



Godfrey's Kompiam painting 2018



PNG SIM Card

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Greetings to all our faithful supporters and family. We ended our last newsletter looking forward to getting some rest in New Zealand after a very tiring relocation and renovation for the Highlands Grammar school. Well, that didn't exactly go as planned.

Update on medical operations

We previously mentioned the timely opportunity for Godfrey's hip operation once we reached CHCH in late Feb. This went well and Godfrey stayed on in NZ till 08 April gradually increasing mobility. It was



such a blessing to spend a week each at the Te Waiora Retreat (Hororata) and with friends, Tim and Sally Broughton, (Homebush). Sister Kath and Wayne Thorne's home in CHCH is always a haven that we are deeply appreciative of. Kath gave Godfrey some paints, easel and canvases to fill in his days.



Hiding her hand

Glen left CHCH for Melbourne 1st March and was in theatre on the 04th for her left thumb operation - Suspensionplasty of the Trapezius bone. She finally joined Godfrey in PNG on 23rd April after her 6 weeks' recuperation. The journey to mobility and strength in the hand and fingers has been long and challenging, as a "one armed (or handed) bandit". Both of us continue to work on restoring usage of our ageing structural elements!

This reminds me (Godfrey) of the PNG-MAF



fleet. We determined in the strategic plan I was leading a few years ago, to reduce the number of types of planes we use. After research and provision of funds from Kenya property sales, MAF International has progressed one type of plane for PNG, the Cessna 208 "Caravan". And so the ageing "structural elements" are all either gone or heading for new more sedate pastures. The process has its challenges as training and pilot capacity struggle to catch up with the new resource available.

Since her return, Glen's diary is full of notes on who's coming to stay or who we'll feed. As I write, it's the first weekend for ages we aren't busy with guests or attending/speaking at an event, here or away. It's been a privilege to host various ex and current missos, friends from the past, or have our dear friend Anton and Mum Julie, stay. We also continue on the MAF Hagen base hospitality roster with pilots and other visitors like MAF International and MAF NZ Board members visiting the MAF Hagen HQ, and staff. The other big feature in Glen's dairy is the continuing hunt, reconditioning, recording and distribution of all things domestic for the house "fit-outs" as MAF welcomes a bunch of new families, couples, and singles!

Another of her challenges is trying to catch up with the increased charter of expanding the missionary housing contents to 'harmonise' with the MAFI requirement for higher quality. This is in keeping with other global operations to encourage new recruits to the mission field. The leadership has appointed a Committee to give aid but 2 of the 4 have been away, sick or otherwise absent in the last few months.

Entering the Cave—last time to bump her head on the roof



To assist, Glen now has a container as her office, so is no longer bumping her skull on the "Cave's floor bearers", or coming home doubled over with back pain. The new container is now furnished with a smooth floor layer, shelving, a steel door cut into its

side for access, a roof and cladding over the “hot” front, and a concrete ramp. (Mostly thanks to Godfrey’s tireless



New Container in place with shelves

carpentry, etc. and special friends) and now has the power connected for lights’n’laptop. Godfrey (with Gordon’s advice) has designed and coordinated the container work in his spare and not so spare time. And thanks to Anton’s welding skills, the door is so snug we don’t think the cockroaches have a chance getting out...or IN as the case may be. Oh well either way, we will have more control of the security, temperature, humidity, vermin and other factors that affect this important work.



Alrena, helping Glen in the Cave.

Glen has really appreciated the help of Alrena Martis. She, with husband Alan, are here helping out in a few important ways with

MAF....and

missing out on their NZ winter!! As well as the value of their work, they bring some well needed humour to those of us who are privileged sparing partners, which somehow is a special gift from God as well.

Talking about MAF, we were encouraged two years ago, by our member care staff to be looking at where we might head to after MAF, and how. Obtaining emergency evacuation and other medical insurance for Glen was a key consideration that put us on a limited time frame with MAF in PNG. Being insured whilst on any operational mission field globally, is the practical MAF policy, as it reduces their/our liability for expensive international medical evacuations and treatment. However insurance companies have age limits on this kind of cover, and ours is imminent.

