



THE COLE COMMUNIQUE

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"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

John 16 v 33b



We have more neighbours!!!

Introducing Josef, Chrissy & Levi (2) our newest neighbours who moved to Tele at the end of Feb.



Ryan's family spent 3 weeks over Christmas with us!

It was a memorable time, with a visit to the north coast, 2 nights on a tropical island, lunch in a traditional PNG "haus kuk" and lots of games and fun together!

Dear Friends & Supporters,

Despite the attack, we are doing well...

If you didn't hear about Shiv getting attacked, don't worry, I'm ok! Go to our blog to read the update from back in February. It was a traumatic experience, but God showed us how he is always protecting and providing for us, even in the darkest moments. I am still recovering, I still have headaches some days and weakness in the arm where I was stabbed, but I'm getting stronger every day. We are going to Australia for just over 3 weeks in April, so we are confident this will provide us with the rest and recuperation which we both very much need. At the end of February, we had a 3rd pilot family join us in Telefomin (Yay!). For most of March, Ryan was flying with our new neighbour, Capt Josef, training him so he can learn about the complex weather systems in our area, and be checked into the easier airstrips. He will have Instrument Flight Rating (IFR) training in May so he can fly through the clouds, which will make him safer.

Shiv is feeling grateful to be alive, although struggling with a lack of energy and a mounting pile of work. Ryan has been feeling close to burn-out for about 6 months, so we are both grateful for our upcoming holiday.

Thank you for your prayers and support!

The last few months did not go as we had planned, but we have been reminded, yet again, how God is with us, and how we are not alone in this work to serve PNG's poor and isolated communities.

We could not be doing this without you!



MAF pilots sell Audio Bibles from their planes so those who can't read can listen to God's Word anywhere!

Read more on the MAF PNG website...



Sikoi, a remote community, finished upgrading their airstrip in time for Ani's daughter to be Medevac'd!

Read more on the MAF PNG website...

Contact MAF

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MAF-US is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit charity and a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability.



Each gift allocated toward an MAF board-approved program will be used as allocated with the understanding that when any given need has been met, additional allocated gifts will be used where most needed.



Mama Kom, our next-door neighbour, shared how the MAF plane has been both a support and a life line to her and her family.

She remembers flying with MAF as a young girl, and how the plane connected communities, so that pastors, students, and anyone could travel in minutes, instead of journeys taking days through treacherous jungle and steep mountains.

She also shared how the MAF plane saved the life of her daughter and granddaughter. A legacy through the generations!

[Read more on the MAF PNG website.](#)

Shiv's path to recovery...



The surgical team at Kompiam Hospital, who stitched me up a few hours after I was stabbed.



Some of the local "Prayer Mamas" visited me 3 times to pray for me whilst I was recovering at home.



Three days after the attack we were flown to Tele, but I couldn't stand up without a pounding headache and nausea, so I flew home on a MAF stretcher, just like our Medevac patients.



To save me pain and the risk of nausea, the ground staff kindly let me stay on the stretcher. They wheeled me on a trolley and lifted me into and out of the plane!



Training our new neighbour

Capt. Josef spent about 10 weeks doing his initial "Line Orientated Flight Training" (LOFT) in Mt Hagen & Balimo. Once he moved to Tele, he started "Supervised Experience" (SupEx), this is where Ryan took over to teach him about the Min valley's complex and variable weather patterns, how to safely land at our easier airstrips and all the joys & challenges of being a Telefomin pilot!

We are thankful...

- **For new neighbours!** And other pilots willing to come and help out with all the flying in this area whilst training continues.
- That Shiv got to attend a Women's Retreat across the border in Indonesia, in January, with other MAF women and her good friend, Mif.
- For the MIRACLE that Shiv's injuries were not more serious and that God provided easy access to medical care and support.
- For friends around the world praying for us and supporting us through this tough time!
- For a 3 week holiday in Australia in April to give us extended opportunity for R&R.

We need prayer for...

- **Our health and wellbeing.** Ryan has been struggling with near burnout & fatigue, and Shiv still needs to heal physically & mentally.
- Our holiday to be restful and truly restorative.
- Our new neighbours to feel like Telefomin is their home, for them to feel safe, be able to sleep well and for their overall wellbeing.
- **Canadian Permanent Resident Application** for Shiv, which we submitted at the start of March. We hope to have permission for Shiv to enter Canada by October! This significantly affects our Sabbatical plans...