

# SIMKINS News Letter



APRIL 2026

*Dear family and friends,*

Apologies for the large gap between this newsletter and the last. I have no excuse other than to say that Libby usually writes our newsletters, and this time she asked me to!



We are just coming down off the high of **Joshua** and **Phoebe**'s wedding in Sydney. Most of our extended family was able to come from Europe, and we had a few days of holiday together seeing the sights of Sydney (our first time there!) My parents and brother and Libby's mum were also able to come back to Cairns with us, to see us in our natural habitat! Joshua and Phoebe will be back from their honeymoon in a few days, and we are really happy that they will be living in Cairns for now. Please pray for them as they settle into married life and the unique joys and challenges that it brings.

**Bethany** is in the final days of her degree – just a few weeks of placement and a large portfolio to go. She finishes in June but will formally graduate at the end of the year. I'm sure she would value your prayers for this time and her next steps; it's been a long, hard slog!

**Caleb** continues to work hard towards his Vet degree. It's a very intense, with many hours of lectures and practicals and lots of content to absorb. During the 'holidays' he is often busy with placements so there is not a lot of time for rest. Please pray for stamina for him.

**Ruben** has just gone back to school for Term 2 of Year 8. He was ready to go back – which is good, as he said that our trip to Sydney was the ‘best holiday he ever had’.



**Libby** continues to enjoy her work creating training materials for the Ground Operations team. I (**Daniel**) continue to struggle with energy levels, and I have taken an additional week of leave to recover from the exertions of travel and interacting with people! When I go back to work I expect to be more heavily involved in the Integration process MAF International is currently undergoing. It has been interesting so far to see the varied ways that different parts of the organisation do things! I hope to be involved with helping identify the best ways of doing things on a global basis, and implementing this in the many new locations that are involved. It will no doubt be frustrating and fulfilling in equal measure. We do now have a new Chief Finance Officer, which is a great blessing. Please pray for the senior finance team, as we learn how to work together effectively for the benefit of the wider organisation (and ultimately, for God’s Kingdom).

After a very hard year last year, it has been nice to start this year in a more positive way – it feels unusual to us to have something to celebrate so much. Maybe we’re just too English! Despite the hardships that sometimes come our way, I do continue to be so grateful for all that God has blessed us with over the years. And there have been quite a few! By the time you read this, we will have passed the twenty-year anniversary of our arrival in Tanzania! We continue to be grateful for the prayer and support you have blessed us with over all these years. We trust that the small seeds that we have been given to sow will reap a harvest in due time.

Love to you all. Thank you for your continued prayer and support.

*Daniel, Libby, Joshua & Phoebe, Bethany, Caleb and Ruben*