

Andy and Emma Dipper are serving with Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF). They are seconded from MAF UK to MAF USA whereby Andy is Regional Director for Indonesia which is their largest region of operations. MAF provides access to the most remote regions of the world through light aircraft. Emma supports the MAF team in Indonesia alongside Andy and is working on specific global projects with MAF USA. Emma continues to work in gender-specific religious persecution (the different lived experience between women and men). She is the Asia Regional Director for Gender and Religious Freedom (GRF) and is an international partner and board member with Voice of the Martyrs, Canada (VOMC). She hopes to begin her PhD research eventually!



Charlotte's Farewell in Edinburgh before she flew to Kerala, India.



Jessie & Luke in their Welsh home before their move to Nottingham.

Welcome to our latest update!

We are both making the most of the seasons in the UK with the cooler and shorter days looming before we head towards a steady 32 degrees Celsius with 100% humidity! We returned from the USA in early August whereby Andy had his cataract operations over 3 weeks. The surgery was very straight-forward and his central vision is marginally improved and should continue to adjust in these coming weeks. We have learnt a lot in the last few months including that around 93% of those registered with sight loss have some vision. Please look at this [link](#) to find out more. Since Andy has connected with excellent services and support as a person living with a disability in the UK, MAF have approved our place of home being Marcham in the UK. We have friends living in the house and we will travel from Marcham to Indonesia and spend extended weeks there as well as four visits a year to the USA which is a requirement of Andy's role.

This means the **Dipper Diary** will look *something* like this...

13 Oct fly from UK to Jakarta, Indonesia
20 Oct either Salatiga (where the Language school is based) or Tarakan, Kalimantan programme
16-23 Nov Bali for Indonesia Leadership Team meetings
23 Nov – 2 Dec Emma to India (Kerala, Delhi, Punjab, Orissa and Tamil Nadu)
25 Nov Sentani, Papua programme or Salatiga
Christmas - wherever is most helpful to be in Indonesia. Charlotte and Polly joining us
3 Jan (TBC) UK
18 -31 Jan Nampa, MAF USA
1 Feb UK



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Our New Reality!

Since April, Andy has been busy 'directing' the Indonesia region. There is great expertise within the country with a strong Indonesian team in Jakarta and leaders in each region, so he has been fully engaged with flight programming, budgeting, coaching leaders and dealing with emergencies as they emerge. He works across time zones which is ideal from the UK. This means he can be in meetings from 5am with Indonesia and then be up late speaking with the USA. His mid-mornings are the down times when Indonesia goes to sleep and the USA begins to wake up! Emma gets more involved with pastoral and medical issues as we are used to dealing with crises in tandem. She has been invited to work across the whole of MAF USA addressing how 'spouses' engage more fully in the Mission. She has a proposal to move the position and identity of being a 'spouse' to 'co-workers' to capture and grow the non-aviation vision and activities that many share or desire to be a part of.

Grateful, Despite the Outcome.

Recently one of our MAF pilots shared of a difficult day in which he evacuated a patient from a remote region. The patient had sustained serious injuries yet he made sure that he expressed his thanks to the 'Captain' as he was stretchered to the waiting ambulance. Sadly, hours later our MAF pilot flew back the same man who had died. The care and dignity he gave to that man, despite the outcome, was expressed by his mother as she firmly hugged the pilot and sobbed expressing deep thanks for the flight provided at such a traumatic time in their lives.



Not Forgetting our Persecuted Family.

Emma continues to work with VOMC and Gender & Religious Freedom (GRF). This work is her greatest life giver. She had a short trip to India in July where she visited three partners and saw a range of work from supporting legal cases for Christians facing false allegations to addressing issues in human trafficking as well as strategizing with leaders about a flourishing national women's movement combatting many of these issues. She will return in November and travel extensively to meet leaders and learn together. There are encouraging discussions to work collaboratively to bring some of the issues of forced marriage and trafficking of religious minorities from Pakistan and India to the UN Commission for the Status of Women in March 2025. Prayer, resources and planning are all required!

And Finally...

In 2023 we had many 'commissioning' events to 'send us out'! At our farewell at All Nations, we read,

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Josh 1:9

We have referred to this verse many times. Assuming when we first reflected on it, we were heading to the highly conflicted nation of Afghanistan (Be strong and courageous), then as circumstances dictated, onto the unknown in Indonesian (...God will be with you wherever you



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go.) Now we are in this new rhythm with variations of work patterns, locations and needs we look again with new lens (literally for Andy!). Although we are anxious and discouraged occasionally, we find courage to be strong in our God and to look beyond the immediate and find we are still immensely excited and overwhelmed that we can be a part of God's purposes in Indonesia and beyond. THANK YOU for keeping on flying with us! The turbulence still troubles us, but we are in it together! And He is with us!

Love and thanks,

Andy and Emma

adipper@maf.org
07947399374

edipper@maf.org
07932581962

9 Anson Close
Marcham
Oxfordshire
OX13 6QF

We have a tremendous group of people supporting us financially through giving to MAF as Andy receives an allowance for this role in MAF. If you'd like to contribute then please go to this link.
<https://www.maf-uk.org/get-involved/support-our-staff/andy-and-emma-dipper/>

In addition, another group of generous friends support our family and Emma's work through a Stewardship account where you can give here if you wish.
<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20028006>