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Upcoming events:

- Ten weeks furlough in Australia
- Reconnecting with family & friends
- Support raising
- Returning to PNG
- Working towards engine licenses

Matt's Prayer Points:

- Thanks for receiving PNG airframe licenses
- Thanks for the opportunity to serve in PNG as first term comes to an end
- New visa application to be processed, approved & issued quickly
- Good refreshing time in Australia
- God's provision for prayer & financial support
- Spiritual growth
- MAF ministry team/Engineer's Bible Study
- Continue to grow as an Engineer



Aunt Rosa & husband
Uncle Jiwa @ BFO



Malolo beach in Madang

Update

The last four months have really flown. The workload in the hangar has continued to be steady with it's normal pace and then intense times. All of February we had a Twin Otter C check. Which is always a challenge being maintenance intensive, as well with other aircraft in for scheduled or unscheduled maintenance. I was able to be on engines for some of it, which I really enjoyed. We also had two aircraft have prop strikes over a two month period, the first for several years now. Which meant a team going out bush to repair the aircraft, engine change, prop change etc. A big victory was receiving my PNG airframe licenses in February after a three month wait alongside four national Engineers. The first national Engineers to get their initial License in sometime. It was one of my main goals to accomplish before end of term, so very grateful to have accomplished it. I spent a week in December working at SIL's aviation department at Ukarumpa. It was

a good experience working in a different environment. It was good to be able to continue to develop and make new relationships with the guys there. I spent Christmas down in Madang with another single Engineer for six nights. It wasn't my first one away



Celebrating passing PNG
airlaw exam in Nov (Dan, I,
Laz, Maipson & Auda)

from home, but the first without family and friends. It was really good just to have a break from Mt Hagen. The last few months we have continued to see MAF families leaving or arriving. Mainly losing our compound neighbours as they move to MAF's Bangladesh program, they are missed. Our compound dog Roxie, passed away New Years Eve. Whether it was old age or she was

poisoned I am not sure. She was a really good guard dog and have felt like our flank is exposed without her. Hopefully will be able to get a new dog on my return. The MAF ministry team was quite active over the last two months of last year. Plenty of opportunities to go out and minister to village communities. We had our first program for the year two weeks ago. Looking forward to more opportunities this year with the team. It has been great to see the development of Bible Faith Orphanage the last few months and seeing God at work. The Saturday before Christmas the ministry celebrated Christmas. It was great that these kids could celebrate it for the first time and hear why we celebrate it. I had always expected to be returning at end of term for furlough. But in January it started all coming together to return at the end of February, allowing me to return to PNG in May for the start of my second term, God willing. It has been amazing to see God's timing in it and so many things falling into place.

Ministry Weekend

On the second last weekend of November we had an all weekend ministry program out at the Kudjip Nazarene Hydro Church. We departed Kagamuga Friday afternoon following work. We were warmly welcomed by a crowd mainly of old ladies and little children. After setting up we were taken to a haus kunai (grass house) for dinner and where we would be

staying. After dinner and a



MAF ministry team @
Kudjip Hydro Nazarene

time of prayer we headed

back to the church. After a time of worship, being welcomed and introducing ourselves we started the program. I was able to share my testimony how I came to Christ and MAF. Followed by showing the Jesus film in Tok Pisin. Two women gave their lives to Christ that night. Following a rough nights sleep and waking up early. We had a day of hiking up to the local



Ministering @ Andakapla Church in February "Where's Matt?"

"I am really grateful for the opportunity I have had to serve in PNG as my first term comes to a close. For God sustaining me during this time, for the experiences I have had & relationships formed"



Swimming @ Suicide Gap



Walking through the community @ Kudjip



Dan, Gregory, Timothy & Sandra. BBQ by Kumon River

Ministry Weekend (cont)

prayer mountain and returning for lunch, followed by a waswas (bath/swim) at a spot by a river called suicide gap. Following dinner we ran Saturday night's program which involved MAF awareness and showing End of the Spear, followed by a talk. As there had been tribal fighting in the area in the 90's with quite a few people

killed. But still after this time there was bitterness in the community. People were quite challenged and convicted. Sunday morning one of the team members preached during the service. Following a late lunch, we departed for Hagen Sunday afternoon. It really was a great weekend, despite struggling with tiredness

and being a busy weekend. Each time in a village is an amazing experience, to live in a village and amongst individuals, was a great opportunity to minister and reach out to this remote community, which we are grateful for. The people and the church were strengthened and encouraged over the weekend.

Bible Faith Orphanage

I first heard about BFO ministry starting when Aunt Rosa, our Chief Pilot's admin officer shared about it with me back in June last year. Since then there has been real progress in this ministry being established (if you would like to see the progress and updates, please check out my blog). There are quite a few orphans in Mt Hagen living in one of the settlements in Newtown. due to parents passing away from HIV Aids or the children being abandoned by their parents. All 160 of them living in poverty. One of the highlights for the ministry was a Christmas celebration one Saturday morning in December for the children. Saturday mornings is normally one of the days during the week where the children gather in Aunt Rosa's frontyard to be

fed and hear a talk. But this Saturday was a little different. For most of them it would be the first time they have celebrated Christmas. I had the privilege of being able to attend and take

meaning of Christmas. Followed by this was the handing out of presents for each of the children and other gifts that had been donated to the ministry. The smiles on the faces of the children were priceless. The presents were disturbed and at times was difficult to keep the crowd of kids under control. Following the presents being given out, including new shoes for some of the older boys, there was a time of speeches. It was encouraging to see how in six months of the ministry starting, how far God had brought it and faithfully provided, despite the great need there is. It was a hard hitting and heart breaking experience seeing these kids after hearing so much. I look forward to seeing what God has installed for BFO this year.

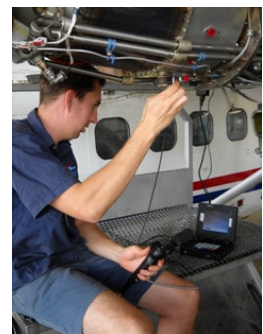


Children @ the Christmas celebration

some photo's for Aunt Rosa. Following a meal of bread rolls and tea for over a hundred children. Aunt Rosa shared the real Christmas story with the children. Many of them have heard the Gospel before, but not the



WW2 Japanese Bomber wreck in the jungle close to Madang



Boroscope engine inspection on a Twin Otter