



...FOR  
THOSE  
BEYOND  
REACH

## NEWSLETTER

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### COME AS YOU ARE

*“Our adequacy comes not from ourselves, but from God.”*

#### GOD HAS HIS PLANS

*“When you are doing God’s work, remember it is God’s mission, not yours/mine.”*

#### NUTS, BOLTS, WELDS, AND OTHER THINGS

*“Nuts, bolts, welds and other things can and will fail, but GOD will not.”*



### COME AS YOU ARE

I’ve been both challenged and encouraged lately by the idea of “coming as you are”. There are many days when I wake up feeling weighed down and surrounded by mountains of ‘should-be’, ‘should-do’, ‘should-have-done’, ‘wish-I-could’, ‘wish-I-had’, and ‘wish-I’d-dones’. I find myself living in the shadow of my own expectations. Needless to say, it’s a heavy load to carry, and only leads me to feel wholly inadequate.

In 2 Corinthians 2:16, Paul asked, “Who is adequate for these things?” He understood the feeling of inadequacy. Often-times the work that we do at HFA can seem overwhelming and daunting – a mountain too big for us to climb.

Apart from Christ, we are nothing. Whilst we might feel that we are a “nobody”, I am again encouraged by Paul as he looked beyond his limitations to God’s sufficiency, declaring boldly, ‘I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.’ – Philippians 4:3. Our adequacy comes not from ourselves, but from God. He only asks us to come to Him

as we are, not with all the answers, and certainly not as perfect people because, “God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” – Romans 5:8.

At HFA, we are engineers, designers, teachers, pastors, etc. But below the surface we are fathers, mothers, wives, husbands, cancer patients, PTSD sufferers, students – in other words we are ordinary people, but we serve an EXTRAORDINARY God! Everything we have achieved or will achieve can only come through the grace of God. We have only to “come as we are” and say “here I am Lord, use me.”

I hope that you find the following two articles written by a volunteer field researcher and a project engineer a great encouragement. Whatever you do, whether it be praying, volunteering, working, encouraging, supporting us financially, we thank you! You are an important part of God’s big picture.

Mailyis  
PR/Research Manager

# GOD HAS HIS PLANS

The world we now live in is deeply interlinked culturally and economically. Sanctioning and isolating a country like Russia does affect everyone. We can see people from all over the world who don't know much about Ukraine come to support the Ukrainians in their crisis. Yet, many tribes live in complete isolation and hopelessness in this very same world. We often never think of them, and they have zero to no effect on our lives.

I recently undertook a field research trip on one of the most isolated and completely unreached people groups and they are one of that kind of tribe. We have no knowledge of their language and little is known about their culture and worldviews. We don't know the origin of the tribe, how they settled, or how they survived in their challenging geographical location.

Yet, these people have been on God's radar for thousands of years. God knows all about their history, how they migrated, adapted to their current environment, and their existing beliefs. He knows every fibre of their being. God does not forget them; He has a glorious purpose for these people in his new creation. I believe every tribe and every nation will take part in God's new creation.

It seems impossible, as I've been thinking about it for months, to come up with strategies to reach these people. But God can open up these people's hearts and the hearts of the policymakers who are the prime hindrance for outsiders to reach them. The government's main concern is that outsiders will bring harm and disease to them.

There are many questions and things I want to see in the future, but most importantly, I want to see this tribe singing songs in their language to glorify God.

A few things I learned from my trip:

1. When you are doing God's work, remember it is God's mission, not yours/mine. It was His desire to reach them, and nobody can stop God from doing what He desires. So be glad and rejoice for the blessing to be a part of God's work.
2. God can certainly use all our skills, but we don't need to have skills for God to use us for His purposes.
3. Prayers open up ways that we cannot even imagine.
4. I learned that cultivating friends in Christ is a vital part of the Christian journey. A Godly family who can pray for you, and a Church that cares about you is a blessing we Christians should develop and ask God for more.



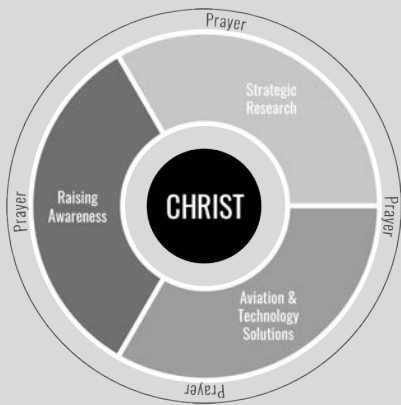
Bosco  
*Field Researcher*



Final preparations on the dolly before water trials of waterdrone 2.0



Sometimes you will find our project engineer in the office creating 3D models or ordering materials. At other times, you might find him donning some of the above gear in preparation for welding.



## DID YOU KNOW...

Our work focuses on three specific areas:

 **Strategic Research**

 **Aviation & Technology Solutions**

 **Raising Awareness**

# NUTS, BOLTS, WELDS, AND OTHER THINGS

What does it take to build something as ambitious as a water drone?

It begins with a vision or an idea, a crazy idea, at least if you look at it from the perspective of someone looking in from the outside.

Then you start to think...

- What does it need to do?
- Is that possible?
- How do we power it?
- Are there off the shelf solutions to the needs?
- Should we make something with available products?
- What might the finished drone look like?
- Could it survive the blows that nature can deal out?

