

GO Missions -Updates

UPDATE #4: 22 August 2019

FINDING NEMO



The Search goes on and on and on...

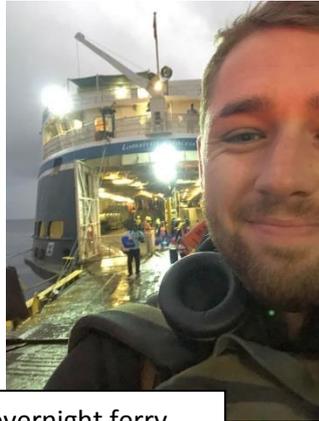
While friends searched for Nemo, Tom and Pate have been searching for the ideal site to start the mud brick production trials.



After 2-weeks, travelling over Fiji's two main islands, visiting 20 villages, and engaging in 30 meetings, guess what happened?



It's a long way on the overnight ferry



Ground Zero

They ended up back at the beginning again! Yep, the first place they visited was the site they decided was to be their Production Base. They're up on the Northern Island, Vanua Levu, in the middle of nowhere, in an idyllic setting. Why? A passionate, enthusiastic Church community there are keen to make it work, along with having a fantastic source of MUD!

A Mud Quarry



The mud quarry where there is tonnes of waste mud available

The locals introduced them to a Mine Manager about his 'Mud Quarry'. They told him of their plans to make mud bricks for low-income families. He was so excited that he has offered to transport 6m³ (about 3 trailer loads) of mud to their site for...free!

But wait there's more. This quarry mines tonnes of mud to extract a mineral called bauxite from the mud. This is required for making aluminium, and they then export this to China.

Waste not, want not

Now,

we discover that the remaining 'waste' mud extract looks as though it could be ideal for making our mud bricks!

Bishop Henry, Queenie, Tom and the Mine Manager Benson



A truly waste stream product being converted to an economic social business for Fijian villages and communities.

Amazing. Like our Creator God who took dirt from the ground and created us! Potentially, this waste dirt/mud could produce mud bricks for sale and mud bricks to build their own houses.



But we still need to find a Sandpit

We still have to find a sustainable supply of sand to mix with the bricks.

Fortunately, in the meantime the locals have led us to a local source of sand for the testing stage, as an interim measure.

The locals found some sand to start the trials!

Brick Testing...another miracle?

Another success along the way has been establishing a partnership with the Brick Testing Lab in Suva. They are able to test our bricks, to ensure they are made to Building Code standards. We just have to get them transported from this remote village on this Island, across on the ferry and then back to Suva.

Ummm... no problem! Pate's wife Sepi is travelling here in 10-day's time for a conference and can take them back with her to Suva for free afterwards!



Battle Stations...Production Time

Now, Tom and Pate are about to start the production trials.

A new mud screen constructed, part of the equipment being prepared for the mud brick production

Will keep you posted!

Vinaka vakalevu

for your on-going support and encouragement.

On behalf of Roger, Rev. Amy, Pate and Tom.

Graeme

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