

## **2009 Papua New Guinea**

The 2009 PNG Service Trip to Milne Bay, PNG was again a great success as the Knox/Milne Bay partnership develops. The 12 participants; **Eddie Turner, Charlie Callendar, Jesse Everist, Nick McAlpine, Marlon Schloeffel, Adam Gillmore, Tyler Durniak, Richard La Brooy, Nick Pitman, Harry Drinan, Sam Cameron and Michael Yoon** lived in the village of Lelehudi and worked at the local school assembling 30 wooden desks funded by Knox students. This led to a hive of activity as Knox students and locals worked alongside each other to construct and paint this essential equipment for the local school. Such a cooperative venture has not been seen before in the village! The boys also participated in a 'home stay' with local families, visited the Water Project which provides a water source in the mountains which has brought tap water to the village, played on local sporting teams and participated in cultural activities etc. Each boy made a unique contribution to building our relationship with the local villagers. The Knox crest and the warmth and enthusiasm of our Knox boys are now well established in the Milne Bay Talawa Circuit!

A presentation of a Church Bell was made to the people of Lelehudi, a request made by the village in 2008. This very special symbol was a gift of Mrs Hiliary Laidlaw.

Our next project over 2009-2010 is the building of an Aid Post in the village which will provide greater access to medical support for this isolated community. Our 2008 and 2009 young men continue to support the people of Milne Bay by fundraising for the various projects so that all the children in the village will go to school.