I won't go on, but the list of things to think of and consider would be long and mostly uninteresting.

We thought we would use a commercial hull and modify as necessary to suit. This would save time by not having to design and produce the hull ourselves. This resulted in so many structural and other needed modifications that we decided to try our own design.

What we were doing was actually product development, and as anyone involved in such a task knows, it takes longer than hoped, and there are many twists and turns along the way. We designed a new drone using materials and techniques we thought would be volunteer friendly. As we commenced the construction, we

realised that this was going to take far longer than anticipated and would not be viable.

So...back to the drawing board...

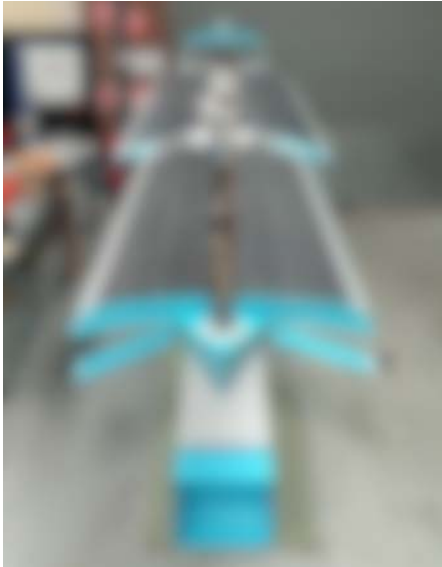
After designing a new model with different materials and construction methods we decided to trial a component of the new drone using those materials and methods. After receiving the parts needed, construction began, we were very pleased to find that the process was quick and without major problems. This gave us the confidence to use the new methods for the rest of the drone. Within a couple of weeks, we had the basic structure ready. Wow! It was looking good! We were finally at the point where we could start installing the systems that would bring it to life. There is a saying concerning these sorts of projects, 'The first 90 percent of the project takes 10 percent of the time, and the last 10 percent takes 90 percent of the time. How true that is.

Covid with the lockdowns, slowdowns and supply issues did not do anything to speed the process.

Praise GOD though, we were able to continue working for much of the time, although at a reduced rate. So, we continued, solving problems when they surfaced, changing things on the fly as we realised we needed to do it different. This was not the place to be dogmatic and stuck in your ideas, because your team-mate just might have a point.

Today the drone is almost ready for its first dip in the water, the systems are checked, a couple of last items to seal the hull and it's time for testing! Whew! Nuts, bolts, welds and other things can and will fail, but GOD will not. He has taken us on this journey, and has provided

ideas, resources, equipment and encouragement as we went. When we would face a particularly difficult issue, we would look at each other and say, 'pray.' GOD would give an idea, solution or what was needed at the right time, often giving it to two or more at the same time. He is amazing!



Waterdrone 2.0 – The image has been blurred for confidentiality reasons.

In the end, this is His drone to do with as He wills, pray that we will know what that will is, and will do as He asks.



Ken  
Project Engineer

*“He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” – Luke 10:2*

Christ and His call on our lives is at the centre of all of our activities. Luke 10:2 shows us the importance of prayer. It reminds us to trust that God is in control of fulfilling the Great Commission, and to seek Him in all we do so that He is the leader.

As we work, we welcome your involvement in prayer. You can pray for:

- The unreached to have the opportunity to hear the Gospel;
- Workers to go and help them; and for
- God to move in these places.

Other prayer resources that might be of interest to you:

- Joshua Project “Unreached of the Day”  
<https://joshuaproject.net/pray/unreachedoftheday>



## DID YOU KNOW...

We send out prayer updates every two weeks with more specific prayer and praise points. If you would like to receive these, let us know at [info@hfa.org.au](mailto:info@hfa.org.au), or you can subscribe online at [www.hfa.org.au](http://www.hfa.org.au).

## CONTACT DETAILS

*For more information, or if you have any enquiries, contact the office on:*

**TEL:** +61 (3) 9761 5095

**MOBILE:** +61 (0) 498 041 873

**EMAIL:** [info@hfa.org.au](mailto:info@hfa.org.au)

**MAIL:** *Hope From Above Inc.*  
4 / 1-3 Eastspur Court  
Kilsyth South, VIC 3137  
Australia

**ABN:** 73 134 802 658

**VIC Inc. Assoc. No.:** A0060670C

*If you would like to contribute financially to HFA, please use one of the following options to make a donation:*

### Online

[www.hfa.org.au/get-involved/giving](http://www.hfa.org.au/get-involved/giving)

### PayPal

Please send to:  
[donations@hfa.org.au](mailto:donations@hfa.org.au)

### Direct Deposit

**Account Name:** *Hope From Above Inc.*

**Bank:** Westpac

**BSB:** 033 107

**Account Number:** 440226

**Reference Field:** *Your Name*

**SWIFT code:** WPACAU2S

For direct deposit, email [donations@hfa.org.au](mailto:donations@hfa.org.au) to receive a receipt.

**Please note that gifts for *Hope From Above Inc.* are not tax deductible.**

**WEBSITE:** [www.hfa.org.au](http://www.hfa.org.au)

**FIND US ON:**

