

May 2023

M&M

FLIGHTRECORDER



Newsletter from
Mathias & Mandy Glass

No 61



Moskito nets
delivered to
Lapalama

An initiative of Rotarians
Against Malaria that
would not be
possible without
MAF.

DEAR FRIENDS,

“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.”

1 Timothy 6:17

12,000 safe take-offs and landings by plane for Mathias - that deserved a special cake, of course!

That meant also 12,000 reasons to be grateful for all those safe flights. Most of these flights Mathias obviously did with MAF in Papua New Guinea (PNG). Flights that have probably brought a few thousand people safely to their destination for whatever reason they were travelling, likewise many tonnes of all sorts of cargo.

Mathias is the most senior and one of the most experienced pilots in the team here. Nevertheless, every flight requires his full attention and trust that God has control over all the flight operation. Arrogance and pride about the many landings would be not appropriate nor is a guarantee for the

next safe flight.

What is routine for you and yet needs trust in God, as the Bible verse above challenges us to do? Being rich and wealthy is a rare sight when we look around us here in PNG. Earthquakes affect lives, shaking the ground and houses. Medical care, clean water, food, solar power, education - that's some "wealth" that the people in the bush receive through MAF, and things that we take for granted in our everyday Western lives...

Most MAF flights serve the people in remote areas of PNG. Only a few of the flights are exclusively for training or to do checks on pilots. On many flights, the Bible Box is on board to make the Good News of Jesus Christ accessible to the people in the bush.

We share about this and other interesting flight missions in this Flight Recorder.

Thank you again for your friendship, support and continued interest in us and our work at MAF in PNG. May God bless and sustain you.

Laikim yupela!

Mandy & Mathias



MAF's Bibel-Box Ministry has started again!

Since mid-2022, the supply of Bibles has been slow due to problems at the printing plant and with the supply chain. At the beginning of the year, 5000 Bibles finally arrived at MAF and are now being diligently offered by the pilots in the bush villages.

When Kelly-Ann Wampai-Tua, the wife of our MAF pilot Joseph Tua, was travelling with Mathias from Telefomin to Vanimo and stopped over in Munbil, she made exciting observations:

"I walked around to see the place taking pictures. Then I turned back to the plane, and I realised a huge crowd on the left-hand side of the aircraft. I saw everyone bent over, looking down. Mathias was also squatting on the ground and he was pulling out something. He opened up a box, and I realised it was Bibles!

The people were so happy and excited to be buying Bibles. It was a really interesting and heart-warming sight to witness.



I realised, that the people in the place we went to, don't have any road going in. I don't think there were any public services or businesses or something. I was just wondering where these people would have got their money from. I reflected on the prices of goods in Telefomin, where it is 15 Kina (US\$ 4.25) for a one-kilogram bag of rice and almost 20 Kina (US\$ 5.70) for a can of tinned fish. The people at Munbil just bought a Bible for almost the same price as food. They most likely would have saved their money, just waiting to be able to buy a Bible. I don't know...

But it was beautiful to watch. And I'm so glad I was able to witness that moment.

COMPETENCE ENHANCEMENT & STANDARD ASSURANCE

Sharing the cockpit with others as training and exam pilot

In the last two and a half months, I, Mathias, have trained or conducted check flights with six pilots. Most of my time has been spent with our PNG pilot Joseph as he needed to be trained into a new flying area. Joseph has been flying with MAF PNG for 3 years and is an experienced pilot in the Western Province, an area that is mostly flat. His new area of operation in Telefomin is in the middle of the high mountains with short and steep landing areas and challenging approaches close to mountain slopes.

I spent 18 training days or 63 flying hours with Joseph in the cockpit, demonstrating, moderating or supervising 101 landings. One of the most difficult runways is Tekin 530m short with 9% gradient. There are far shorter runways in the highlands. The challenge at Tekin is to fly the approach in a stable and safe manner in mostly moderate turbulence just above the treetops along the mountain slopes. Tekin has been the undoing of many a pilot because of unforeseen winds...

I have also trained with Bridget, one of our pilots from New Zealand, on challenging landing sites. Bridget has been with us since January 2022. Before that she was a flight instructor at MAF in Mareeba, Australia and also flew in Timor-Leste for several months. However, she has never seen runways with 12% gradients there.

I instructed Piet, a "flying Dutchman", on a new route that he had not flown before. Piet flies the most hours per year of all our pilots at MAF in PNG. He is very experienced, but has not yet been to the eastern part of PNG.

With Brandon, our new Canadian pilot, I was scheduled to do more airstrip checks. However, the weather didn't cooperate and we returned to our Mt Hagen home base...



Tekin



With Joseph in the Cockpit



Kelly-Ann & Joseph Tua

With Wilfred and Paul, I have been doing exam flights to document our high safety standards for the PNG aviation authority.

Of my 120 flying hours over the last two and a half months, two-thirds were training and examining flights. I was on board as a trainer or examiner for half of the 200 landings. It has been a training-intensive few months since the beginning of the year! I am one of seven training pilots. In June and July, many of our pilots go on their annual leave. Then we will have too few pilots to schedule two pilots per aircraft for training. In the second half of the year we are expecting a new pilot. She will be trained by a colleague, because then we will be on travel duty and holiday....

Unfortunately, that's it with new pilots. We don't know of any more pilots who will be joining us next year. But we already know of some who will leave us in the next two years for family reasons.

