

# Santastic Travels

## SERVING WITH MAF IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

It has been some time since we published a written prayer letter.

**Santastic Prayer Partners**  
WhatsApp group

We continue to put out more regular prayer updates in 'bitesize' form on our prayer WhatsApp community which you can join by scanning the QR code.



So, grab a cup of tea, sit down, and let's bring you up to date on what has been going on!

### Dom

I am continuing as Country Director of MAF in PNG. It's a big job, with lots of people and things competing for my time. God has blessed me with an incredible team to achieve great things for Him.

I have found the transition harder than I expected, with some signs of stress manifesting in my body (back tension and headaches). However, I have been blessed with an incredible boss who has helped me introduce some good structures to reduce this. I have a lot more work to do to make the job sustainable in the long term. Please pray for me as I seek to balance the pressures of job, family, and life with personal wellbeing.



*Dom kicking off the Continuous Improvement training*

There are some incredibly exciting projects that we are currently planning and executing in the programme:

- We are currently rolling out 'lean continuous improvement' training. It is very exciting to bring my experience with Rolls-Royce to MAF in PNG. It is another area where I see that God has been weaving His plan into my life for a loooooong time!
- In May, MAF will have been operating in PNG for 75 years. We are hoping to run a special event in Port Moresby at a place called APEC Haus. We have invited the Prime Minister of PNG to celebrate with us. We are wanting to 'celebrate the past and fly forward together', hoping that the government may offer to support some of our projects as we support fulfilling their duty of care to their people.
- We are currently putting together the recruitment process for a pilot cadetship (for new pilots) and an internship (for pilots that have some experience and need additional training to get to MAF standard). We are excited to help bring more Papua New Guineans into the cockpit, and see the country flourish from within.
- A new site. In 2025, we signed a lease on a new site at Mount Hagen airport. Weve now finished the master planning and are awaiting the MAF International executives to approve us to move on to the next step. We would like to have the facility up and running in 2030.
- I am excited that the leadership restructure is almost complete. The final pieces of the puzzle will be in place by mid year. Notably there will be a new Corporate Services Manager joining the senior leadership team. This person will also be my deputy and will hopefully reduce the pressure on me to make some of the systems in PNG run well.



*Out for a walk at Rondon Ridge*

Please pray for:

1. All the different projects that Dom is involved in starting and maintaining.
2. The pressures that this exerts on Dom as he seeks to make the role sustainable.
3. The leadership team that is coming together.

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## Sequoia

I am continuing to work in the Facilities and Vehicles (FaV) team. This February our new boss Wepiu joined the team, after Cobus left in December. He is getting to know our team of 21 staff, learning systems quickly, asking lots of questions, and you can see he will bring lots of new ideas once he gets more experience.

We have been busy in the FaV team with a project in Tabubil to completely remodel 6 houses - this location is challenging to get to for routine maintenance, so the houses had fallen into disrepair, with 2 condemned as unusable. The team has been working hard since November, sending 4-5 staff out for 3 weeks at a time to bring those house back to a good standard, and now 3 of the houses are complete. Please pray for these teams away from their homes for so long, and for them to continue to work hard to complete the last 3 houses in April.



*Sequoia Leading at 'Lotu' - Our morning devotions*

I am still working with Orientation of new International staff. We have a couple of permanent staff due soon - a pilot and his wife around April, and the Corporate Services manager and his wife in April too. Please pray for these couples as they say goodbye in their home countries, and prepare to join us.

This year, we will see a huge increase in Mission Experience Placement volunteers (MEP) coming across to PNG as part of their studies to work for 6-10 months, working in engineering, communications, IT, and facilities&vehicles departments. These volunteers are great - they bring a really fresh energy to the programme, and we see many of them leave with the intention of coming back. Please pray for these staff, as they are often away from home for the first time, living in a very foreign culture. Please also pray God would use the time to guide them towards His future plans for them (and maybe it is even to come back to MAF in the future).



*Sequoia painting the Beanstalk for Abi's 'Banquet'*

Please pray for:

1. The FaV staff away from their homes for so long, and completion of the Tabubil project
2. The Orientation team helping new permanent staff due in April, and MEPs due throughout the year

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## **Abi**

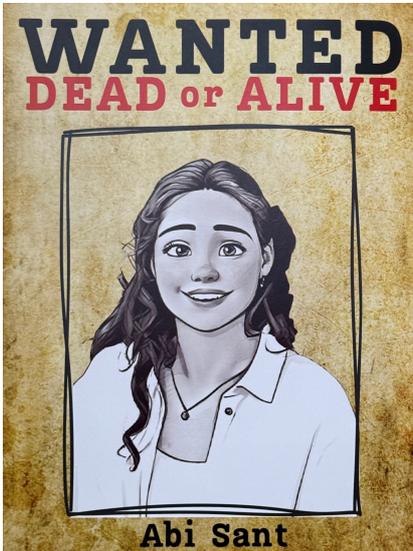
Abi is such a young lady now. This is a big year as she will enter her final school year in July, and turn 17 in September. She is now thinking about life after school and university. She would like to be a primary school english teacher.



