



NEWS FROM NORBS ABROAD

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May 2024



Hello everybody!

TRACY WRITES...

The last couple of months have seen sickness, challenges at work and personal discouragements. Instead of detailing these, I'll describe a daytrip we took this weekend. What an amazing life we have here in PNG!

9.30am Packed picnic and picked up friends plus kids.

9.35am Set out on highway, destination Wara Tuman (WT).

9.45am Saw seven troop-carrier police trucks at side of road. Drove past plentiful armed police officers.

9.46am Turned left onto normal WT road. Executed U-turn to avoid large, excited crowd of men eying police.

9.47am Returned to highway to locate back road to WT.

9.58am Slowed to avoid hitting boys in road pretending to do road works and demanding money from passing cars as payment. Smiled and waved as we drove past.

10.06am Found back road to be sandy and covered in loose stones. All passengers alighted from car so driver could roll down hill and reattempt ascent. Fifth attempt successful.

Landslide update

Thank you to all of you who have contacted us to find out how we are doing and how close we are to the large landslide in Enga Province which made it into international news.

We live more than two hours' drive away from the disaster site. As the landslide took place on the main highway through Enga province there is a fast route to the local hospital and a means of getting supplies without the need for MAF.

However, this one news story has been repeated throughout PNG during this current (and unusually long) rainy season: Our housekeeper and her sons were glad to escape alive when the valley-side collapsed onto the roof of her house; our guard lost 22 tribe members from his home village when a landslide hit; a MAF colleague had a family member swept away in a flash flood. All this and many more incidents throughout the country since Christmas.

10.20am Finally on correct road to headwaters of Tuman River. Passengers alighted from car so driver could negotiate mud patch. Third attempt successful.

10.37am Planted orange tree seedlings in banana grove.

10.55am Clambered upriver to beautiful tropical waterfall for nap, picnic, chat and water play.

2.10pm Slithered downriver back to car.

2.36pm Traversed other back road to avoid broken bridge.

2.46pm Drove through river half-way. Car immobile. All passengers alighted. Driver of other truck got into driving seat of car. Four men and a woman pulled on tow rope, five women pushed back bumper of car. Driver of car watched.

3.02pm Car driven/pushed/pulled safely out of river in front of large appreciative audience. Passengers piled into car recounting that ours was the fourth to get stuck that day.

3.24pm Rejoined highway and drove past proper workmen repairing road surface.

3.48pm Arrived home with smiles and minimal sunburn.

FRASER WRITES...

Four months ago when I wrote I was in Cairns, Australia, trying to find internet. Today, praise the Lord, there is plentiful internet in PNG.

There is a nice atmosphere in the finance office at the moment as we have had the new finance software for just over a year now and we are becoming to feel comfortable with it. Nice to be making good progress.

Oh, and we got a clean audit report. Music to an accountant's ears.

If you are a person who prays we would love it if you could take a look at our prayer update on the right.

Thank you for all the encouragements you have sent us over the past couple of months, whether financial, prayerful or just plain friendly. You, along with the Lord, are the ones who got us here and keep us here!

With love and big grins from

Fraser, Tracy, Oliver and Primrose

PRAYER UPDATE

Last time we asked you to pray for:

- **Fraser and Patience** (new Assistant Finance Manager) as they worked on the financial audit process and as Patience settled into her new role. Praise the Lord that the audit is now complete for this year! Patience seems to be settling in really well.
- **Communities all over PNG** affected by earthquakes and landslides. Many of you have seen in the news how a community has been devastated by a particularly large landslide in Enga Province. Communities throughout PNG need our prayers as they grapple with landslides, flash floods and poor harvest yields due to the prolonged rainy season.

We'd also love it if you could pray for:

- **Our planned trip 'out bush' at the end of June.** Please pray that all would go smoothly with travel arrangements and that we would be an encouragement to our missionary friends and the other ministry leaders there.
- New finance team member, **Hardie Winta**, who has just joined the Finance Team. Please pray that he settles well and knows God's calling in his life.
- **Oliver and Rosie** as they adjust to friends of theirs leaving Hagen and leaving PNG. Please ask the Lord for help for them as they go through these social transitions.

Our mailing address:

MAF PNG,
Kagamuga Airport,
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PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Our day trip was totally worth it! Pictured clockwise from right: the back road, friends, and the falls.



Fraser spent his weekends making this treehouse/platform in our garden. The kids added a sun sail, pulleys and a death slide.



We took another day trip with some MAF friends to go birdwatching at an eco-lodge in the middle of the cloud forests. The kids never miss a chance to camouflage themselves...



Some lovely friends heard we were sick and brought round something incredibly precious here in Hagen: a taco kit! First and best tacos ever.

