

But this year, Gordon implemented a new solution – a different filtration system deeper below the riverbed. We are thrilled to report that, by God’s grace, this new system is free from bacterial iron and has a very low bacterial count. While there are still some clay particles in the water, this is far easier to address than the previous contamination. David Drummond is now working on a settling system that will ensure the river water is clean and safe for both people and the poultry.

We are deeply grateful for Gordon’s persistence and dedication in addressing this essential need. His tireless efforts are bringing us closer to a reliable, sustainable water supply for the College.



Council members looking at the chicken sheds

Positive Poultry Progress

The College is preparing to reach full-scale poultry production by April next year, an exciting development for our community. Recently, three breeding flocks arrived from New Zealand after several months of delays caused by unreliable airline transport.

With production increasing, next year we hope the poultry program will generate funds to support our training initiatives and allow for much-needed improvements to our equipment. Farm Fresh has made significant progress this year, paying down much of the debt that resulted from the poultry program’s challenges in 2021. Some remaining balances have been renegotiated, allowing us to repay gradually as we make regular purchases from these suppliers.

David Drummond has been a remarkable support throughout this journey, making regular visits to the College to oversee operations and train our staff. When not on-site, he remains in daily contact by phone, ensuring everything runs smoothly. David has truly been a Godsend, guiding the College back to a sustainable future.

Great appreciation also goes to Garth Morgan and Gordon Mock who have been a driving force behind the poultry restart as well as other projects. They have worked tirelessly to secure funding, tax exemptions, and other requirements.

New Council President

At the September meeting, Rev. Hengebe Himugu (*pictured right*) was elected as the new Council President, succeeding Bapa Bomoteng, who has served faithfully in this role for the past six years and will continue as College Treasurer.

Rev. Hengebe brings extensive pastoral experience and currently serves as President of the Evangelical Church of PNG. A CLTC alumnus, he completed his Bachelor of Theology here 20 years ago. We appreciate his leadership of the College governance.



Faculty Farewell

Several esteemed faculty members will be returning to serve in their home communities, taking their years of experience and dedication back to the field of ministry. We are deeply grateful for their invaluable contributions to our college.



Moses and Helen Bakura are returning to Madang to support their local Bible school. Moses has dedicated a remarkable 22 years to our college, serving

from 2001 to 2008 and again from 2011 to 2024. Over the years, he has taken on multiple roles, including Dean of Lae Campus, Dean of Studies at Banz, and most recently, Executive Dean of Undergraduate Studies. We are thankful for his leadership and guidance.



After 12 years of service, **Abel and Rachelle Haon** will be heading back to Buka in Bougainville. Abel's roles have included Dean of Lae Campus, Academic Registrar, and

most recently, Dean of Studies at Banz. Rachelle, with her expertise in library services, has been instrumental in her role as Senior Librarian and has also taught regularly in our wives' training program. Their dedication has left a lasting impact.



Returning to Rabaul in East New Britain Province, **Valeria and Simon Elel** have spent 12 years enriching our agricultural training programs. Simon has been a leader in teaching

rice cultivation on campus and in local villages and is currently managing our vegetable and citrus production. Valeria, as a farming instructor and coordinator of the Community Transformation Training Program, has inspired many with her commitment to sustainable practices.

We will miss each of these remarkable individuals and are deeply thankful for the contributions they have made. We wish them God's blessings on their journeys ahead.

New Staff to CLTC Banz

We are thrilled to welcome four new staff members to the CLTC Banz team this year. Their diverse backgrounds and expertise are a blessing to our community, and we look forward to the contributions they'll bring to our ministry and mission.



Aharon Kevon joined us in January as a part-time faculty member while completing his MTh thesis. From the United Church in Bougainville, Aharon has a unique journey, beginning as a refrigeration technician, then a Young Ambassador for Peace, before pursuing theological studies. His experience includes serving as

a pastor, peace worker, and Dean of Studies at Kekeso Pastors College in Bougainville. Aharon's wife, Jael, will complete her Advanced Diploma of Ministry this year.

