

## Tackling Violence in PNG

**New Forest family on a pit stop visit from 'exciting' MAF mission**

Tracy and Fraser Norbury — who traded a cosy New Forest cottage and successful careers to work for MAF in Papua New Guinea (PNG) — say their new life is 'exciting, surprising, and deeply fulfilling,' despite encountering golden orb spiders and tackling endemic violence against women.

The couple are in the UK for two months to share stories from Mount Hagen, where they relocated in 2021 with their children Primrose (6) and Oliver (8). They have witnessed violence in the streets, and are passionate about working with MAF to demonstrate peace and acceptance. According to Human Rights Watch, a woman is physically assaulted every 30



seconds in PNG, yet Tracy felt called to move there after reading reports about gender-based violence.

The former literacy tutor who now oversees MAF's Training and Development in PNG says, 'I couldn't un-read the harrowing stories, and thought, "I can't not go to help." It's really powerful to know that MAF is making a difference to so many women in rural areas.'

Earlier this year, MAF launched a new initiative with the PNG Tribal Foundation, enabling interactive workshops to reach rural communities, and engaging with male tribe leaders who are beginning to pledge not to beat their wives.

As headlines celebrate the box-office success of the film Barbie, Tracy has been struck by the cultural contrasts. 'In the UK,' she explains, 'women are fully free to express themselves. In the Highlands of PNG, women wear huge, concealing dresses and can't hold hands with men in public.'

Fraser, who left a stable accounting career to become Head of Finance for MAF PNG, says the 8,000-mile move has 'scratched an adventurous itch.' He said he 'was itching to travel, and wanted to work in a professional role that did something good for the world. Just looking at the flight list and seeing that every single day, something incredible is happening in the air is extremely fulfilling.'

### Pause for prayer

It's thought that PNG is one of the most dangerous places to be a woman, with gender-based violence more than double the global average. Please pray for MAF staff like the Norburys who are helping MAF use aviation and technology to reach rural communities with the love of Christ, along with practical interventions to protect women.

### Your response

In 2022, MAF performed 62 emergency medevac flights in PNG — many of them for women who'd been critically injured. One of them was for 12-year-old Ruth, whose life was saved by MAF. You can help make flights like this possible by giving a gift to MAF's September campaign. Visit [www.maf-uk.org/ruth](http://www.maf-uk.org/ruth) to give a special gift.

### Are you itching for an adventure?

If, like the Norburys, you feel prompted to leave your life in the UK and investigate an adventure with MAF — you're in luck! MAF is running an Explore Day this month at Turweston Aerodrome, Buckinghamshire, on 23 September. Visit [www.maf-uk.org/explore23](http://www.maf-uk.org/explore23) to find out more about this free event.