

FLYING FOR LIFE MAGAZINE

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A MESSAGE FROM MARK



// Why am I discouraged?
Why is my heart so sad?
I will put my hope in God!
I will praise Him again—
my Saviour and my God! //

—*Psalms 42:11*

It's a privilege to have this opportunity to share what's been on my heart with you. This has been a very special few years. It has been a time of challenge and opportunity for us as all. Has it been the worst of times? Yes. Has it been the best of times? Strangely, yes too!

On a personal level, as most of you know, I have walked through some deep waters. One of the most significant experiences of my life has been to experience the peace of God during every step of the long journey as my wife Philippa went through five courses of chemotherapy. I can only testify that during all the ups and downs, the worries and concerns, I felt an overwhelming sense of God's presence and peace. Now she is recovered, working full time, driving and we are able to start riding our bikes together again. Believe me, after seeing Philippa recover, I am not going to forget to be grateful and praise Him.

I would like to thank those who have prayed for us and in particular Philippa, because your prayers have been heard and answered. I can testify today that God is a miracle-working God and that He is gracious. However, even as I write, I know outcomes like this aren't everyone's experience.

God has taught me many things, in particular patience and resilience. But this thing I do know—that God is for us and not against us. He is faithful no matter our circumstances and outcomes. He calls for us to be faithful to Him and trust Him with the path that we are to walk.

Thanks to all who have donated to our overseas programmes. Just in the last six months, through the kindness and faithful

giving of many, we have been able to help establish the new program in Guinea and provide care packs and chaplain support during the medevacs taking place in Timor-Leste.

We are currently seeing more people apply to work for MAF than we have for the past five years! It has been so exciting to see young people catch the vision and take their first steps towards full-time missionary service overseas.

This is also true of the new MAF Centre at Tauranga Airport that God has remarkably provided for MAF's ministry and effectiveness. After working in the Centre for a year we have finally begun our renovations to make the spaces more fit for purpose. We are looking forward to having a wonderful celebration and dedication early next year.

Praise has become my theme for this year. As God has helped and provided for Philippa, me and our family, so too he has provided for MAF and our future effectiveness here in NZ as we serve the MAF global mission.

Praise is what we need to do. Praise is what we must do. Even though these past months have been challenging for us all and even now we still feel the effects of all the confusion, isolation and changes, we can do nothing except give our creator God—praise!



The Power of Partnership

All photos by **Dr Diana Zwijnenburg**

It's hard for most of us to imagine living with no access to medical services of any kind. A recent partnership made it possible to transport urgently needed healthcare teams to many of Papua New Guinea's most remote areas, which would have been almost impossible to reach any other way!

In 2021, New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) contracted MAF to fly 100 flight hours in PNG. The goal was to deliver healthcare to at least 17 of the most remote communities. Healthcare teams would visit each of these locations three times. MFAT provided a grant \$NZ 200,000 to cover the costs of these MAF flights between June 2021 to May 2022.

The impact of these medical camps on isolated communities in PNG was so successful that a 300-hour extension commenced in June 2022!

One such camp took place in Yambaitok.

A team from Kompiam District Hospital-Enga Baptist Health Service was flown into Yambaitok by MAF. They

were welcomed, then immediately got to work, providing immunisations, malaria testing, pregnancy care and family planning. They finished when it became too dark to see.

Early the next morning they started again. A makeshift dental clinic was set up and dental staff began teaching about oral health and healthy food choices, then provided general dental check-ups before carrying out fillings and tooth extractions.

During the camp, the team carried out 41 immunisations, 75 childhood vaccinations, 30 general/nutritional children's checks, gave Vitamin A to four children, diagnosed and treated six malaria patients and saw another 58 patients with a variety of illnesses!

The team also carried out 14 antenatal visits, many with women already well along in their pregnancy.

It remained busy until mid-afternoon when it seemed that everyone had been seen. Which was excellent timing, because then heavy rains started and everyone disappeared!

The next day, the MAF plane came early to pick the team up and fly it back to Kompiam.



