



FLIGHT LOG

May 2025

ANDY AITCHISON

King Charles unveils new MAF plane

On 3 April 2025, His Majesty King Charles III unveiled MAF's newest aircraft at RAF Northolt to celebrate our 80th anniversary.

Pressing a bright red button, the King revealed the latest addition to our fleet — a new Cessna 208 Caravan, which increases our Papua New Guinea (PNG) fleet to 11 Cessna 208s.

Our programme there reaches over 200 airstrips and enables about 70 Christian and humanitarian organisations to provide medical care, Gospel materials, technological solutions and education to remote indigenous communities.

Speaking at this significant royal event, MAF UK Chief Executive Donovan Palmer remarked, 'Meeting and having the support of the King is a privilege and his love for the people of PNG was evident.

'MAF,' Donovan continued, 'is committed to the long-term support of PNG, with previously isolated villages having been transformed, modernised and connected to the outside world, some for the first time.'

Her Excellency Betty Palaso, the High Commissioner of PNG to the UK, thanked King Charles, saying, 'On MAF's 80th anniversary and PNG's 50th independence anniversary this year, let me sincerely acknowledge His Majesty for today's momentous occasion and express our deepest gratitude to MAF's profound commitment and dedication to the people of PNG since 1951.

'The country has immensely benefited from your services over the years. We salute you for your outstanding work and your generosity to Papua New Guinea.'

Other attendees included various

PNG nationals, MAF International CEO Dave Fyock and PNG Country Director Dom Sant.

'Being invited to the UK to meet the King,' said MAF pilot and PNG national Joseph Tua, 'means everything to me. I am unbelievably grateful to MAF for the opportunity to stand shoulder to shoulder with such a renowned organisation.'

We look forward to using our newest plane to do even more for a nation where 64% of the rural population sadly lacks access to clean water.

Give thanks for this special anniversary event with His Majesty King Charles unveiling our plane and meeting with MAF staff and members of the PNG community. Pray that the plane will prove a real blessing to PNG's people and that God will bless the nation during its 50th year of independence.

Pray for MAF

Would you like to become an MAF prayer partner? We have a variety of different resources on our website to inspire you to pray for MAF's work. To sign up for our *Prayer Diary*, *News for Prayer* newsletter or *MAF Devotions*, please visit www.maf-uk.org/pray

New podcast episode

In our special 80th anniversary edition, Trustee and former pilot Max Gove and Country Director Lisa Blomberg — who heads up MAF's newest programme in Guinea — turn back the clock to navigate MAF's most memorable milestones. Listen to episode 11 at www.maf-uk.org/podcast



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