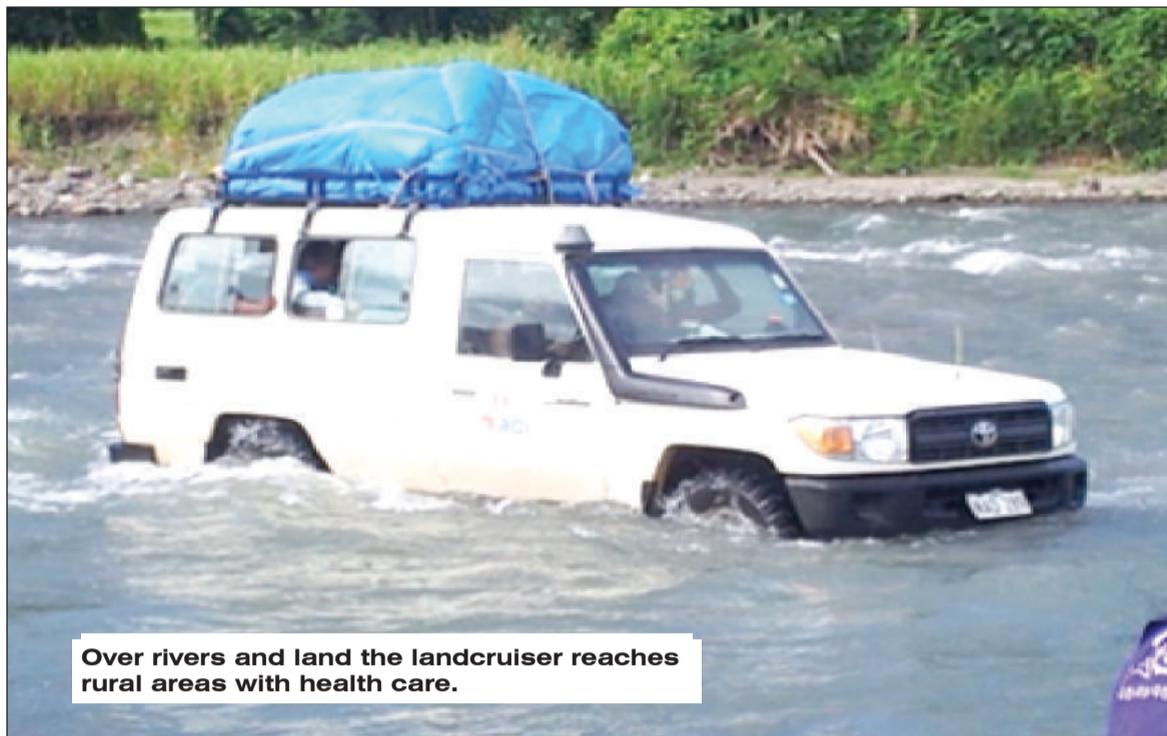




Ela Motors support Oz Doctors in NIP



Over rivers and land the landcruiser reaches rural areas with health care.



Above: ADI using the landcruiser through boggy roads in Kimbe

AUSTRALIAN Doctors International (ADI) has been deploying volunteer Australian doctors in PNG since 2002 and continues to do so today. ADI began its work in Western Province and in 2011, was invited to New Ireland to set up a similar program to provide outreach health patrols to remote and rural communities across the province.

To reach these remote communities with medical teams and supplies, reliable transport by road is essential. New Ireland Province is lucky to have the Boluminski Highway which runs from Kavieng to Namatanai – over 250km of road. However, reaching some of the most remote communities requires our team to go off-road or to travel by banana boats.

As ADI is a small, non-profit organisation, we rely on the support and generosity of various sources to set up and run our programs. In 2011, one of ADI's founding members, Mr George McLelland approached Ela Motors in Port Moresby requesting any assistance they were willing to provide. Without asking for branding, publicity or in fact, any other recognition, Ela Motors kindly donated a new Toyota Land Cruiser vehicle, delivered to ADI in Kavieng.

ADI's outreach program in New Ireland have since used this vehicle to various degrees on over 110 patrols in the last eight and a half years. With this vehicle, we estimate that over 100,000 individuals have benefited across the province – through clinical services and public health education provided

by our team, as well as transporting healthcare workers to remote communities, evacuating patients requiring urgent treatment and transporting mothers to deliver their babies in supervised health facilities. This generous donation by Ela Motors have saved the lives of many New Irelanders.

Over 25 volunteer Australian doctors, and another 20 ADI support staff members have used this vehicle during their deployment in the province. Over the last eight years, 950 days have been spent on remote patrols visiting remote health facilities and training 235 health care workers. Together with our partner, the New Ireland Provincial Health Authority, we have achieved the following:

- 25,000 clinical services by patrol doctors
 - 24,674 clinical services provided by the Optometry team
 - 52,020 clinical services by the Dental team
 - 8,009 clinical services by Physiotherapists
 - 9,995 clinical services by the Pathology team
 - 1,200 hours of public health education delivered by the team
- The above could not have been achieved without the generous donation of Ela Motors, and their ongoing support for our programs in PNG. ADI would like to sincerely thank Ela Motors for their contribution towards ADI's goal 'for a healthier PNG'.

Story by Dr Mark Newcombe



The ADI family in Kavieng posing with the Ela Motors donated Land cruiser



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