Top left: Women waiting to see the team.

Top right: Teaching dental care.

Above: The medical team arrives in Yambaitok.

Health Through the Gospel

STORIES FROM A DOCTOR IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Dr Sharon Campbell (nee Brandon) was a single Pioneers missionary working alongside MAF in Rumginae and then Kikori, doing healthcare, discipleship and training in PNG since 2008. In 2021 she married fellow Kiwi, Andrew, who is Maintenance Controller with MAF PNG. Now based in Mt Hagen, she provides relief medical cover in rural hospitals to experience the gospel with the isolated.

All photos and story courtesy **Sharon Campbell**

"**H**e's ready to go home," I told the nurse in charge of the ward. The stab victim had come the previous night with a wound in the back. My assessment found that the stab from his wife's rage had cut through muscle but had not impacted his vital lungs. As I supervised a student doing the stitching, we explored another kind of wound—one more difficult to heal, discussing the line of the Lord's prayer, "Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us" (Matthew 6:12).

However, the nurse was not satisfied. She knew of his Christian upbringing and how he was now making choices with his two wives that would lead to disaster. She said, "I'm going to tell him about grace—and put an important decision in front of him before he goes."

Every day health work offers an experience of a God who loves and rescues. It challenges patients (and doctors like me!) with a practical, life-giving faith, as the three stories show.

"There's not much going on in the ward," the staff tell me, as I walk through to check before going to Sunday service. "Just a new lady with domestic violence."

Enquiring about her injuries, they vaguely reply that she had been in



Dr. Sharon with Community Health Workers Rosa Makani and Salati Haura at Kikori District Hospital, above, and with Andrew, right.

too much pain to check her properly yesterday. Red flags flying, I abandoned my rush to church and sit on the floor beside her, making eye contact with the woman behind the black eyes and swollen neck.

Fragile. She had been found by her husband's relatives 24 hours after the assault, unable to eat after near strangulation and immobile after kicks in the spine. They had carried her to hospital and left her there.

She hadn't received intravenous fluids or pain relief. She grimaced sipping the water I offered, battling pain and thirst. She needed to be watched carefully, for her swollen neck could endanger her breathing.

"What is your message for her, Lord?" I told her the story of the man with a



hundred sheep who leaves the ninety-nine to look for the lost and rejoices in her recovery (Matthew 18:10-14). Our God sees with love!

After two days she is improving but resigned to her fate at home. Her husband works with the police and many previous complaints have brought no response. Again, I urge the staff to

"Day by day I grasp more deeply the meaning of the gospel. God offers forgiveness and a way to break the cycle of violence and payback. He brings belonging and love that goes beyond family ties. Freedom from fear of the spirits is possible with God, who is above all powers and authorities and invites all to join in his Kingdom where the power of death is broken. Surrounded by overwhelming demands, he reminds me that his love does not depend on my performance, for the work of my salvation was completed by Jesus already. I receive from Him again."



Sharon Campbell visiting patients.

look for and address each and every injury hidden under the label "domestic violence," just as Jesus would do.

A sombre line of patients sits on the outpatient verandah, filling the benches and spilling out to wait cross-legged on the rough planks. Health workers have dealt with most cases through the week, but these are marked for a doctor's consult.

I review a middle-aged man, unhelped by the government hospital, searching for an end to his incessant weight loss, inability to tolerate food and swollen belly. A hand on his stomach and an ultrasound reveal advanced cancer invading his liver. My list of patients kept going, but the result for him was world-stopping. How would he make it home, too weak to walk for a week and without means to buy an airplane ticket? Who is

to blame for this illness?

His mind travels in the direction of sorcery and I'm stretched to address his worldview. How will he grasp that God is the creator and Satan can't touch him unless God allows? The Lord says, "I and I alone am God; no other God is real. I kill and I give life. I wound and I heal. And no one can oppose what I do" (Deuteronomy 32:39).

