

October 2022

M&M

FLIGHTRECORDER



Newsletter from Mathias & Mandy Glass

No 59



Many women listen attentively to a Bible study. The hard wooden floor doesn't seem to bother them.

DEAR FRIENDS,

“Great and marvellous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the nations.”

Revelation 15:3

Great, marvellous, just, true - these are all attributes used to describe God's character. These words or attributes do not appear at all in the news these days. King of Nations, rulers, on the other hand, are reported about. But their deeds aren't described as great, marvellous, just, true...

We wouldn't describe a church building with an uneven wooden floor and no seating as marvellous either. The women who gathered at Mougulu (pictured above) and who listened to Jennifer's talks for 6 hours a day sitting on the floor probably wouldn't use the word marvellous either. But maybe they would referring to the opportunity to study God's Word and learn new aspects of faith, to the fellowship they had, the songs, talks, prayers they shared - oh how marvellous!

Mandy met these women when she visited Sally Lloyd in Mougulu for three days at the end of July. Finally she was

able to see for herself (and document it for MAF) what it means for the people to have an airstrip...

No, Mathias didn't re-train as a coachman and we didn't have to exchange our Mitsubishi Pajero for a horse-drawn carriage. Mathias does much better at driving the 675 hp Cessna Caravan than steering a wooden horse... We just had some holiday fun on the top of Mount Gitschberg in South Tyrol. There, we were able to enjoy a week of great hikes and could ponder at how great and marvellous God's creation is.

Since Mandy was allowed to go to England for a MAF sponsored training course, we took the opportunity to visit Germany to see our families and take some time-out.

The Bible verse above is the verse for October from the Moravian Slogans. Even though we start October with Covid, we want to trust in God's just

and true ways. We also encourage you to put your trust in God in the weeks and months ahead. On 13 October, we will fly back to PNG again.

Thanks again for your continued interest and support in our mission work with MAF, bringing help, hope and healing to the people in PNG..

Laikim yupela!

Mandy & Mathias



LIFE IS PULSATING IN MOUGULU

... because people go the extra mile and care for each other

The little hospital

Mougulu hospital is the only operational medical facility for miles around. Nevertheless, it doesn't have a residential doctor, but a small team of well-qualified and motivated nurses.

Kiunga, the nearest town with a district hospital, is a week's walk away, on which you will be accompanied by mosquitoes and snakes...

Patients, including heavily pregnant women, trek for many hours to access medical care even though the clinic has limited drugs and supplies.

One expectant mother who had complications during her last pregnancy, walked for hours before giving birth at the clinic. Health worker Mary explains: "She's exhausted. She felt labour pains around midnight and walked for three hours in the dark to reach our clinic for a safe delivery. - Thank God she gave birth to a healthy baby boy!"

It's amazing how dedicated the staff at the clinic serves their people. All day long people are lining up for treatment, Malaria is a constant companion...



Radio Biemi FM 103:3

Every evening Radio Biemi broadcasts for an hour and a half, alternating between local news and announcements and Christian songs. Then a Bible study or sermon gets aired, either played from a tape or a CD. These are mostly recordings by Tom Hoey, the missionary who in the 1970s with his wife Salome and 4 children saw the Biemi language group as his commission from God.

Solar-powered radio receivers are common in any bush hut here! During the day you can see them lying in the sun. On the way to church, a woman came to Sally's door and needed a new one as hers was broken. She loves listening to the radio!



Women fellowship

Many women from surrounding villages came to Mougulu to learn more about the Holy Spirit. Jennifer (on the right in the photo) is passionate about teaching and encouraging women in their faith. She travels a lot. To get to Mougulu she needs to fly with MAF. She works with the Evangelical Church of PNG, using material prepared by an English missionary, Dr Rosie Crowter.

The vibrant church communities in and around Mougulu have their roots in the mission work of the Hoey's.



