



Autumn 2020 Newsletter

Ongoing Uncertainty

It's hard to know what to write in a newsletter at the moment. We had to check our last update to see what we said then, as it seems that not a lot has changed. We, along with the rest of the world, remain in this strange limbo, unsure what the immediate, or more distant future will hold. Even now, we are waiting for the latest news from the president, to find out if we will be locked down again given the rising number of cases and the first few deaths in Uganda, or whether schools and churches will be allowed to open again.

Uncertainty is something we are becoming intimately familiar with, particularly as there are often no dates given for when changes may happen, Instead we wait for a speech from the president, to know how our lives will look for the next few weeks or months.

The uncertainty is also present for MAF in Uganda at present, as we wait for word on whether we can resume operations, with appropriate precautions in place. We have been unable to fly regularly since March, and given the very wet season that has only recently come to an end, the condition of many roads has worsened. The partner organisations who utilise the services MAF provides in Uganda are sorely missing our flights.

It makes the moments when we can fly all the more special of course. With many organisations working together, an MAF plane from Uganda was recently able to fly into the Democratic Republic of Congo, carrying Covid-19 test sets and other medical supplies. The enzyme within the test kit can't survive being in a warm temperature for an extended period of time, making travel by road, with potentially lengthy border crossings, impossible. MAF was able to fly the kits from Entebbe in Uganda, all the way to Bukavu in the DRC in a matter of hours.

We may not be able to fly much, but the work of MAF is still continuing to impact lives and provide supplies to areas almost impossible to reach by road. We look forward to being able to report increased operations within Uganda once again, and thank you so much for all of your prayers for more normal services to resume!



A lightening of lockdown allowed us to escape the city for a couple of nights



Socially distant celebrating—a project to refit an MAF Kenya aircraft was completed in lockdown



Essential medical supplies make their way from Uganda to the DRC on an MAF flight

Join the Adventure

Thank you for your ongoing thoughts and prayers!







Pray...

- For continued good health for us both, physically, mentally and spiritually.
- For favour for MAF Uganda as we continue pursuing the possibility of renewing regular flights within Uganda.
- For the leadership of Uganda, to know how best to deal with the virus when so many people live hand to mouth.

Praise...

- For small blessings—parcels from home, the ability to use a local swimming pool—all of the little things that are helping to keep us sane.
- For the great feedback we have received regarding Becky's Bible Thoughts, online Bible teaching videos Becky has been recording.

Stay in Touch

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What Ongoing Lockdown Looks Like



FOR DAVE

These days I am splitting my time—half of the week I work from home on admin type jobs, supporting the region from an avionics point of view. The rest of the time I am working in the hangar, to help with any practical projects. Maintenance has reduced recently as the planes haven't been flying, and the big project we were working on in the hangar, refitting a Kenyan plane with a new paint job, interior and more, has now finished.



FOR BECKY

I continue to release Bible teaching videos every Monday, Wednesday and Friday on our YouTube channel (you can find them by searching for Becky's Bible Thoughts). I'm still waiting for a few replies from literary agents regarding novel number two, but I have already been thinking and planning for the next book. Keeping on with projects is a challenge with the current climate of the country and world, but I have managed to stay busy and keep working.

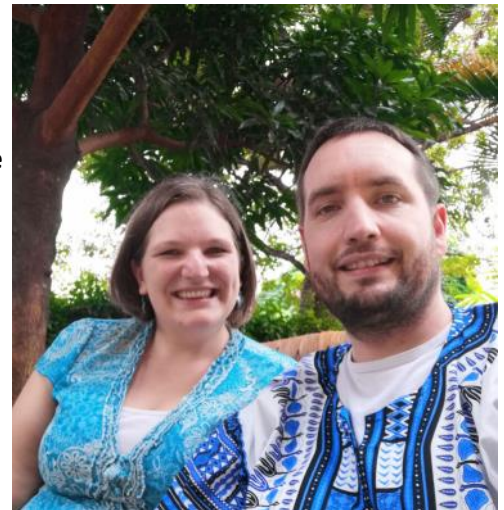
Date for the Diary—9th September, 7pm (BST)

Do you have any questions about life in Uganda under lockdown? Want to know more detail about what we've been up to? Have anything else you'd like to ask us, on any topic? We're going to be on Zoom on **Wednesday the 9th of September, 2020, at 7pm UK time**. We know the time won't work for everyone, but if you're able to join us we would absolutely love to see you there! Bring your questions and comments, and we'll do our best to answer them all.

Put the date in your diary so we don't miss you, then head to the Zoom website and enter the following details at 7pm on the 9th:

Meeting ID: 857 8019 8851

Password: 839174



We also want to take a moment to say an enormous thank you for all of your support for us. It's a tough time for all mission groups and charities right now, and without the financial contributions from everyone on this incredible adventure with us, we wouldn't be here in Uganda. But more than that, we can't tell you how much it means each time you let us know you're thinking of us and praying for us. Every email you send, comment you make on our social posts, every encouragement, every note, every little parcel and postcard—we appreciate them all more than we can possibly say. When life has been difficult in the last few months, you have kept us going. Through week long water outages and more power cuts than we can count. Through being unable to meet with our church and knowing we're so far away from home with the airport closed until further notice. It is such an incredible privilege to know you are standing with us, in more normal times and now, in this crazy global pandemic. Thank you, and thank you again.

Can You Join the Adventure?

If you would like to make a financial contribution, either monthly or one-off, to help us to stay in Uganda working with Mission Aviation Fellowship, then please head to our page on the MAF UK website:

www.maf-uk.org/waterman

Thank you!

We hope you've enjoyed this update. Remember to think of any questions you may have for our Zoom call—it would be great to see you then! Thank you again for being the best supporters a pair of missionaries could ever ask for!

Dave & Becky

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