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Upcoming events:

- Studying for exams
- Engineering
- MAF ministry team
- Engineering Safety
- First Christmas in PNG

Matt's Prayer Points:

- Thanks for my Nan's full recovery from cancer
- Thanks for passing exams
- Spiritual growth
- MAF ministry team/ Engineer's Bible Study
- License application's to be processed quickly, as the person who fills this job has left the CAA
- Continue to grow as an Engineer
- For strength, to be teachable, for protection, good health & wisdom



Mt Hagen Cultural Show



Kids @ Kenta Lutheran Church during MAF ministry program

Update

The last four months has been pretty full on. In July we had our annual conference where all MAF expat families got together for a weekend. This year it was called ICU 09 and was held at Ukarumpa, SIL's main base in PNG. It was a busy, but spiritual refreshing time. Timon and I were able to get away for nine nights across the border to Papua, Indonesia. Back in April I was asked if I would take on the Safety Officer role for Engineering. Since then there has been plenty of projects and work, one getting a fire pump and hose installed/operational in the hangar, including training. I have been doing some form of training regarding safety on Wednesday mornings after Engineer's bible study. The workload in the hangar has been either intensive, steady or quiet. The quieter times do allow me to spend more time on safety jobs and hangar maintenance stuff, there is always plenty to do. I have spent some time the last few months studying, this has been a real struggle at

times for me. I sat my last airframe exam with very little preparation and failed back in August. I was able to resit it in Port Moresby during October and passed. The following week I sat PNG air law and passed. My airframe licenses application has



Arrival of the second new GA8 Turbo

been submitted and awaits processing at the CAA. I am grateful that I no longer have to spend my week nights and Saturdays studying for the mean time. I still need to do AUS air law and a prop exam and hopefully work towards getting my PT6 engine license. The MAF ministry team continues to go out and run programs with a good reception and response. I missed an all weekend program due to studying. The end of the

year always seems to get really packed with invitations for the team. At the moment we have about four out of five weekends booked, two of them being all weekend programs. In September I was able to climb Mt Wilhelm the tallest mountain in PNG with a group of friends from different mission organisations. We received our second new GA8 Turbo Airvan the other month, again we are really grateful for God's provision. We had a big rock fight take place the other month outside our compound, our neighbouring compound getting in the line of fire. We had a MAF van hijacked at gun point at our compound gate to the other month, the driver was okay and the van was recovered later in the day. One of our Twin Otters was struck by a stray bullet in August which we inspected and repaired. I was able to attend the annual Mt Hagen cultural show, my first time. Was good just to get to go to an event. So things have been pretty busy.

Papua, Indonesia

In July I was able to get away to Jayapura in Indonesia for nine nights. We had been considering the trip for almost a year and we finally had an opportunity to go. With a MAF family going across for the MAF US conference, we were able to get a flight to Vanimo, and then PMV to the border and work our way through the border check points. Jayapura is around two

hours drive from the bor-



Base G Beach, Papua

der. We were going where the people don't speak

English or Tok Pisin and I couldn't remember any Bahasa from yr5. There is no tourism there, so I knew it would be an adventure getting there and spending our ten days there. In the end people found it quite entertaining trying to communicate with us. No matter where we went, we stood out much more than you anyone would in PNG. We stayed in a four star hotel,



MAF PNG family @ ICU 09



Hang'n with some Goroka mudmen



Timon and I enjoying the Indonesian cruise

"I am really grateful for God's continually provision, protection and strength"

Papua, Indonesia (cont)

as it was so cheap. The nicest place I have stayed in. We were able to get around exploring Jayapura and the surrounding area, in our time there we managed to see almost everything there is to see. Going around and

seeing the sights was really good, there was a lot to see. Eating out was great, also going to the beach although it wasn't up to my standard. There are a lot of restaurants there, from street stands to fancy ones. For me

it was a real refreshing time. Despite being pretty active. Just because of the change in environment. Despite being on the same island and being so close to PNG, it was a complete different culture, atmosphere, country and surroundings.

Mt Wilhelm

In September, I planned to climb Mt Wilhelm. The tallest mountain in PNG at 14,790 ft above sea level (only just over half the height of Everest). A group of us from different mission organisations left Mt Hagen Friday morning and arrived at a lodge which is the start of the track at around 8500ft. Saturday morning we hiked up to the base camp which took us just under three hours, taking us over 10500ft. A second group travelled from Mt Hagen and met up with us Saturday afternoon. We spent the night at base camp and departed just before 0130 to climb to the summit. I was not able to get much sleep that night so I was really tired when we got up. We started off nine of us out of twelve with two guides.

As we climbed we became two groups. At the first stop after two hours of hiking, we decided to continue in two groups so we could go at a pace we were all comfortable with. At this point the clouded night sky started to clear, which was an awesome sight. We continued to

continued to push on without really stopping. We came to Christopher's corner around 0500. We decided to stay and watch the sun rise, it was quite cold at this point. After the sun came up we kept hiking and made it to the summit just before 0700. It was an amazing sight, we had a clear sky and view all the way to the coast. We only spent thirty minutes if that at the summit, as rain clouds were evident lower down. Again my knees were in pain coming down. It was amazing to see what we had hiked along coming up and pasted in the dark. We made it back to base camp around 1130. Then back to the lodge that night, a lot of hiking in one day. Returning home on Monday. It was a great experience to finally climb Mt Wilhelm and I found it easier than that of Mt Hagen.

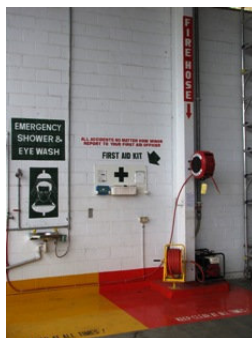


Sunrise (I left my beanie behind)

hike up the track in the dark. I started to notice the altitude a little, did not affect me as much as when I climbed Mt Hagen, we con-



Maipson and I at the summit of Mt Wilhelm



New fire pump & hose installation



Sharing my testimony @ a MAF ministry program