

June 2022

M&M

FLIGHTRECORDER



Newsletter from Mathias & Mandy Glass

No 58



Approaching Mt Hagen. Afternoon thunderstorms often make the flight home very challenging

DEAR FRIENDS,

“Listen, you heavens, and I will speak; hear, you earth, the words of my mouth. Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew, like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants. I will proclaim the name of the LORD. Oh, praise the greatness of our God ” Deuteronomy 32:1-3

Germany just had its first take on summer thunderstorms for this year; at least that’s what we’ve heard the weather report on a German radio station saying. Yes, from time to time, we listen to German web radio!

Mathias recently took the above photo when he was approaching Mt Hagen. Afternoon thunderstorms and thick cloud layers are often the big challenge on the last sector of the day. Every gap in the clouds is a gift from God after a long day’s flying.

A heated mood, which sometimes escalates, occasionally also prevails on the ground in this country. General elections are on in PNG. In Mt Hagen, the airfield has already been closed twice this year as of people’s protests. Last week (June 7th), people poured oil onto the run-way. No plane could land for the day...

We live right next to the airport.

Instead of aircraft noise, we heard the shouts of protest. However, the police and military were well present and everything went peacefully. People are dissatisfied and fear the election results might be manipulated like in 2017, and therefore are demanding other Returning Officers than those appointed.

Money makes the world go round. This saying becomes reality here. Many candidates buy their votes with money, pigs and (empty) promises. The election will take place in mid-July. The counting should then be completed by the end of July. Thank you for remembering this in your prayers!

Otherwise, an upset stomach did slow us down a bit the other week. But that’s nothing compared to malaria or a snake bite! These are the real challenges in remote PNG! Our June Flight Recorder invites you to perhaps forgo an ice cream or two or a cappu-

ccino and help that in the future, a snake bite does not end in a fatality!

We wish you a nice summer, enjoy your holidays.

Thank you to everyone who is praying for us and financially supporting our ministry with MAF here in PNG. We are so incredibly grateful for your participation in our ministry.

Thank you, for your love for us!

Laikim yupela!

Mandy & Mathias



A snake bite kit in every mother's bilum

A BILUM is a symbol of life in Papua New Guinea. Babies are carried in such hand-woven bags from birth, groceries and essentials are carried in them, and bilums accompany women everywhere.

Mothers walk long distances to work in their gardens and are at high risk of snake bite for themselves or their children.

For as little as AU\$9 you can help a family carry a snake bite kit and the knowledge they need to save lives at all times.

Through your donation, families receive a snake bite emergency kit along with training to help them provide basic first aid. A properly applied compression bandage has been shown to be effective in reducing the movement of venom through the lymphatic system. This gives more time to get the victim to a health facility or airstrip where they can receive further help.

All dressing kits must be distributed by airlift or on foot, with local health workers or relief workers providing hands-on training at each distribution point.



Would you please prayerfully consider to help save lives by donating towards this project? Follow the QR code or contact us!

\$9 for a snake bit kit to help one more family



SCAN ME

MOUGULU - A MISSION STATION WITH HISTORY

Challenging work far away from any supporting infrastructure

Sally and her five siblings grew up in Mougulu, where her parents, who moved to PNG from Australia in the 1960s, settled in Mougulu. Over the next 50 years, the Hoeyes built five airstrips, clinics, churches, schools, a Christian radio station and a hydro-electric power plant - infrastructure which is still used today.

Sally continues to serve the people of Mougulu to this day. In 2021, she and her husband, Ian, founded the Nomad Mougulu High School, the first high school in the area. In 2021, the school accepted 154 students and this year 222. The closest high school to Mougulu has been in Kiunga, a 6 day commute to school! Imagine!

The tenth graders just completed the English expression exams last week. MAF flew the exam papers to Kiunga for marking. "We are so thankful that our students are now included in the National education process," said Sally as she hand-delivered these precious papers to the Kiunga based National Education Inspector.

Mandy had planned a 3-days trip to Mougulu with her colleague to document Sally and Ian's work with film, photos and interviews. Unfortunately, bad weather prevented the flight...

Building materials, food, medicines, health personal, teachers, ... all of this can only be brought to Mougulu by plane. The runway is essential, also for medical emergency flights.

Due to many MAF flights and Sally's good communication of what is happening in Mougulu, we are very connected to the work there. Mandy did do a few shopping trips to send



Ian Lloyd



Sally Lloyd & Maika Yabua

printer paper, frozen chicken, sausages, eggs, wool for bilums, buckets, bowls and much more so that the 200+ students and their teachers have more than what grows behind their huts.

We have deep respect for people like Sally and Ian who live so isolated, investing into people who are otherwise forgotten and neglected. They try to create sustainable change. Maika Yabua, one of the current high school teachers, hails from Mougulu and was the first man from Mougulu to graduate from university!



"Even if there is no model of MAF aircraft, remote kids can just design it using only bush materials. The sound, colour and every features of MAF is being installed automatically in their brain. If you ask them to design a model of a car, you better expect to see a different thing. MAF has been our pleasant help in times of needs, saved many lives and positively influenced many spiritually."

