

Winter 2020 Newsletter

Change is Coming!

What a strange year 2020 has been! As we draw toward the end of it, you can't help but wonder what 2021 might bring. We can't predict the state of global pandemics and politics, but we do know that the next year is going to include some big change for us because...

We're leaving Uganda!

We're not leaving MAF though, don't worry, but we are going to be moving across the continent of Africa to the country of Liberia. Dave will take on the role of West Africa Maintenance Manager, which involves establishing, and then running, a maintenance base which will be capable of supporting all MAF programmes, existing and future, that fall within the West Africa region.

It's going to be really exciting to see MAF expand more into West Africa, where there are huge needs for the services we can provide, helping missionaries, churches, NGOs and more to reach isolated people groups, where roads are often impassable during the rainy season.

We will remain in Uganda until August, 2021, and then visit the UK for a couple of months to catch up with our wonderful supporters and churches. Our plan is to travel from the UK to Liberia in the first week in November, ready to start our next adventure.

Although we've lived in Africa for three years now, we know things are going to be very different in Liberia, a country that is as far away from Uganda as it is from the UK! We are so excited to explore another part of this beautiful world, and are trusting that God is going before us to make a place for us there.

We really appreciate all of your thoughts and prayers as we get ready for another big step. Knowing you are holding us up in prayer is such a wonderful reassurance to us, and it's only the financial support we receive from individuals and churches that allows us to do this amazing work. Those generous gifts will continue to support our work as we move across to Liberia—you don't need to do anything.

Thank you, and thank you again for partnering with us and with MAF.



MAF's shiny new hangar in Liberia



Liberia's rainy season roads



The wet world of Liberia, from the air.

JOIN THE ADVENTURE

Thank you for your ongoing thoughts and prayers!

PRAY...

- For all the planning and organising needed for our next big step within MAF.
- For Uganda, as it prepares for its next election on the 14th of January, for peace and security in the country.
- For continued good health and safety for us both.

PRAISE...

- That, so far, the coronavirus seems largely contained in Uganda and Africa at large.
- For our upcoming holiday over Christmas, for good rest and time together.
- That MAF has been able to start flying in Uganda again.

STAY IN TOUCH



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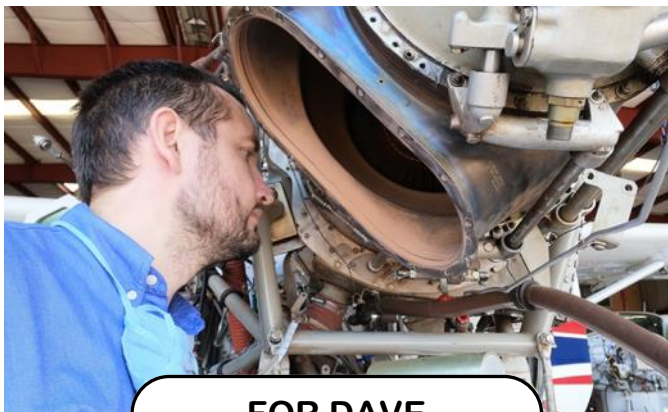


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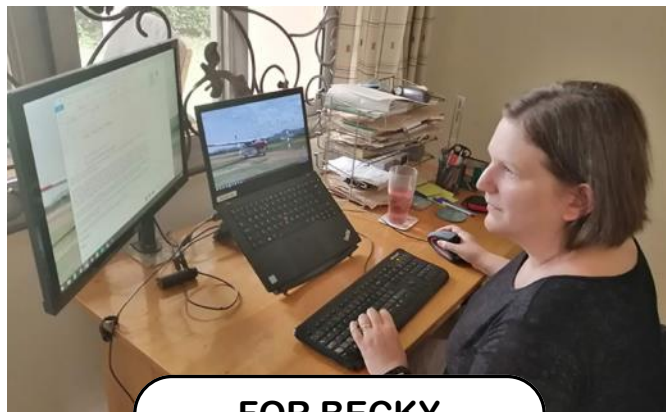
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Life After Lockdown (Mostly)



FOR DAVE

I'm back to work in the hangar full time now, thanks to a lifting of most lockdown restrictions which has allowed MAF to start flying again within Uganda. I am currently in the process of applying for an extension to my European maintenance license, which will be useful for Liberia. It has involved working on specific parts of the aircraft where I have been lacking in experience, and lots and lots of paperwork to write up to prove that I've done everything asked of me. It should be finished by the end of this year, freeing me up to help in Uganda and prepare for Liberia.



FOR BECKY

As well as continuing my weekly YouTube Bible teaching series, I have also had the chance to speak online at a couple of events, including a virtual retreat for MAF UK staff, and have recorded occasional sermons for a church here in Kampala. Assuming nothing changes with the restrictions in Uganda, I am booked in to speak in person at a church in January. It's great to be able to meet together face to face again, albeit restricted to 200 people at present. Aside from those engagements, I'm still working on getting my second novel published.



Flying the Gospel Message

For many months, MAF was unable to fly in Uganda due to the coronavirus lockdown restrictions. One of our partners, Sam Tsapwe of Jesus Film Ministries, was very happy to hear that we were able to take to the air once again. MAF Uganda has had a long relationship with Sam, who has an incredible passion to reach the lost with the gospel.

We were able to fly Sam, along with others from different church partnerships, to Mbarara. From there, the group headed up into the mountains to visit a small village in the Rukiagiri district. When Sam first visited, 18 years ago, there were 20 people in one church. Today, that one church has expanded and

planted 25 other churches, reaching more than 1,500 members. Pastor Clement started the work in Rukiagiri and was able to join the team to make this journey, despite being unwell and following recent surgery. Without MAF, the journey would have been impossible for Pastor Clement, and would have taken the whole team most of a day driving, instead of a 50 minute flight.

Sam explained, "When we come, large crowds turn up because they are so hungry for the gospel... On this trip, due to lockdown, we had to have outreach in 3 different places to control the numbers." On their trip, the team were able to encourage church members in their faith, particularly given the hardships that lockdown has caused.

It is wonderful seeing how our planes are able to facilitate amazing work like this, taking the gospel message to some of the most difficult places to reach around the world.

Can You Join the Adventure?

We are only here working with MAF because of the amazing generosity of our supporters. If you are able to make a one-off or a regular monthly donation, please head to our page on the MAF website:

www.maf-uk.org/waterman

You can also support us by standing with us in prayer, and we always love to receive messages of encouragement.

Thank you again for walking with us on this amazing adventure. We hope you have a wonderful Christmas time, even if it is unusual this year, and wish you every blessing for a wonderful 2021!

Dave & Becky

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MAF UK is a registered Charity in England & Wales (1064598) and in Scotland (SC039107)

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