

*Family get together in Mt. Hagen · Obura – A week in the bush · Coffee · Mumu · Move to Goroka · Building of our house · 60 hrs flight training · Flying the Mountains*

## MOUNT HAGEN

It was first time together for all the family in PNG. We took mid-summer break in Mount Hagen, PNG, where MAF has its head office and where our orientation began



As part of getting ready for our move to Goroka, Paul worked in the hanger in Hagen to qualify for pilot maintenance privileges, as Goroka does not have maintenance facilities

## OBURA

As part of our orientation, MAF dropped us off at a bush village, Obura. We spent a week isolated from the outside world. Thinking it was not going to be fun – but hard work, we ended up enjoying it immensely, even without electricity.



We stayed at an old EBC mission house where Pastor Anda took care of all our needs.



## COFFEE

A big part of village economy is coffee growing. MAF aircraft pickup coffee beans, sell them on the open market in Goroka, and deliver back to the village supplies from local stores. This support is vital to these communities.



Coffee Pickup



## Life is hard in the village

During our stay, the national elections were happening. The next village to Obura had blocked the track because their candidate was not doing so well. Thank the Lord Obura has an airstrip as a life line



Pastor Anda is making Tristan a Banara and Spia (Bow and Arrow) from bamboo including the bow string



## TEA

Tea is a major produce of PNG. Coffee is usually too expensive for the nationals to purchase, as their part in the coffee making process does not extend to roasting coffee in the villages. No. 1 Tea is a national drink.



Clare and Tris shop for Kumu (Choko vines), a plentiful local produce in the Obura market



## MUMU

We invited our hosts for a Mumu. This is an underground oven. After a wood fire has burned for an hour, banana leaves cover the coals. Then add Vegetables and Kakaruk (Chicken). Banana leaves protect the food from the covering of earth. The result is a pressure oven in which cooking takes an hour, however it took us all day to build the Mumu and prepare food. Here children as young as three pluck the feathers off the Kakaruk





## MUMU



Mumu now cooking a feast for at least 20 people



## GOROKA

After Obura we flew to Goroka where we are now based. MAF informed us they had started work on the roof of our house. This brought images of being nearly complete. Not so!



Captain Philip Sutter provides a passenger brief as we depart Obura. He sits on 700kg of coffee for MAF to sell for the Obura community



## FLYING the MOUNTAINS

After working on the house for two weeks, Paul started four weeks of intensive mountain flight training. Volker Jacobsen, a former Chief Pilot in PNG and now Manager of MAF's Flight School in Melbourne came up as mentor and instructor. During this time, they flew together in a Cessna Turbo Charged 206 for 60 hours in the mountains

The airstrip we are about to land on is in the circle.



Paul has just passed and been checked to fly solo for MAF in PNG flight operations





Thanks for all your prayers and support

**Please pray for**

Good health – Tristan and many MAF families in Goroka have a nasty flu like bug

Safe Flying – Paul is now flying solo in the mountains and the weather is shocking right now

House progress – there are many obstacles to completing the house including more supplies needed from the Port of Lae and the arrival of a much needed wood working machine to complete the windows

For Paul's dad – who has been quite ill this year and has just come out of hospital

For Aaron – who will be travelling next week from boarding school in Australia to PNG on his own

For Tristan – as he continues to settle in the New Tribes Mission school in Goroka

For Kiri – who is starting exams at university

For Imogen – who is about to go on her first university hospital assignment as a nurse

In Him – Paul, Clare, Kiri, Imogen, Aaron, Tristan, Imogen

**Donations and Supporter Relations**

Obura

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