Maika Yabua

SHARING THE COCKPIT WITH OTHERS

As a training and test pilot, but sometimes also during line operation, Mathias has other MAF staff next to him

Joseph Tua, our PNG pilot: evaluation flights in May

"Mathias is one of the most experienced pilots and I have a lot of respect for him. He's a real legend!

I'm more of a newer pilot, still flying with restrictions. I can't approach some runways with a full load, others I can, but not the shorter runways. I've been flying solo for about a year. Of my 1100 hours of total flight experience, I now spent almost 500 hours solo.

Mathias flew with me to assess how accurate and precise my landings and

take offs are. Mathias sat next to me and evaluated everything, and at the end, he wrote a report on whether I was flying correctly or not. Then it will be decided whether I can fly without restrictions from now on, i.e. whether I can transport more loads.

On top of that, Mathias showed me three shorter runways. I still have a long way to go, but my flying is becoming more and more accurate."

Joseph did well! Currently he is busy with advanced airstrip training, equipping him to land on the shorter strips.



Markus Ape, Traffic Officer Mt Hagen

I had an amazing experience to fly with Captain Mathias Glass, (Mt. Hagen-Abaluwa - Mt. Hagen) who faithfully serves Papua New Guinean since more than 15 years. He loves flying over the trenches, mountains and bushes of PNG to reach isolated people with the love of Christ.

Thankyou Mathias, for the good work and may the good Lord richly bless you.

To fly to Ambuluwa was the first time to see my grandma's home. Praise God.

Glenys Watson - Training flights in the Western Province

Glenys flies a lot in the mountains and is about to get her country-wide check.

Mathias was supposed to fly with her in bad weather conditions, flying over the swamps and under low clouds in the rather flat Western Province. However, the sky was mostly blue! ...

Glenys makes her own chocolate from cocoa beans! She brought some home made chocolate along to bless Sally & Ian at Mougulu. Mathias had one of Mandy's sourdough breads to give...



Norm Baker, Chief Operations Officer of MAF International

More than 15 years after leaving Airbus, my past is catching up with me!

Norm Baker served for many years at Airbus USA before becoming Chief Operations Officer of MAF. While Mandy had him and his wife for a lunch date, I got to catch up with him on the 2-hour flight from Mt Hagen to Port Moresby.

His most important goals for MAF are to strengthen the unity across the programs and support offices and to make processes more efficient and effective.

Thank God with us

- ▶ for Mathias' 15 years of safe flying in PNG and all that God has done through it.
- ▶ for a good hand-over of responsibilities to the next safety officer. Mathias now has more capacity for flying again.
- ▶ for many training flights with young pilots that went without incidents.

Pray with us

- ▶ for peaceful and fair general elections here in PNG. The Australian rugby match "State of Origin" also heats up tempers in this country and there are often outbreaks of violence. Pray for rainy nights! This indeed helps to "cool down" the situation.
- ▶ that our Mitsubishi will not let us down and will continue to provide loyal service
- ▶ that God provides new international staff to strengthen our team. MAF PNG urgently needs:
 - ✓ HR Manager
 - ✓ IT Manager
 - ✓ experienced pilots
 - ✓ Chief Executive Assistant
 - ✓ licensed aircraft mechanics

WHAT ELSE IS GOING ON?

When we're not working for MAF, we're not lazy either ;)

Trari, trara, the mail is finally here!

Christmas mail in May! Better late than never! So, that's why we ask you all to start writing our Christmas mail in July!

Thank you to all of you who think of us so faithfully. Every WhatsApp, every email, every letter, every parcel, every visit, every prayer, every donation - we really appreciate all of that!

Without all these many encouragements, we certainly wouldn't have been able to get through the past 15 years so well! Many thanks to all of you!



Playing guitar & building a guitar

Making music is a beautiful thing. Building musical instruments yourself is also a nice activity. To get a kit for an electrical guitar was a recommendation from a missionary while we were stuck in Cairns in 2020 as the Covid pandemic hit the world.

It is an unfortunate fact that the kit took almost a year to arrive in PNG and I only found time to start this year.

Once the electric guitar is finished I hope to play with some fellow MAF musicians.



Vegetables from our own garden

Soybeans, spring onions, snow peas, basil, strawberries, kohlrabi, as well as chives, bok choy, sweetcorn, rhubarb, French beans, avocados, bananas, passion fruits, lemons... that's what we have harvested this year so far! And now Mandy is looking forward to the first oranges fresh from one of our trees, planted 5 years ago!

While we enjoy sipping a coffee on our veranda, we also enjoy watching everything grow around us, the fruits but also the beautiful tropical flowers.



Farewell & Welcome

In May - once again and with tears - we said goodbye to good friends. Brandon & Sharlene departing made us the longest-serving expats with MAF PNG.

At the same time, new families are arriving in the program. Mandy invited for a ladies' breakfast to our house to celebrate both.

However, the soul needs time to catch up. Friendships are not interchangeable like underwear. They're more like favorite pieces of clothing to care for and cherish...



STAY CONNECTED

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