The target timeframe for exiting PNG for us is between mid-August

2020 to late March 2021. The various details of this wrap-up schedule are now in the melting pot.



Our future home in NZ

In the meantime we have found peace in the decision to resettle in North Canterbury, NZ, and have been blessed to have purchased a place near a town called Amberley, 50 mins from Christchurch (*above*). We wait for the sale of Glen’s house (*below*) in Mareeba, QLD in a very ‘slow market’. Glen’s house was a provision for many MAFers over the years she has owned it, but now we need the residual capital it will render to assist with the NZ property.



Could this be something that you prayers could pray about with us.

Godfrey’s partnership development and nurturing work continues in unexpected ways at times:

- He was called back into the search for a suitable MAF operational facility in Vanimo, and
- Continuing on the land search for a potential MAF and HCG School “residential village”. MAF now needs an adaptable Quantity Surveyor/designer!
- The planned move back to serving the Morobe Province (specifically the Finisterre Mtns), requires his negotiations for facilities at Nadzab.
- Another medical flying project (*Meri* [woman] *Lift*)-maternal intervention evacuation is progressing.

In the last month G&G have been to two memorial events, where Godfrey has shared and Glen has revisited her role in “Comms” via video and still photo shooting. The first was after the sudden death of a missionary who we (MAF) have played a major role in getting in and out of the bush locations for 3 decades. Gerhard Stamm (of the Liebenzell Mission) died after slipping off a log and sustaining internal injuries while with a group of youth. The loss (we all feel) is

The casket of Gerhard Stamm arrives at the funeral service



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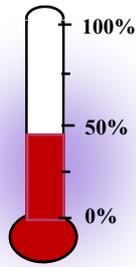
If you would like to support us to continue our work in PNG, contact MAF-NZ office. Bank details are above:



Our Address:
C/- MAF-PNG,
PO Box 273,
Mt Hagen, WHP 281, P.N.G.

GDS Wk Tel: +675 7373 9900
GFS Hm Tel: +675 7363 0822
Aust. Mobile :(+61) 0419 899 018 (pref text messages)

2019 Financial Support Target



Prayer Points

- Pray that Glen's house in Mareeba sells soon
- Please pray for positive outcomes of the planning process with MAF of our exit/ retirement from PNG
- Pray that Godfrey and Glen will experience good health and continued recovery after our operations.

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; ,y heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song. Psalm 28:7

EMAILS: glen.sim@mafint.org
godfrey.sim@mafint.org

profound but the impact of his legacy will be greater than we can measure.

The second memorial was the 40th Anniversary of those who died in the MAF plane crash on the 16th July 1979 near Aitape. The accident took the lives of pilot Jim Johnston, the CMML missionary family of Bob and Lois Wilkinson (and their 4 children), and a national full time couple Enina and Anna Thomas.

After being bumped from our Saturday flight on PNG Air we made it by 10:30am, on Sunday's special flight, for the Wewak Service and graveside (above) honouring with flowers.



Then on Tuesday (16th July), Glen and I were joined by Barrywan and Minape (from the CBC National Church office), on an MAF flight into Aitape for a memorable time with VIPs (Political, Administrative, Education, Church, and other community leaders), as well as the little students of the Bob Wilkinson Memorial Elementary School. (below)



Dignitaries unveiling the new school flag

During his speech, Godfrey passed on greetings from both the Johnston and Wilkinson families (from emails received in the lead-up) but he also represented the family of Anna (Telesia) whom he had grown up with at Eritei mission station, whose sister, Rose (Seini), arrived during the memorial event.

He was able to reflect and agree with others about the incredible legacy of those who have given their lives in the service of the King. Before the official program finished, we witnessed the unveiling of the new Wilkinson Memorial Elementary School flag when the ribbon was cut by the CEO of the District Administration, Mr John Ainep.

So that brings us up to the moment and we'll be sending a couple of stories out soon including Godfrey's reflections on the loss of the families and MAF pilot 40 years ago.

God Bless you all.

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Bye for now,

Godfrey & Glen Sim