*Abi and her friend dressed up for Banquet*

Abi was happy to have lots of her friends coming back from their year long furlough in January which meant that the numbers of girls went up in the clas

In February she attended Banquet, which is the equivalent of Prom for grades 11/12. The theme this time was 'Once Upon a Time', and the teen centre was fully decorated with a 'Cinderella ball room', 'Beauty and the Beast feasting hall' and even a 'Jack and the Beanstalk' climbing wall that was created especially for the event. Dom had the pleasure of being one of the waiters serving lobster, venison and lots of other yummy food to the teens. It took an incredible amount of effort to pull it all together, but was well worth it to give the teens a special night.



*Various Banquet Photos*

As parents it has been really encouraging that Abi invited us to join her to read the bible in a year. We are currently in Numbers, and still going strong. Abi loves going to the church in Ukarumpa and always has her notebook with her to soak in the teaching.

Please pray:

1. For Abi's plans for the future as she starts to think through options.
2. That Abi would continue to grow into the women of God she is becoming.
3. That we would all be able to hear God talking to us through the bible in a year

## Emma

There is one word that we can use to describe Emma's life in Ukarumpa: Busy. Emma has lots of hobbies and things to do every day. School, Sports, Choir, Horses, more sports, worship leading, and class hang outs are just a few of the activities that she participates in. Emma is incredibly determined to get every bit of value out of life. While doing all of the above she is continuing to maintain very high grades at school.



*Emma playing football against the Ukarumpa mums*

An area where Emma would benefit from your prayers is her relationship with her hostel parents. We hear periodically that she is a bit low because she has is not clicking with them. So please pray that God would send his spirit to make that relationship better. Emma likes going to Soul Purpose, which is the teen's Sunday evening Youth Group. She leads the worship by singing.



*Emma's 15th Birthday meal*

There is currently a big transition for Emma as one of her best friends leaves the hostel to live with their parents who have just moved to Ukarumpa. This is a hard thing for her to get over as she gets used to a new routine.

Please pray:

1. That Emma would be able to plan her time well so she does not become over tired.
2. For Emma's adjustment to her friend leaving the hostel.
3. For Emma's relationship with the hostel parents.

## Isaac



*Isaac at the gym with dad*

Isaac is continuing to love roaming around the huge campus at Ukarumpa. He has lots of friends to talk to and hang out with. He is 'living the dream' in his social life.

Isaac has been enjoying being in theatre this term and acting in the class play last Friday. His natural people skills and love for larking around came out very clearly in his performance.

We thank God that Isaac is so emotionally intelligent. He loves talking to people and getting to know them. He has a really special bond with Fleur, his hostel parent, who helps him to be a little more focussed.

*Isaac with Abi after his class play*

Isaac continues to struggle with some of the academic aspects of school. He is specifically struggling in Maths to keep up with the complexity of the subject. In March we visit a specialist to see how we can support him better in his current context. We are very worried about his schooling, and really need prayer for a breakthrough, or a clear way forward from God.



Please pray:

1. That Isaac would be able to focus well on the end of term and pass his Maths subject.
2. For the assessments in Cairns and that we would be able to work out how best to support Isaac.

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## Other News

It is home assignment year! YAY! Due to the kids school requirements we will be in the UK for 5 weeks in June/July. This is not a long time to visit all of our amazing supporters and meaningfully connect with family. As a result we are having to adopt a model where we will visit our main hubs and invite as many supporters to come seek us out. We are truly sorry if we are not speaking at a location close enough for you to visit. We would be happy to set up team's meetings to chat to those we don't see face to face. The confirmed dates we have for the diary are:

- 7th June: Church on the Heath (Fleet, near London)
- 21st June: Stenson Fields Christian Fellowship (Derby)
- 24th June: Christ Church Derby
- 7th July: Trinity Scarborough
- 8th July: Christ Church Central Leeds
- 12th July: Sinfin Moor Church (Derby)

## Financial Update

We believe that God has asked us to be in PNG for this season of our lives. To make this possible, God has put it on the hearts of many of you to support us financially. We want to say thank you to each and every one of you who support us, from £5 to £100 per month. Without you, we would not be here. It is a pleasure to partner with you in the gospel.

If you would like to join us by partnering financially, please visit our MAF-UK website  
[www.maf-uk.org/sant](http://www.maf-uk.org/sant)

## Bringing our prayer points together

**Dom:**

1. All of the different projects that Dom is involved in starting and maintaining.
2. The pressures that this exerts on Dom as he seeks to make the role sustainable.
3. The leadership team that is coming together.

**Sequoia:**

1. The FaV staff away from their homes while completing the Tabubil project
2. The Orientation team helping new permanent staff due in April.

**Abi:**

1. For Abi's plans for the future as she starts to think through options.
2. That Abi would continue to grow into the women of God she is becoming.
3. That we would all be able to hear God talking to us through the bible in a year

**Emma:**

1. That Emma would be able to plan her time well and doesn't become over tired.
2. For Emma's adjustment to her friend leaving the hostel.
3. For Emma's relationship with the hostel parents.

**Isaac:**

1. That Isaac would be able to focus well on the end of term
2. That Isaac would pass his Maths subject.
3. For the assessments in Cairns
4. That we would be able to work out how best to support Isaac.