



## A new lease of life

Thanks to our aircraft, nurse and MAF staff member Betty Jurgensen was able to fly to a remote Madagascan village with a medical team from HoverAid.

Betty, along with a life-saving team of surgeons, anaesthetists, dentists and an evangelist, visited remote Ampasinambo, in south-eastern Madagascar.

They were there for five days, operating on patients, removing rotten teeth and sharing their faith.

By car, it would have taken the team about four days to reach the village. By plane, it only took 45 minutes.

The aim of the medical safari, which lasted five days, was to enable isolated communities to receive expert medical care.



PHOTOS: GINO ANTSAIANA RANDRIANASOLO

'Once we were there,' explains Betty, who has served in Madagascar for over two years, 'local villagers came to help us transport all the equipment to the health centre. It took about 20 minutes and involved crossing 2 rivers.'

Some of the patients came from the surrounding area, with many walking for days in order to obtain help in a region where healthcare is scarce.

Betty says they encountered many infectious diseases during the medical consultations 'because it's an area which is endemic to malaria.'

After being examined, one of the patients — a teenage girl with cerebral malaria — was admitted to hospital where, after receiving the

appropriate medication, she soon regained health.

While people were being examined, the missionary shared the Gospel and prayed for the patients, their families and the villagers.

'People,' Betty continues, 'came to the consultation almost dead, and left two days later very much alive again.'

'For me,' she concludes, 'it was a very powerful experience seeing MAF's impact and how important we are for people — physically and spiritually.'

'What we're doing is having a major impact. The work is important because we can bring help, hope and healing wherever we go.'

### Pause for prayer

Please uphold Betty Jurgensen and her husband Michael, who, as our Madagascar programme's Country Director, is responsible for 24 staff. Pray too for our regular medical safaris as they provide healthcare and share Christ with those they meet. May our witness and work continue to be a blessing there.

### Volunteer with MAF

Our volunteers tell us they love being part of MAF's exciting story and we're so grateful for all that they do. If you'd like to join their ranks, we'll do everything we can to support you. Roles vary from church representatives and speakers to events volunteers. To find out more, visit [www.maf-uk.org/volunteer](http://www.maf-uk.org/volunteer)

### MAF shop

Looking to buy a gift for someone whilst supporting a charity at the same time? Or perhaps you fancy treating yourself! You can find a variety of different items such as books, water bottles, socks, T-shirts and more. Just take a look at the items available from [www.maf-uk.org/shop](http://www.maf-uk.org/shop)