Please pray with us that God will call new pilots and mechanics into the work of MAF PNG so that we can utilise our 10 MAF Cessna Caravans for the benefit of the people here in PNG.

MAF-FLIGHTS EQUIP WOMEN'S MINISTRY IN REMOTE PNG

Mission work within the local church

Because of MAF flying three dedicated charters, 27 women involved with church ministry within the Evangelical Brotherhood Church (EBC) could participate in a training course.

„My mission work is to do Sunday School, women's ministry, and to help with RI and youth work," explains Ellen, a pastor's wife from a remote area of the Munduku area, close to the Enga border. "During the course we learnt a lot about mission work. Paul's life story and how he approached his work really helped me to gain new strength and encouraged me to continue my mission work, where I have been placed."

Seeing people transformed by the love of Christ is at the heart of MAF's



mission. That's why the flights were 80% subsidised!

Mandy attended the course for one day in her role as MAF PNG's Communications Officer. So, she was

able to talk to the ladies, to document many testimonies and take photos.

You can read her article and see the beautiful photos on the MAF PNG website [HERE](#).

TOGETHER IN THE FIGHT AGAINST MALARIA

Mosquitos are not the only ones who fly! Mosquito nets do too!



Between late February and Easter 2023 our planes transported over 20,000 mosquito nets to seven remote communities accessible only by air. This was a partnership with Rotarians Against Malaria (RAM),

Mandy was on board of one of the first flights to Lapalama to document this collaboration.

Read her full story [HERE](#).

RAM has been using MAF for over ten years. In 2022, almost 35,000 mosquito nets were distributed to 26 landing sites.

MAF'S ROLE IN PROTECTING TREE KANGAROOS

Environmental protection on an impressive scale and so cute

For the people in the Torricelli Mountains, life in the rainforest traditionally meant hunting and eating tree kangaroos. The Tenkile Conservation Alliance (TCA), based in Lumi, wants to change that. TCA works with 50 villages to preserve the region's biodiversity. In return, village are offered development projects such as water tanks, tin roofing, solar electrification, fish farming and rice cultivation. All TCA projects benefit greatly from MAF flights.

Recently, Mandy did an overnight visit at the TCA base as Mathias did training in the area with Joseph. This resulted in three exciting stories focussing on different aspects of TCA's great work. All published on the [MAF PNG website](#):

- Tree Kangaroo Conservation in the Torricelli Mountains [Read more...](#)
- Solar electrification Projects
- Two European environmentalist protecting PNG's wildlife



Thank God with us

- ▶ the many opportunities to help the people of PNG through MAF's flight service, especially that the pilots are able to load their Bible Boxes again.
- ▶ for safety during flight training on the short, steep runways.

Please pray with us

- ▶ for unity in the local PNG and international MAF leadership teams. Pray for wisdom to set the strategic goals for MAF PNG for the next 5 years and trust that God will provide the necessary resources, especially pilots engineers and support staff, both locally and internationally.
- ▶ For the small team at the MAF Germany office. Pray that a new staff member for public relations and fundraising will be found soon.

Update on Ryan Koher

- ▶ Ryan Koher, a MAF pilot in Mosambik, and two local colleagues have been innocently imprisoned for five months since 4 November 2022.



- ▶ Ryan has since been released, but is not allowed to leave the country as the court case is still ongoing. The family is together. The uncertainty and the open end of the negotiations still require a lot of prayer and trust in God.

GERMANY, HERE WE COME! WILL WE SEE YOU?

We are looking forward to catching up with you and sharing about our ministry in PNG

Below is a first rough draft schedule for our time in Germany, where we will meet with friends and supporters and share about our ministry and life in Papua New Guinea. In our August Flight Recorder it will be a bit more detailed. But this way you can already see in which corners of Germany we will be... If you would like to invite us, please contact us immediately so that we can see what we can realise and fit into our Germany Tour.

21. Aug.-7. Sep.	Arrival, medical appointments, family time with both of our families...
7.-12. Sep.	Stelle ✈
14.-19. Sep.	Bremen ✈
19.-21 Sep.	We are visiting MAF Germany in Siegen ✈
21. Sep.	Presentation at Hammerhütte Stadtmission Siegen
23.-26. Sep.	Wetzlar ✈
27.-7. Okt.	Time with our families in East Germany and South Germany
8. Okt.	Christliche Gemeinde Karlsruhe ✈
13.-16. Okt.	Horb am Neckar ✈
17.-26. Okt.	Holidays, and until 8 November we'll be in the Black Forest area prior our departure to PNG



As part of the training flights with Joseph, Mathias and Joseph flew a team from the US Embassy from Vanimo (in the far northwest PNG) to Mt Hagen via a short stop-over at remote Malaumanda. Three so-called sports ambassadors (Maluhia Kinimaka, Alison Teal, Kellen Lovel) held surf lessons in Vanimo for girls and boys of all skill levels, including discussions on issues such as alcohol abuse, education, access to health care. In Vanimo and Port Moresby, the American Embassy also organised visits to schools to discuss the very personal and difficult issue of gender-based violence.

As a contrast to the towns of Vanimo, Mt Hagen and Port Moresby, the landing in Malaumanda was organised to see the underdeveloped or barely existing infrastructure of a remote bush village...

STAY CONNECTED

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