



## A Rather Busy Month

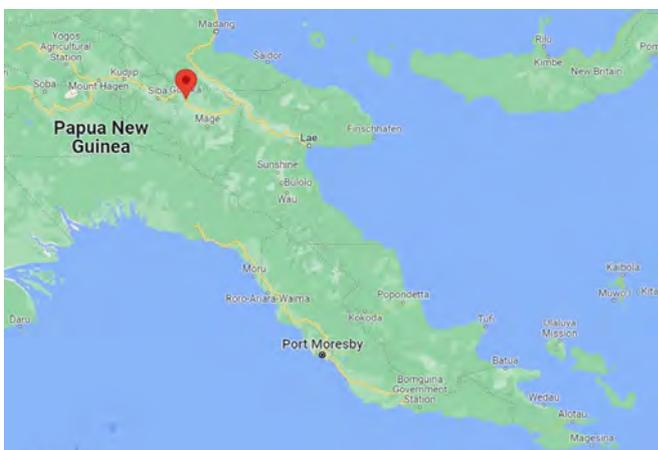
Tales of a Missionary by David & Caroline Moore

Welcome to our February Newsletter 2022

Thank you for signing up to receive these, for your prayers and to those of you who are giving financial support. We are so grateful to have you on our team as we serve in PNG.

**“Many Christians hear stories of God at work and think he could never use them that way because they aren't super-Christians. The truth is, there are no super-Christians. There are only normal people who have said yes to God.” Darren Wilson - God Adventures.**

### 2 weeks becomes a Month in Goroka



This month our time has been taken up by a trip to our second largest Base in Goroka.

Goroka is the capital of the Eastern Highlands province and home to some 19,000 people, and is 1,600 meters above sea level. It has a large airport and is on the "Highlands Highway", about 285 km from Lae in Morobe province and approx 190km from Mount Hagen.

By road from Mount Hagen it takes around 4 $\frac{1}{4}$  hours by bus, though timings are interesting as the busses arrive in Hagen late morning after a 12 hour journey up from Lae, via Goroka overnight. After a couple of hours rest the drivers then head back out of Mount Hagen around 14:00 expecting to be in Goroka around 18:00 - 18:30 where they will again rest for about an hour before driving overnight to Lae (apparently there is less trouble on the road overnight) arriving in the early morning having in 36 Hours driven around 1,000Km, and then after a day off do the whole thing again.

But for us in a MAF plane the same trip takes around 45-50 minutes by air.

At Goroka we have a hanger and fairly large base, which we started refurbishing at the end of last year and normally have 5 pilots and two planes based there. From this base we cover the country down to Madang & Lae, and much of our Area Health Patrol work in the Gulf Province.



An early morning start

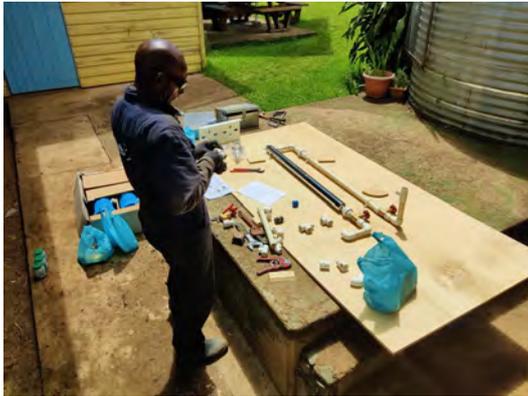


and a rather full plane Simeon & Felix are in there somewhere

On this occasion as Caroline had been unwell (with another bout of Giardia followed by a Mumps like virus) I headed off to Goroka with Felix (Our PVM supervisor) and Simeon (our plumber), planning to be on site with them for around 2 weeks installing some new much needed water filtration. After the two weeks Simeon and Felix would then be heading onto Madang in the Morobe province to carry out some gutter and roofing works to the main hanger and base buildings, and I had hoped after a few days with Caroline to be heading back to Hagen.

Meanwhile we have also had a team out in Wewak in the Sepik region on the North Coast and at Kiunga in the Western Province

# Water Filtration work begins



Where to Begin



Installation of the first Pre filtration

Unfortunately whilst Goroka is a fairly major town like much of PNG its infrastructure is gradually declining through lack of investment and the town water in the area has developed quite a poor reputation, and become a regular source for sickness and diarrhoea, as well as other illness such as typhoid. This has sadly meant MAF have had to review and purchase water filtration and UV treatment systems for our staff housing there and are now relying almost entirely on captured rainwater.

This has meant the need to install pre filtration to get water as clean as possible before it gets to our storage tanks and then post filtration to both clean and remove any parasites and bacteria/viruses from the water.

Whilst this is proving quite a costly process for MAF it is by far cheaper than losing pilots to sickness and being unable to fly, or worse Families being unable to cope with living and serving in country.



A lost water pump cage key



Haus 4's Filtration nears completion

# Caroline's visit to Ukarumpa



Caroline Arrives in Goroka



3 Days Later she heads out to Aiyura

Caroline joined me in Goroka, and took the opportunity to visit our friend and colleague Jo Crotty who is currently working as a teacher at the SIL missionary children's school at Ukarumpa. This has helped MAF to reopen a children's hostel there, which helps MAF families not to leave the mission field in order to find schooling for their children. You may remember that Jo was on our Orientation, Security and Language training, so has been on this adventure with us from the beginning.



