

Woodington



Easter in the Highlands



Twin Otter Pilot, Richard Marples and I, receives a headdress as a thank you for serving the people of Black Wara this Easter

EASTER Thanks

Landing in the bush can be surprising. This Easter Richard Marples and I were very surprised when we landed at Black Wara in PNG to find a warm reception waiting (very hot there). The people had donned traditional dress and danced around the Twin Otter once it landed.

We were each presented with a headdress made of Feathers from local birds as a big show of their appreciation.

We were to uplift over 20 local people and take them to Eliptamin, another bush location, where a Baptist Easter bung (gathering) in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ was held.

Graduation

This May, Clare and I are travelling to Melbourne for a week to attend the Kiri's graduation following her completing a BSc Honours last year.
Well done Honey.





Goroka Fires

Eight shops were burnt down earlier this year. A cooking fire caught light to a shop and spread very quickly until all eight shops were ablaze. This is a great loss to Goroka.

FOOD Challenges

Clare and Tris continue to go to NTM school each day, Clare looking after the library and also looking after me - I (Paul) am quite heavy maintenance when I fly as Clare makes sure I have enough water (3 litres of boiled and filtered water) plus enough food for the day which will not go bad in the heat and humidity, so all meats and dairy are out. Food has to be small nibbles contained in plastic locked bags, so that I can eat without my hands ever touching the food. So apples for instance are not an option.



STARBUCKS Coffee

Coffee prices are starting to recover since Brazil is in drought. Next time you have a Starbucks, remember us sweating away in our plane shifting 36 bags of 50 kg coffee at a time within the confined place of the plane. We handle it three times before it reaches the factory, sometimes 14 flights per day.

The locals who grow it, pick-it, carry it in from the bush, remove all the husk, then dry and bag it, carry it maybe for a day across the bush to the airstrip, receive \$1 (50p) a kilogram. This increase in coffee price not only allows the communities to start operating again, purchasing much needed food and medical supplies, but also the Rascals are on the prowl.

These are opportunists, thieves, who like to steal coffee. MAF in Goroka is the main pathway from the bush to the factory. Rascals assume we store coffee awaiting collection, which we try not to. Nevertheless, in the last month, our guards have been tied up twice at gunpoint and the hanger broken into using large bolt cutters. Once a small amount of coffee was taken, but in doing so they left their bolt cutters? These are very expensive, much more so than a bag of coffee. But, if you have a 50 kg coffee bag on your back, then cutters maybe too much!



"Two NTM families returning to their bush location of Deningat on board the Twin Otter"

Paul helping a 'sick mary' on a bush stretcher, having just flown her in.



"We fly several hundred MEDEVAC flights each year in PNG, this is an important part of our service here."

Support and Donations

Would you like to receive family updates? We send them out every three or four months.

support@woodington.com

Donations, if God has laid upon your heart a desire to support us and our Family in the work of our Lord in MAF, please

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Woodington, May 2014

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"A Room with a View"