The Vital Role of Country Directors

Like the captain of a ship or the conductor of an orchestra, Country Directors often work in the background—yet they play a central role in each of MAF's overseas programmes. MAF is a guest in each country we operate in, and our ability to stay there often relies on the Country Directors. They build and maintain strong relationships with national churches, NGOs, host-country officials, local leaders and government departments. They communicate a clear sense of vision and purpose to get these groups "on board" with the vision and work of MAF. Finally, leading by example, they set the Christian tone in the MAF work environment and make sure the whole team is heading in the same direction.

A number of New Zealand staff have served as Country Directors; Chris De'Ath (Arnhem Land, 2016-2019), Alan Martis (Arnhem Land, 1989-1999) and Bill Harding (Kenya, 1996-1999, with short stints in that role in Tanzania and PNG).

Ian McBride, currently Chair of the MAF NZ's Board, served in Arnhem Land from 2006-2010. He believes that the key focus of the role is "setting the

culture" of a programme, with a strong focus on pastoral care of the team. He likens it to wearing many different hats—along with the ability to switch hats, depending on what is happening on any particular day!

Two New Zealand staff are currently serving as Country Directors; Doug Miles in Arnhem Land and Nick Hitchins (who is also a pilot) in Timor-Leste.

Doug recalls, "Starting in 2015, I had a variety of roles in PNG, including Country Director and Operations Manager and finally Deputy Country Director (based in Cairns due to COVID-19).

In November 2021 we returned to Arnhem Land, where I am now the interim Programme Director. (The title "Country Director" is not used here, because Arnhem Land is not a "country"). For me the role is about teamwork and ensuring the team functions to its full potential. A highlight is seeing the impact we are making on the people we serve!

Bill Harding, who is currently Director for International Development for MAFI, says "A few things about the role



Doug and Yvonne Miles

have changed, but it remains hugely challenging and rewarding.

At a professional level you are running a small business using a "developed world" technology in a developing country, which brings many challenges. You oversee the people and systems which ensure the operations are safe and compliant with local authorities. You lease, buy or build housing and hangar space, manage budgets, ensure the import of aircraft parts and fuel, not to mention pilots, engineers and other

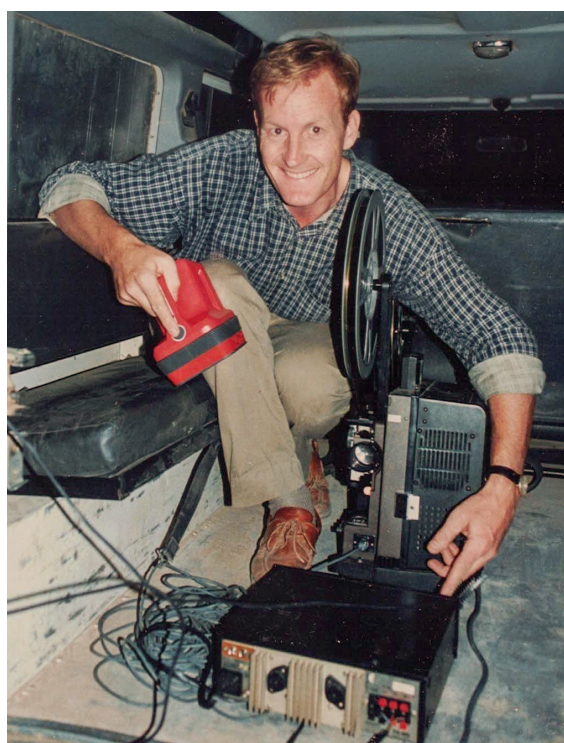


staff! You manage a range of staff, some of whom are international, some are local, some are highly trained while others are learning and growing. Above all you are aiming for the team you lead to most effectively respond to the need of access to bring help, hope and healing.

At a mission level you are leading a group of Christian missionaries called by God to "take the road less travelled." They are typically determined and resilient, with hearts of gold, but they come from different cultural, denominational, and personal backgrounds, so they may see the world and God at work in it very differently.

