

## Spring 2018 - Newsletter

### Three Months In!

It's hard to believe we've been in Uganda for over three months now. The time has flown by, and yet sometimes it feels as though we've been here forever. There is still a lot to get used to, but we're settling well, and have even experienced a bit of Ugandan flavour during our first (very sweaty) wedding. The heat didn't stop the choir and the guests from enjoying a lively dance!



After a very hot February, the weather has finally changed into the first of the two rainy seasons Uganda boasts. It was a relief to have a break from the oppressive heat, and we were shocked to feel cold one day; the temperature was still over 20 degrees!

The colder weather has helped to keep our food mildly more chilled in the frequent power cuts we've experienced in the last few weeks. The worst lasted over 48 hours. It's one of the reasons why we were absolutely thrilled when our shipping container turned up, carrying with it solar panels and an inverter purchased for us before we left the UK. We were a bit concerned our things would be forever trapped in the container as it backed carefully up the narrow gap to our compound, but with some excellent driving we were able to get all of our belongings from the UK unloaded, and give back all the things we'd been borrowing from MAF.



Dave is settling into the work routine at the MAF hangar, and enjoying using all of his aircraft maintenance skills, from avionics to airframe and engine work. Working a physical job in the heat of Uganda has definitely been a challenge, but he's enjoyed being back on a hangar floor, especially now his tools have arrived! Becky has been keeping herself busy finding her way around Kampala, and getting used to the way things work. At the start of March, Becky was able to join 50 women at a women's retreat, with missionaries from all over Uganda and even some of the neighbouring countries in attendance. It was a great opportunity to meet some incredible women in ministry here, and to have a time of refreshing, teaching and worship.

We have both enjoyed making ourselves at home at our new church. There's nothing quite like standing toe to toe with hundreds of people from different nations, all worshipping the same great God.



### JOIN THE ADVENTURE

Thank you for continuing to keep us in your thoughts and prayers!

#### Pray...

- For Dave, as he starts taking the nine exams to convert his maintenance license.
- That we would continue to stay healthy as we carry on getting used to living in Uganda.
- For meaningful friendships with the rest of the MAF team, and with Ugandans.

#### Praise...

- The shipment we sent from the UK arrived, making Uganda feel much more like home!
- For a great first three months, a wonderful house to live in, and the beautiful country of Uganda.

### Stay in Touch

Write: MAF Uganda, PO Box 1,  
Kampala, Uganda

 [hello@dbwaterman.com](mailto:hello@dbwaterman.com)

 [www.dbwaterman.com](http://www.dbwaterman.com)

 @davebeckymaf

 @davebeckymaf

 /davebeckymaf

 Youtube

# Working in Uganda, and Beyond



## Dave - Training in Kenya

In February this year I travelled to Nairobi in Kenya, to attend a training conference for the chief engineers of all the Africa programmes, along with a few others. There was lots of useful information passed on during the week, and I was asked to provide some avionics training to all of the attendees. There aren't a lot of avionics engineers within MAF, so teaching other engineers to diagnose faults to minimise the downtime of aircraft is incredibly useful. It was also a great opportunity to meet engineers from other programmes, and to hear a bit about life in different parts of Africa.

## Gebale ko!

That's as close as you'll come to the word Hello in Luganda, the language of the Buganda people of Uganda. The official language here is English, but in the region where we live, Luganda is widely spoken, and so we have started attending lessons twice a week to help us master this new tongue.

A literal translation of 'gebale ko' is 'well done.' It was traditionally used as a sign of appreciation, for people who were working hard manual jobs, and in time it became a greeting and a way of starting a conversation.

Luganda is not the easiest language to learn. The same word can have two different meanings if pronounced slightly differently, a written letter r is pronounced as the letter l, and words are appended to one another, making direct translations tricky. But despite all that, we're enjoying the challenge of trying out our rudimentary understanding in the local markets. The Ugandans are thrilled by our efforts; English might be the language they use, but Luganda is the language they love.

## Flying for Life

Based mostly in Kampala, we don't always see the direct impact of the great work MAF is doing here in Uganda, and also in South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Every working day, MAF shuttles cargo and people from numerous charities, churches and NGOs, bringing food, medical supplies, teachers, preachers, and so much more to people who have next to nothing. The refugee population in Uganda is rising each and every day, and it is incredible to be a part of the work that is helping to reach them with practical aid, but also with the gospel message.

Thank you again, for your ongoing prayers, love and support.  
Without you we wouldn't be here!

*Dave & Becky*



## Becky - Websites and Writing

I have been busy putting some of my skills to use within MAF in Uganda. Since arriving here, I have helped to revamp the MAF Uganda website ([www.maf-uganda.org](http://www.maf-uganda.org)), written several articles to help MAF's resident Recruitment Writer, and also been featured in two online magazines as a missionary / author, helping to promote the work of MAF. I'm still giving myself a bit of time to settle before looking for any longer-term projects, but for now I'm enjoying helping where I can and continuing to learn about Kampala and living life here. And doing a bit of writing on the side!

## Can You PEG Us?

**Pray** – See the front of the newsletter for some of our prayer and praise points.

**Encourage** – Knowing you're standing with us helps us to keep going, so please do stay in touch.

**Give** – It costs MAF a lot for us to be here, so if you can help to support us financially head over to [www.maf-uk.org/waterman](http://www.maf-uk.org/waterman).

Thank you!

MAF UK

Castle Hill Avenue  
Folkstone, CT20 2TQ

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