Peter Kanamb took on the role of Finance Manager in February. He holds a Bachelor's degree in accounting and brings a wealth of experience, having worked in financial management with MAF, Coca-Cola, and other companies. Peter's expertise has been invaluable to rectify the accounts and help manage the College's financial situation. He and his wife, Margaret, have seven children and are excited to be part of the CLTC community.



Justina Liliura joined us in March as both IT Manager and computer instructor. A mother of three, Justina holds a degree in Information Technology and brings extensive experience in IT management and education, having served at Divine Word University, Madang Technical College, and Don Bosco Technical

Institute. Her knowledge of online learning systems and networking is helping CLTC strengthen its technological infrastructure to better serve our students and staff.

Jessie Solomon became a faculty member in July after completing his Master of Theology at CLTC in 2022. Jessie, his wife Maria, and their three children are from Nondugul, near the Banz campus. With experience as both a pastor and a teacher at the EBC Bible College in Lae, Jessie brings valuable teaching skills and a local perspective to our team as the only faculty member from the Highlands Provinces.



We feel truly blessed to have Aharon, Peter, Justina, and Jessie join us. Their unique backgrounds and shared commitment to ministry enrich our college, and we look forward to the impact they will have.



Training the Trailblazers of Early Childhood Education

This year, thirty-three students are set to graduate with a Certificate in Early Childhood Education, marking the second cohort to complete our two-year program.

This initiative, made possible through the dedication of Pearl Thorp and Marion Sanders from New Zealand, as well as donors who assisted with travel costs, includes six intensive sessions, weekly seminars, and hands-on assignments led by Mathlyn Simon and Joyce Hitu.

CLTC is proud to be among the few institutions in the country offering specialised training in early childhood education, quickly earning a reputation for excellence. As a result of this program, new kindergartens have emerged in local communities and beyond, meeting a vital need for early learning.

One of this year's graduates, **Rachael Bulda**, is from nearby Kimil Village. Encouraged by a Catholic Father, she joined the program.

Reflecting on her experience, Rachael says: "Everything I learned was new and surprising to me. I discovered that learning begins at birth, and, coming from a background without early childhood education, I realize now what we were missing. I regret not having this knowledge sooner for my own children, but I am thrilled to bring it to my community and church, fulfilling God's calling in my life."

Rachael has been working to establish a kindergarten in her village, which will be ready to open early next year. She adds, "I am confident to start this since CLTC has equipped me with Christian principles, knowledge, and skills to teach young children."

Another graduate, **Anna Awi** from Tari in Hela Province, initially began the program while she and her husband were studying at CLTC. Although she couldn't complete it at that time, she made the arduous journey three times this year to

attend the intensives. Anna shares, "My desire is to work with children and introduce them to Jesus in their early years so that, as they grow, they will hold firm to Him as their Lord and Saviour."

Rachelle Haon, another graduate, managed to complete the program part-time while working in the college library. As she prepares to return to Bougainville at the end of the year, she plans to establish a kindergarten in her local community to continue impacting young lives.

After ten years as a security guard at CLTC Banz, **Andrew Areare**, has completed the program and is eager to start a new chapter. Upon graduation, he plans to return to his village in Minj to teach local children, resigning from his position to pursue this calling.

We thank God for the support of our overseas partners and the passion of our local community to invest in the hearts and minds of young children.

Celebrating 60 Years of God's Faithfulness



Patrick Hall and Wanure Susuke cutting the CLTC birthday cakes.

In August, the College celebrated its 60th anniversary with a joyful gathering.

Marking this significant milestone, our longest-serving expatriate staff member, Patrick Hall, and our longest-serving Melanesian staff member, Wanure Susuke, had the honour of cutting two grand celebration cakes in the auditorium.

We were also privileged to hear from Arum, son of one of the original landowners, who shared reflections alongside two of CLTC's

founding staff members, John Hitchen and Garth Morgan, who joined us via Zoom.

Though classes officially began in 1965, the College was already bustling with activity in 1964, laying the groundwork for what would become a thriving institution for theological, agricultural, and technical training. We praise God for His steadfast faithfulness over these six decades and for the thousands of graduates who are now serving the Gospel across Melanesia and around the world.

Would you like to RECEIVE College News or Prayer Notes BY EMAIL?

If so, please send an email to the CLTC contact in your country (addresses below).



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