Along with management there is a pastoral care element because unlike a normal employer, the mission takes responsibility for spiritual wellbeing. The physical welfare of the team is a challenge too, if you are in a place where car-jackings and break-ins are the norm.

At a personal level it means being flexible with people and adaptable to circumstances. The scope of the work that I undertook on any given day ranged from grand things like talking to the United Nations about access to South Sudan or deciding on a new hangar design, through to trying to find out who's gone home with the keys to the MAF van which is now urgently needed to pick up a visitor from the airport or sorting out the blocked toilet in a neighbouring MAF house because it's late at night!"



Bill Harding in 1996, preparing to show *The Jesus Film*.

WHY NOT GO?





There are many ways to be part of the MAF family. You can give (and there are always lots of vital projects to get behind), you can send, financially supporting those heading towards the mission field or you can go. If you feel called to go, why not pray about being “part of something bigger” in 2023? Here are just a few of the vital roles that need to be filled, along with insights from people already working for MAF. It may be time for you to “Go!” To see the very latest job opportunities, go to our website at maf.org.nz. To enquire about any specific position, email info@maf.org.nz.



Sam Johnston, pilot and Safety Manager in Kenya, with women from Namarei:

“One of the things I enjoy most about working with MAF is being able to visit places I would never otherwise have had the opportunity to see—and all for a good cause! Through my work with MAF I have been part of building God’s kingdom in Arnhem Land, Chad, Kenya, South Sudan and Tanzania! I love building relationships with people I fly with on a regular basis. I get to know them, pray with them, and sometimes stay for a short time at their place of ministry. Getting to spend time and observe various ministries and their impact is a true blessing—and one I am always grateful for.”

**MISSION PILOT,
ARNHEM LAND**

This role is a development role, which means we are looking for a low-hour (500+) capable pilot who is flexible, has a servant heart and is a great team player. You must also be willing to be trained for other roles in the programme including managing and/or overseeing flight operations, ensuring good stewardship of resources and participating in ground-based support functions.

**SENIOR FINANCE
MANAGER, CAIRNS**

You will provide the financial management of a programme and assistance to other programmes. This will include preparing and/or supporting the preparation of programme annual budgets, based on the strategic plans, for approval by the board. You will manage the working capital and cash flow of programmes and report financial results and data to the Ashford support office. You must be a Qualified accountant (ACCA, CIMA or equivalent) with at least three years’ experience, including two years in a supervisory capacity.



Jane Eddy, Recruitment Manager at MAF NZ:

“I am constantly amazed and humbled by how much people are willing to give up when they are compelled to serve their calling to mission life. I am privileged to be part of the small team that works as a conduit for people called to serve in mission. Whether a pilot, an aviation mechanic, in IT, HR, house parents or teachers, I help identify and assign people where they can best serve God and his people. There is no better feeling than assisting those qualified, dedicated, and passionate people, called by God to serve in worldwide ministry.”

AIRCRAFT ENGINEERS

It is estimated that 10 new engineers will be needed to support the MAF fleet in 2023.

Are you a school leaver—or someone who wants to change careers to be part of something bigger? In today’s world, training to be an aircraft engineer is a path towards a bright future.

We are offering fantastic training apprenticeships for committed people. If you already have aviation engineering qualifications or seek advice on a pathway to qualification, contact us to find out more.

HR ADVISOR

NEW! We now have an exciting opportunity for a full-time HR Advisor to join our international HR team. This is an opportunity to bring your unique skills to a new department within a highly skilled team that is compassionate, adaptive, and proactive about delivering exceptional results. This role is based in Cairns Support Office. You must have an eye for detail and able to work both independently and as part of a team.

HR MANAGER (ASIA PACIFIC REGION)

Working closely with the Regional Director, Country Directors, HR Managers and other senior management, you will provide guidance on HR policies and practices and participate in the decision-making process for the region. This role has strategic and day-to-day operational responsibilities for our HR activities in Australia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste.



Judi Dennis, Office Manager, Arnhem Land:

"Flexibility is the main requirement for my position. As Office Manager it is also important to know what is happening in all the different MAF teams here in Arnhem land (engineering, grounds, housing, flying), so I can assist if needed or pass information on to relevant team members. In many ways I am the link between these teams and the outside communities. It is a position with great variety and allows me to gain new skills constantly. It is a privilege serving the team in order that they can focus on their responsibilities."

SHORT TERM-HR MANAGER, PNG

From time to time, short term opportunities become available serving in one of our programs. We have a critical need for an experienced HR Manager for a 12-month term in our PNG programme. This role is crucial in supporting the Country Director in achieving the organisation's strategic and operational objectives. You will work closely with the Asia Pacific HR Manager and the International Recruitment Manager to provide advice and support to the management and staff of MAF PNG.

OPERATIONS OFFICER-ARNHEM LAND

Do you have administration and customer service experience and the ability to always maintain a customer-focused attitude? You will be able to communicate clearly across cultural and geographical boundaries as you assist customers by phone, email and in-person concerning flight reservations and freight. You will liaise with customers to provide accurate flight quotations and keep customers informed about any changes or delays to their flight.



Fiona Vincent, Finance Manager:

"Some people may not think accounting is exciting, but it is when you managing finance for MAF! If the bills do not get paid or financial reports submitted correctly and on time, the planes can't fly! There are many reasons I love working in the Finance Department. Firstly, no day is ever the same. Opening emails each morning usually brings something unexpected that requires attention. One of my favourite jobs is supporting and training local staff in various programmes across the MAF world to use our software – it is all unique so 99% of the time people have not used it before. I also coach problem-solving when their cashbooks do not balance, or management reports aren't reconciling. The role is based remotely, but the occasional visit to the office has been a highlight. I thrive on the pressure of deadlines and exploring ways to improve overall efficiency. I am extremely thankful that my gifting (with numbers) is used to bless others in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!"

ENGINEERING ADMINISTRATOR

NEW! We require an experienced full-time administrator to provide support to the Mareeba based engineers and other departments based at our MAF facility. In this position you will assist with general administrative tasks, projects, schedules and coordinating events. You will also help by preparing for meetings, recording minutes, maintaining the currency of aircraft manuals and assisting with stores!

HR MANAGER, PNG

Do you have a passion for people? Use your HR expertise to manage the recruitment and induction of international and locally employed staff while managing the support and well-being of programme staff, employees, visitors and MAF Technologies international staff.

OTHER ROLES:

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORS

We are seeking an experienced and highly organised person to join our Cairns Support Office as a full-time Executive Assistant to the International Directors. You will support our International Directors and other senior staff, handling a variety of administrative and secretarial activities.

These services will sometimes require sensitivity and confidentiality. This is an opportunity to bring your unique skills to a highly effective team that delivers exceptional results.

ELECTRICAL & RENEWABLE ENERGY ENGINEER, MAF TECHNOLOGIES PNG

In this role, you will be responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining off-grid and grid-connected renewable energy systems to provide reliable energy to locations underserved by existing electrical infrastructure.

➔ For more information about any of these roles, call us on 0800 87 85 88.

ONE DAY AT A TIME

LIFE ON THE MISSION FIELD

Photo and story by **Jessica Hunt**

Before I came to the mission field, I imagined that "missions" would be hectic 24/7, always on the go, serving others. At times, yes, it is very busy, but at other times everyday life can be quite slow. And you never know which it will be!

Recently, after several quiet days, a national couple we had met once came to the gate as they wanted to "show their face and say hello". Once pleasantries were over they mentioned they were there because their seven year-old girl had been abducted near our street and they were going along the road asking if anyone had seen her. I had to have a mental conversation with myself; would it be better if I went with them, or would that make things worse? If a "white skin" was with them, the "finder's fee" could skyrocket, because everyone knows that all foreigners have endless money. I could never have imagined having this conversation with myself. Who even considers not helping friends look for their kidnapped daughter? And yet, I decided it would do more damage to help them and stayed home doing the only thing I knew to do, cover them in prayer.

