



The water medicine of the Solomons – homoeopathy by numbers

What if this simple prescribing method could be replicated in other 3rd world nations?

Homoeopathy was introduced into the Solomon Islands by Christian missionaries and has provided primary healthcare for the community across 8 of the 9 provinces of the Solomon Islands since 1908. Village pastors initially received 36 remedies, learning the keynotes of each remedy 'by numbers': Number 4 Arnica is known as 'accident medicine'.

Since 1908 there have been several missionaries based in Honiara who have assisted in the continuation of the 'Water Medicine', including Margaret Bartlett in the 1970's who rewrote the 'Dispensers Handbook – A guide to using Homeopathic remedies.' This handbook is currently being updated as part of proposed training and development programme for the dispensers.

In 2010, an audit of the 'Water Medicine' of South Seas Evangelical Church (SSEC) was conducted by myself and Robyn Gozee. This included a review of remedies commonly prescribed and for which conditions together with anecdotal cases were recorded by the SSEC dispensers.

Following a request to replace the three sets of now 52 medicating potencies which service the provinces, a fundraising appeal was launched via the Give Now platform through The Aurum Project in December 2022. Our target of \$2,500 was exceeded within 10 days and the remedies are now on the way to the main dispensaries.

Our overall objective is to ensure the long-term continuing of the 'Water Medicine' in the Solomon Islands by assisting the community to become self-sufficient. To achieve this, we have been asked to assist in the delivery of homoeopathic training and general first aid. We also see opportunity for both retrospective and prospective research to demonstrate the effectiveness of homoeopathy in the Solomon Islands.

We are seeking further volunteers to support the project