Tom Hoey über MAF

It gives us great pleasure to testify to a wonderful relationship we have had with MAF over the 54 years we have been connected with the Lord's work in PNG. Right from the start of our family's mission adventure, when we left Warwick (QLD) in freezing temperatures to fly to a hot Pt Moresby - to be piloted out to Wasua in an MAF Cessna 185 by Eddie Lumsdem - to the present time.

During those 54 years, the bulk of all the material which we needed to build a base at Mougulu, to reduce a previously unknown language in a cannibal tribe to writing and finally a translation of the complete Bible into Bedamuni, to build schools and medical works including recently a new hospital powered by solar in conjunction with CRMF, five airstrips and related infrastructure, - all of these works have been done firstly under the auspices of our amazing Lord who says "Without me, you can do nothing" (John 15:5b), and secondly with the inspired help of mission and supporters of which MAF has been one of the chiefest.

God bless you MAF. May the Lord give you another 70 years of service unless the Lord returns sooner.



Hungry students

Mougulu has a secondary school is still a work in progress with call rooms and teacher houses to be build. Sally's husband, Ian, is the headmaster. Next week is exam week.

Everyone is hoping for the approval to upgrade the school to grade 11 & 12.

Almost all of the 200 students are boarding as they live up to three days walk away. Unfortunately, there is not enough food to buy locally. Teenagers are hungry! Additional food has to be bought in towns and flown in by plane.

DELIVERY OF MORE THAN 4000 BIBLES

The hunger for God's word is still there

MAF is currently assisting to transport 4,000+ copies of a complete Bible, translated into the local Bedamuni language to Mougulu, Western Province.

"This Bible is a joint life's work of my wonderful parents Tom and Salome Hoey," said Sally Lloyd who with her husband, Ian, are currently living and working at Mougulu.

She continues, "[my parents] have worked not only on practical development aspects such as airstrips, schools, and health clinics, but also on preserving and promoting the Indigenous

language and much more.

The complete Bible translation was dedicated in 2001, but copies have run out, so they have arranged 4,000 new prints. There are many more translated materials prepared, booklets, health materials, etc. from their home in Australia. Thanks to all who helped to make this possible. The people are very happy!"

MAF received one Bedamuni re-print Bible from Sally Lloyd "as an example of how the support helps our remote communities, and to acknowledge the importance of God's Word to them."



Thank God with us

- ▶ for people like the Hoeyes and Jennifer, who as an extended family or as individuals serve God and the people in and around Mougulu so faithfully.
- ▶ for new colleagues from Canada Brandon & Nelicia with daughter Nova on our compound. Brandon will join us as a pilot.
- ▶ for some great holiday and family time before we had to go into quarantine with Corona.

Ask God with us

- ▶ for peace between the tribes in PNG. Small things often heat up tempers and lead to fatal outbreaks of violence that paralyse entire villages.
- ▶ for a cure for Mathias' skin rash on his fingers. All the disinfecting he had to do in recent years has not done him any good at all, but has given him small, itchy and sometimes inflamed water blisters.
- ▶ for safety in flight operations. The rain season has started.

BURIED UNDER HIS OWN HOUSE

Intensive care in a bush hospital and the team's trust in God

Friday afternoon, Mathias was on his way back to Mt Hagen after two days away flying in Western Province, when he got the call to fly a Medevac to Kompiam.

In the morning, a house in Pyarulama had collapsed on a man working underneath it. The very area of the house with the heavy stones forming the fireplace fell on his chest and wooden beams smashed his legs.

At the hospital in Kompiam, the team was fighting for the man's life. Dr Diana

Zwijnenburg, the attending doctor, decided to intubate him - a standard procedure in western countries, but a risky one to do in the bush: with limited equipment and totally inexperienced staff on that matter. But she trusted God and the willingness of her staff to assist and learn in the process.

The man's family believed in a deadly curse, the longer the man hung so lifelessly on the tubes, the more so.

The right mix of drugs was another challenge Dr Diana faced. And when

was the right time to extubate? The first attempt after 5 days wasn't successful.