I often find the mental and emotional side of missions is harder than the physical work!

Two days later they got word that someone from their home village had targeted their family due to a tribal matter. They were able to meet with the community leaders, straighten things out and get their daughter back.

A few days later I had one of those "hectic" days. I had been teaching piano to another missionary family. As I drove out of their compound, I saw a lady lying on the ground shaking, some watery red fluid around her head and



The Hunt family.

looking non-responsive with some men standing near her. I explained that I am a nurse and asked if she needed help. They said, "No, she's fine" and mumbled something I couldn't understand. I had Elliott and another boy in the back seat who really wanted to get home. After weighing up all the options, I decided to drop the boys at home and then pick up some supplies—water bottles, bandages, clothes etc.

I headed back but wasn't prepared for what I saw—or how encouraging it was! The lady was now sitting up by the side of the road. One of our Dutch MAF staff was talking to about twelve people next to her. I drove up and said I had a few supplies and had come to check on the lady. He said, "She's OK, but I can't get hold of my wife—I need some tracts to give these people the gospel". I said I'd drive and get them and be right back.

And during this whole experience it was so amazing to realise how we were working together as a team, doing what we were good at, responding to what God had asked of each of us. I had gone to get medical supplies, our team member was giving this group the gospel, while his wife found as many tracts as she could in the local language at a moment's notice. Their daughter wanted to help, so she came with me to deliver them to her father. It was so encouraging to see how, even outside our "official" MAF ministry, we were working as a team, each in our own way, with the tools God had given us, in unity.

I will remember this for a while—and hope that you have been encouraged to keep using whatever skills God has given you to share your faith whenever possible.

Building bridges, making connections

By **Andrew Pound**, MAF NZ
Relationship Manager

Most will have heard the Māori proverb that translates: What is the most important thing in the world? It is the people, it is the people, it is the people. MAF's ministry is first and foremost about people, and ultimately it is people, faithful to the leading of God, who keep MAF flying!

As a Baptist minister for 20 years, I loved building relationships with people. By visiting them, hearing their stories and looking at their family photos on the walls, they became not merely a "person from church," but individuals, each unique in their own way.

Today, as MAF New Zealand's first-ever Relationship Manager, my primary goal is to establish and build relationships with others so we can work together to bring God's kingdom to the remote communities where MAF flies.

Each week I connect with all sorts of people: church ministers, missions committee leaders, MAF church representatives, supporters, past and present MAF staff and prayer group leaders—and I never know what will come out from these relationships!

As I get to know people, one connection often leads to another. One conversation opens the door to another, and God's kingdom is built.

I love to find out how people first heard about MAF. For some it was on Radio Rhema. For others their first connection with MAF was through a visiting speaker at church or at one of the large Christian music festivals, where they saw a MAF aircraft for the first time. For many pastors and church leaders their first experience of MAF was through a flight in our Cessna 206 during a "Touch and Go"

event. Yet others were introduced to our vision and work at an air show, a presentation in a school, a flight training centre or Bible College.

However the initial contact was made, in my role as Relationship Manager I always ask: What does God want to do with this relationship? How could this person's gifts and experience fit with the worldwide ministry of MAF? How can we work together to help bring God's kingdom to earth?

For example, almost as an afterthought someone may ask, "Is there some way I could gather the MAF enthusiasts in my hometown and start a small prayer group?" Or, "One of my grandsons is learning to fly and is keen on somehow flying for God. Who should he talk to?"

Others might say, "I just love being around planes: could I drop into to the Kendon-Strong MAF Centre sometimes to wash and polish the plane?" "Could you tell me more about what's involved in being a church rep and how I can 'wave the flag' for MAF in my church?"

Some, having given most of their working lives to MAF, are now retired and wondering if their experience might help mentor new candidates.

It's important that MAF's relationships, especially with churches around New Zealand, are two-way, so we can serve and encourage each other. I always ask pastors about the needs in their church and every Wednesday our Tauranga and Auckland staff gather online for devotions and lift the needs of the local churches to God.

