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Upcoming events:

- Engineering
- MAF celebrates 60 years in PNG
- Becky returns to PNG
- MAF ministry team
- BFO
- Studying for Piston engine exams
- Fixing up the Land-cruiser

Matt's Prayer & Praise

- Thanks for opportunity & provision to visit Becky in America
- Thanks for Becky & the way God has been working in our lives
- Thanks for passing my exam's
- God's protection for staff & operations in PNG
- Spiritual growth
- MAF ministry team
- Bible Faith Orphanage
- For wisdom & to grow as an Engineer
- Relationship with Becky to be Christ centered & focused
- My family back in Australia.



PMV ride to Goroka



Mt Hagen Engineering Team 2011



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Update

So much has happened in the last four months, it is hard to know where to start or what to share. Engineering has been consistently busy whether working on aircraft or other work around the hangar. I have been able to continue to gain hours for my PT6 engine license. I am enjoying having a balance of working on Airframe and engine. Hopefully I can apply for my license around mid year. I transported another PT6 hot section down to Sydney in January for maintenance. We have been going through a process of relocating our component workshop which has included a big cleanup. It is amazing what sort of things can accumulate over twenty years. I drove three truck loads of junk into town one day. I managed to study for and sit two exams in November and February, which I passed! Studying is always a challenge here. I have also started towing aircraft working towards my towing authorisation for the Twin Otter and Cessna Caravan, something I enjoy. In November our Engineering Manager, Ben a PNG national, left MAF after seventeen years of

service. He was a mentor to me unofficially. The other ministry that I have been involved in is Bible Faith Orphanage. There are a few projects I have been working on. The main one taking portrait photos of all the children and have them uploaded onto a website so people can sponsor the children.



Summit of Mt Hangkuki

Which includes cost of living and school fees. It is still underway, but almost finished. I started setting a side a percentage of my monthly allowance in November to save for flight



Becky with a patient

training at MAF's flight school in Mt Hagen. Hopefully I can start mid year once I finish my piston engine exams. My Aunt

passed away in December, after losing her battle with cancer. I was unable to return for her funeral in Australia. It was hard not being able to return. Thankfully I was able to see her in October when I was last down for Engineering. I was able to get away to Goroka for Christmas and stay with my close friends the Perrett's with CRMF. I travelled down in style in a Coaster Bus PMV, which is always an interesting experience. It was really nice to be able to spend Christmas with them and with a family. I spent New Years Eve with my neighbours Geoff and Jennifer. They have been really good neighbours to have and a good support. I was able to go on a hike in early January. Maipson and I took a new single Canadian pilot, Sean up Mt Hangkuki. Which included travelling via PMV and it was a good cultural experience for Sean. The main development since the last newsletter has been with a female doctor from the Nazarene Mission Hospital at Kudjip. This led to a trip to America to visit her and family. It is quite mind blowing reflecting on the past four months, what God has done and the experiences I have had.

Dr Becky

Becky is a doctor at the Kudjip Nazarene Mission Hospital (45 km's from Mt Hagen) where she served in a post residency program for two years. She is originally from Albany, Oregon, America. Becky and I met when I had a piece of lockwire go

through my finger at work in October as she treated me in the ER. Following that we continued to communicate back and forth. Becky was due to finish up serving in PNG after two years in December returning to Oregon. Before the possibility of joining SIM

to serve as a doctor in Africa or Nepal. We had three weeks during November to get to know each other before she left PNG in early December. It was a really good and busy time as our friendship grew and we got to know each other more.



Christmas lunch with the Perretts & Wakefields

“ The last four months have really been full on with many different experiences. I am really grateful for God’s goodness and faithfulness...”



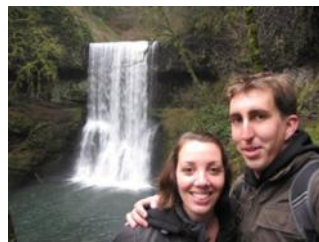
Maipson & I working on a PT6 hot section



Disneyland



Mel’s Diner in Hollywood



Silver Creek falls



Newport, Oregon Coast



Ben & I in a Twin Otter cockpit after an engine run and adjustment



Departing for America via Sydney. Saying goodbye to Mum, Dad & my sister Katie. I got to see my Nan on my return trip through Sydney.

Dr Becky (cont)

One weekend I would go visit out at the mission hospital or another she would come in for the weekend. One weekend involved a small group of doctor’s coming into town which was a good time of fellowship, as social life here is very limited. One of the main things during this time was seeing

each other in our own environment. As we got to know each other more, I discovered more and more how beautiful she is. That she did not just easily meet my essential requirements in a woman. Which is, she is a Godly woman, loves Jesus and called to the mission field. But also met my non

essentials too. Before her departure and not being sure if I would ever see her again. We made a commitment to continue our friendship and getting to know each other. God really moved during those few weeks and blessed our time together. God greatly exceeded my expectations of our friendship.

Trip to America

In mid January I had to organize flights to Sydney for transporting an engine hot section. The week beforehand Becky had decided to return to PNG rather than joining SIM as God was leading her. God’s leading and a sequence of events taking place over one afternoon and evening resulted in me deciding I would visit Becky in America (read my blog for more details). The main reason to ask her to start courting me. This included being able to take two weeks annual leave and getting a cheap return ticket. I met up with Timon (my housemate), his girlfriend Jen and Becky in Los Angeles California for four days. We visited Holly-

wood, Beverley Hills, Disneyland, Becky’s University and made it to the beach a few times. It was such a contrast going from PNG to America. Eating out was always a highlight, but we had a great time of fellowship. Becky and I flew onto Oregon where we would stay with her parents for seven days. I was able to meet all Becky’s immediate family and some extended. Spending time with them and doing different activities together was a blessing. Including the Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum, a trip to the coast at Newport, going to church, shopping and obviously eating out. I celebrated Australia Day by asking Becky to

start courting me, which she said yes to. Becky and I got to do a few things together. We traveled to Portland to watch an NBA game, the Trailblazers vs the Boston Celtics. We also managed to do a day hike at Silver Creek falls which was both our highlight of our time in Oregon. We also met up with some of the members from a Christian band called Falling Up at a Starbucks in Albany. I really enjoyed my time in America with Becky. There was no time for rest and relaxation. But it was refreshing to be in a different place and experience it. It was a real special time and one of the best trips I have ever had.