It was a real struggle with the realities and limitations of a bush hospital but also an exercise of trust that God can give wisdom and success - and life - in everything.

The man is still in hospital waiting for his leg to heal. He can breathe on his own again, and he can eat and drink. The Lord has helped up to this point! Praise and thanks be to Him!

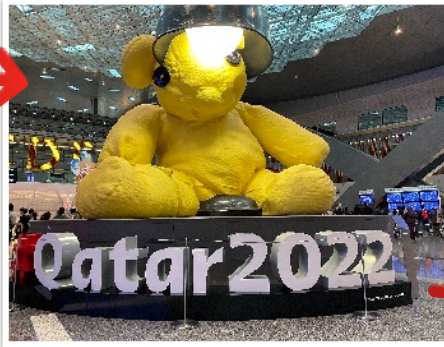


TRAVELLING INTERNATIONALLY AND PARTLY SEPARATELY AS A COUPLE

Please read in the direction of the arrows...



That's me and Joy (MAF Technology) in Singapore! On 26 August we were on the way to England! Without Mathias... he needed to fly in PNG...



While I was waiting in Doha, Qatar, for my flight to Frankfurt, I had a cappuccino. Meanwhile Mathias got served some fresh lemonade...



The photo from Sally Lloyd in Mougulu actually popped up at my WhatsApp at the same time as I got my cappuccino. Cheers!



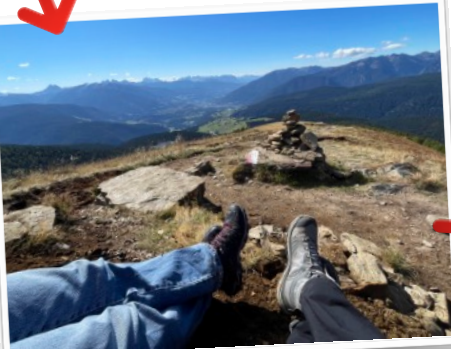
Then the Queen died... As I was visiting the Duncalfes, dear MAF PNG friends living west of London, for the weekend, I was even able to write in a book of condolence at their parish.



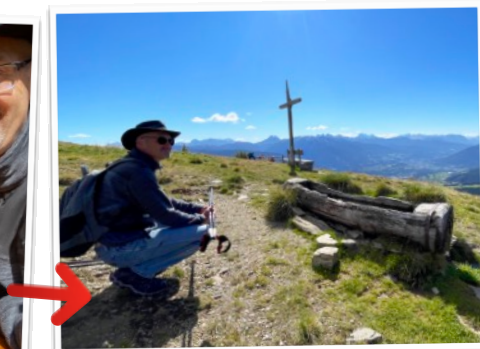
The team surprised me with a yummy chocolate cake and pretty flowers for my birthday - while Mathias collected many WhatsApp greetings within our MAF team for me.



I was on a business trip to join the MAFI Comms' Conference. It was about public relations with colleagues from the mission field and the home offices. Intense & rewarding 2 weeks of work!



On September 12, Mathias from PNG and I from London arrived almost simultaneously at Frankfurt Airport to spend our 2022 annual vacation in Germany. Our itinerary had us visit one week with each families, and two weeks holidaying just as a couple. We had an awesome week of hiking in South Tyrol which we are grateful for. And then we caught the C-virus and now the fun is over. Our time in the Erzgebirge at Mandy's parents place isn't really time spent WITH them...



STAY CONNECTED

Mathias & Mandy Glass
c/o MAF PNG LTD
P.O. Box 273
Mt Hagen, WHP 281
Papua New Guinea

Mobile Mathias +675 7214 1289
Mobile Mandy +675 7481 3388
E-Mail: mathias_mandy@gmx.de
Website: www.maf-pilot.de

MAF GERMANY

MAF Deutschland e. V.
Stumme-Loch-Weg 7
57072 Siegen
Tel.: (+49) 271 701 4780
E-Mail: info@maf-deutschland.de
Website:
www.maf-deutschland.de



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