Saddest of all are the stories I hear from those who once had a passion to be part of a Christian aviation ministry but didn't have a relationship with anyone they could talk to, and missed out on serving with us!



STAFF UPDATES

Farewell

With sadness we report that **Peter Austin** went to be with the Lord on 6 August following a short fight with cancer. Peter, along with his wife Avrienne, held various leadership roles at Tree Tops Lodge in Cairns from 2016-2020. At Tree Tops they provided hospitality to many from the mission field needing rest and recuperation as well as carrying out some major improvements on the facilities. They had returned home to Nelson about 20 months ago. As a couple they had served in missions in many countries around the world.



Welcome

We would like to introduce our latest candidate. **Renee Brewer** was born and raised in Taranaki and began to learn to fly at the age of 15. She is looking forward to heading to PNG to fly with MAF early next year. She is currently carrying out her Ministry Partnership, raising her prayer and financial support and would love more opportunities to share her story.



Pilot candidate Renee Brewer

Congratulations

Pilot and Safety Manager **Sam Johnston** married **Florah** in June. They thank everyone who was praying throughout the relationship and during the run-up to the wedding. Sam's family were able to fly to Kenya and friends from the UK, Netherlands and New Zealand joined them to share this very special day!



Sam and Florah's wedding day in Kenya

LEAVE A LEGACY FROM ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT

By remembering MAF in your Will, you will provide a "lifeline beyond your lifetime" to those who really need it—a promise of a better life for the isolated people MAF serves every day.

Chat to your solicitor or, if you would like more information or a brochure, visit maf.org.nz/legacy.



NEWS BRIEFS



MAF's amphibious plane in Bangladesh.

BANGLADESH PROGRAMME CLOSES DOWN

In 1997 MAF Bangladesh began operating the only seaplane in the country, an amphibious 8-seat Cessna Caravan which was able to access countless remote water-landing sites throughout Bangladesh.

One of MAF's core values is Stewardship which says, "We value the wise use of our resources". Following a full review of the Bangladesh programme in late 2021 it was concluded that there was insufficient demand for the resources MAF has in the country. The most important development was the

construction of the Padma Bridge, a six-kilometre, two-story bridge for rail and road transport, which opened in June 2022. The bridge significantly reduced overland travel time to the 21 southern districts, many of which were served by MAF.

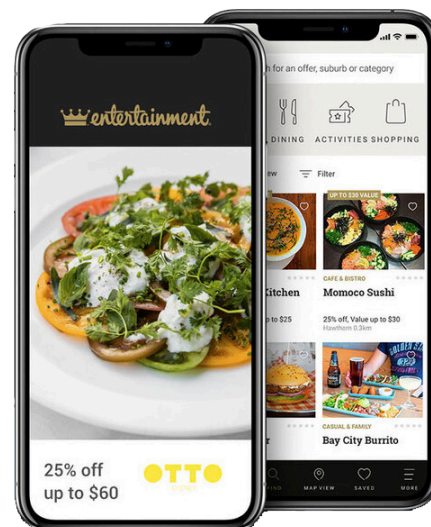
We celebrate with the people of Bangladesh the progress that has been made and the dramatic difference the bridge will make. MAF New Zealand would like to add our "Well done!" to the faithful team working in Bangladesh who have had such a positive impact on thousands of men, women and children over the last 25 years! The programme closed at the end of September.

COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING COORDINATOR

20 hours a week

Tim Houghton, who has served as MAF NZ's Communications Manager for the last eight years is retiring at Christmas, creating a rare opportunity to join our small team. Based in the newly refurbished offices at the Kendon-Strong MAF Centre at Tauranga Airport, you will be coordinating all communications and marketing for MAF New Zealand. Do you have a heart for mission, a background in marketing, brand strategy and communications within a not-for-profit environment and excellent writing skills?

To apply, please submit your resume by email to jeddy@maf.org.nz.



ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

Go to our website to order a digital Entertainment Book and receive hundreds of valuable offers that start the moment you sign up and run for a year! A great way to support the worldwide work of MAF!



The celebration at Mareeba.

CELEBRATION AT MAREEBA

MAF's new Mareeba hangar in Queensland, Australia, was officially opened on 24th June 2022. New Zealand's Phil Sproul, Director of Technical Operations, welcomed staff and guests and local dignitaries. The purpose-built facility is the new base for MAF International's aircraft maintenance operations in the Asia Pacific region and is designed to provide sufficient space and functionality for future expansion of services.



Peter Gandangu holds a letter from the Queen.

REMEMBERING THE QUEEN

In this photo, taken in June 2022, Peter Gandangu, who lives on Elcho Island, proudly shares the letter his family received from HRH Queen Elizabeth II. His sister, upon hearing of the death of Prince Philip the previous year, was moved to write to Queen Elizabeth to express her condolences over the loss of her husband.

Despite the many miles and significant differences between British and Yolngu cultures, it's humbling to hear that a Yolngu woman had the compassion and motivation to write such a letter. The Yolngu are gracious people, and the response from Queen Elizabeth is clearly evidence of this.



HONOURING RUSSELL

It is with a heavy heart we report Russell McLachlan suffered a fatal heart attack on Monday October 3rd. Russell and his wife Phillipa joined the MAF team in PNG in January this year. Phillipa is the Principal of the Highlands Christian Grammar School, where many of the MAF children in Mt Hagen attend. In the short time Russell was in the programme, he served as a support and encouragement not only to Phillipa, but also to many others on the team in Mt Hagen. May Phillipa, the McLachlan family and the MAF PNG team know God's peace during this time.



The entourage and MAF staff gather.

AN INCREDIBLE DAY!

Todd Aebischer, Programme Manager in PNG, said, "What an incredible day it was to welcome the Hon. Nanaia Mahuta (New Zealand Minister of Foreign Affairs) along with the High Commissioner, Hon. Phillip Taula, and entourage, to the PNG programme!"

Todd said, "Preparation by so many of our team members made this a very special day. I'm thankful to the Lord, who has granted us favour with governments and allowed us the opportunity to be used as His ambassadors, speaking love and truth to those who make decisions at high levels. We were able to brief the Minister and High Commissioner on the work of MAF globally and locally. As they were preparing to leave, Russell McLachlan (from New Zealand) felt a nudge of the Lord to connect with the Minister and pray for her individually. The Minister was noticeably touched by this demonstration of care for her". The delegation took a short visit to



Pilots Glenys Watson and Bridget Ingham with the Hon. Nanaia Mahuta (NZ Foreign Minister).

Tsendiap, Jiwaka province where they saw first-hand the way in which MAF is providing support in rural Papua New Guinea. The Minister was very impressed with the flight crew! Her comment was, "Tom Cruise doesn't have anything on these ladies!" Way to go MAF pilots Glenys and Bridget, both from New Zealand!

Investing in the future of MAF pilots

RICHARD WEST FOUNDATION

Richard West flew with MAF for nine years. Sadly, Richard and his colleague Chris were killed when their aircraft crashed in PNG in 2005, leaving behind their wives and young children.

Richard's parents, Reg and Jan West, decided to honour their son by establishing the Richard West Foundation to assist outstanding pilots overcome the final hurdles on their journey to serve with MAF.

To give to the Richard West Foundation, you make a donation through our website. If you would like to setup an autopayment or make a bequest to the foundation, please contact the office.



MAF is an international Christian aviation organisation serving around 30 developing countries to reach people living in some of the world's most isolated communities. Operating more than 120 light aircraft, MAF flies into 2,500 remote destinations, transporting essential medical care, food and water supplies, relief teams and church workers enabling physical and spiritual care to reach countless thousands of people cut off due to formidable geographical barriers, natural disasters and political unrest.

Thank you for being a part of Mission Aviation Fellowship!

For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.

1 Corinthians 8:6



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