Caroline Heads to Aiyura



A few Days with Jo Crotty

## New Tanks and Old



Felix busy multi tasking the whole time on the phone to the team back in Hagen

A large part of our work has been about getting the stored water clean by adding leaf filters and first flush filters (these remove debris from the roof and leaf matter and prevent it getting to the tanks).

This has also meant the older tanks have had to be drained, removed cleaned and then re-instated.

As part of our review we have also added one further tank adding an additional 3500 Litre of rainwater storage to the site (about another 5%) which should assist the families during dry season when it has been common to run out of rainwater, forcing families to have to use the rather dodgy town water.

The new filtration systems however have been designed to deal not just with the rain water but will also treat the town water should it be required.



The old dirty tanks where possible were drained tipped over and cleaned

## Back to Goroka via Wonenara



On Caroline's way back to Goroka from Ukarumpa/Ayura, she had a dramatic flight visiting the remote village of Wonenara. A short, steep grass airstrip on a slope with mountains all around! Elevation 1,500 m above sea level, 450 m long and a 9% slope

Pilot Tim Neufeld delivered trade store goods and flew out coffee which helps the villagers pay for schooling, health care and essential goods.

Do watch the video of the landing.

## Meanwhile now on Haus 5



Installation of a First Flush Filter

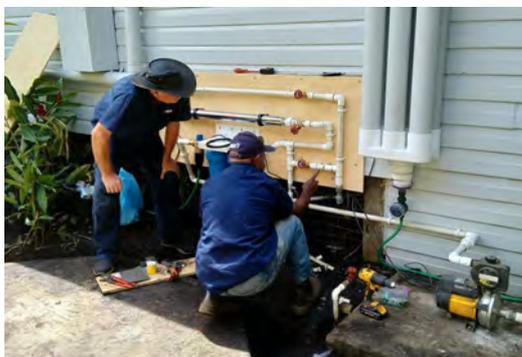


Pre Assembly of the main Filtration

The design of the filtration system has come about as a result of my some 30 years of experience working with recycled water, even as an apprentice and at a plating works as well as at Eden and Heartlands, and our home in Cornwall being on treated well water.

By using this experience, old contacts in the UK and new ones in Australia we have put together a six stage filtration and water treatment system

If you have any further questions or interest in these systems please do contact me and I can share more especially as I am shortly hoping to begin conversations with the manufacturers about how we can role this out on a wider scale across the programme here in PNG



Felix and Dave deal with some small leaks



The completed Haus 5 system goes live

# And then there was Covid

As Covid unfortunately worked its way through some of the MAF team at Goroka Caroline and I along with a small number of others did manage to remain negative throughout the 7-10 days that followed of precautionary isolation as close contacts.

Which in all added almost 2 weeks to our stay, fortunately allowing us to get Caroline to the Doctors at NTM as she has remained unwell throughout the last 6-8 weeks, and is now undergoing a number of tests for high inflammatory markers.

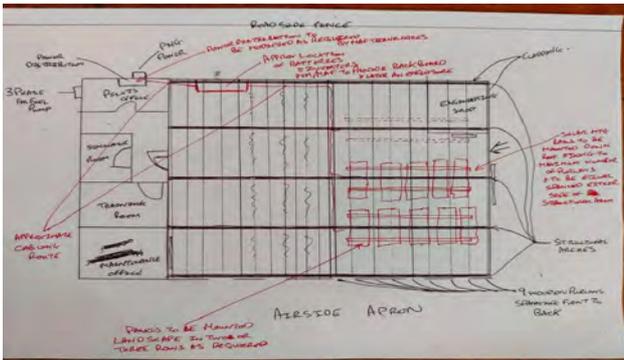
Fortunately both Simeon and Felix had left for Madang just a few days before and also remained healthy during the remainder of their working trip in Madang.

## and at the same time



In tandem to the water filtration work whilst I have been in Goroka I have also been working closely with our partners at MAF Technology (formerly CRMF) on the installation of a new Alarm system at the base as you may remember we had a break in last year.

Alongside this, and just as important, has been the design and installation of a 9kW Solar and Battery System, and shortly to be commissioned, allowing Goroka to become our first base able to operate almost entirely independently of the unreliable PNG Power network, and kindly funded by MAF Germany.



# Then Finally back to Hagen

Our last night as a thank you to the MAF families in Goroka we brought and shared pizza together as a thank you for them taking care of us and in mini celebration of everyone now being clear of Covid



## Continued Prayer Please

Continued Prayer for Caroline would continue to be appreciated

The extended stay at Goroka did enable Caroline to visit the New Tribes Mission Doctor at Lapilo. Extreme exhaustion, diarrhoea, and an extremely swollen throat, indicated that I was not 'just getting over a virus'. I was able to have blood tests and an ultra sound on my Thyroid. The blood test for thyroid has to be sent to Australia, but the ones they could do showed extremely high inflammatory indicators. The doctor said I have Systemic Inflammation, and put me on 14 days of steroids. I need a further visit to try to diagnose the course and hope to find some treatment.

## Praise & Prayer

Praise God For:

- Visit to New Tribes Doctor
- New team members
- Many works on hand progressing
- God's guidance for Cathy

Please pray for:

- Caroline's health to improve and a diagnoses and treatment that enables us to continue to work in PNG
- Health and wholeness for the whole team as Covid has been an issue across PNG
- The many plans underway to improve and upgrade facilities for the future
- Safety as there is an increase of crime and violence as it is an election year

Thank you

- Your giving and prayers are so appreciated, and thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter.