

# Annual Report 2023



**MAF Australia**

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*a message from*

# The Board Chair



“

**Our focus has been on establishing new leadership that will continue to advance the ministry of MAF - through prayer, people, provision, and promotion.”**

As Chair of the MAF Australia Board, it is my joy to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year.

In 2023, Mission Aviation Fellowship Australia experienced many transitions, bidding farewell to valued members and welcoming new faces.

As a Board, we joined on many occasions throughout this season of change, in fervent prayer as we sought God's leading.

Our focus has been on establishing new leadership that will continue to advance the ministry of MAF, through prayer, people, provision, and promotion.

In May of last year, we were thrilled to announce Chris Barnes as CEO, bringing a wealth of experience, passion, and energy to MAF's mission. We thank God for answered prayer, and for the wonderful team who work tirelessly on behalf of those we serve. A special mention of gratitude to Kelvin, who graciously stepped into the role of Interim General Manager during this season.

Looking ahead, our global MAF teams have recognised the urgency to invest in new planes to meet future needs effectively. The Fleet Renewal Project is already underway, and we are committed to work with our global counterparts to raise the necessary funds to see that our fleet is fit for the future. We acknowledge the significant financial challenge before us, but believe that with God it is possible.

As we look to this new year, we remain steadfast in our understanding that this is God's work, knowing that without Him, we can do nothing (John 15:5).

Thank you for your partnership. Together, we'll continue to bring help, hope and healing to remote communities now and into the future.

To God be the glory.



**Ian McBride**  
Board Chair,  
MAF Australia.



# a message from The CEO



“

**It's not just about  
fuelling planes; it's  
about fuelling hope.**

It's with gratitude to God that I reflect on the past year as the CEO of MAF Australia. Stepping into this role has been a privilege, and I am deeply thankful for the warm welcome and support from the wonderful team and supporter base.

It's been a big year of change, welcoming a number of capable and enthusiastic newcomers to the team while farewelling a number who leave behind a legacy of service to MAF Australia. Amidst the change, I've been proud of the commitment of our staff. Together, we have been able to recruit 11 people to the MAF International program - the largest number in a single year yet.

Your dedication to prayer and your commitment financially has allowed us to continue in our mission to bring practical help and spiritual care to people in isolated communities.

In particular, our Fuel for Father's Day campaign this year was a resounding success thanks to the participation of more than 530 churches. Through the 5,600 gifted jerry can cards, we raised a total of \$280,000. That translates to 112,000 litres of fuel - enough to put planes in the air for an astonishing 1,800 hours.

That's not just a number, it's a lifeline for the communities we serve.

In March this year, I had the privilege of spending some time with the team in Arnhem Land. It's an honour to serve these remote communities, to build connections, and to work alongside Indigenous Australians demonstrating the practical and passionate care that Jesus has for the Yolngu people.

All of us at MAF are very grateful for your support to fund this work. It is your generosity that is enabling generational change by helping to provide access, education and opportunity for the young people in these communities.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge your contribution in funding the solar panels for Wewak. Once installed, these solar panels will provide 24/7 power to the MAF families and operations in PNG, enabling MAF's long-term support in the area.

We thank you for your prayers and your partnership. It's not just about fuelling planes; it's about fuelling hope. You are collectively delivering basic needs, providing crucial medical support, and sharing the life-changing message of Jesus.

With gratitude,




**Dr. Chris Barnes**  
CEO, MAF Australia



Flying for life in 2023

# Your Impact

 Global Flights

A MAF plane takes off and lands every

**5.6** minutes

**9,400**

Nautical miles flown every day

**47,290**

Flight legs

**36,545**

Hours flying

**6.3** million kilometres

Distance flown

**135,630**

Passengers

 Fleet

**117**

Aircraft

**87**

Cessna planes

 Partnerships

**1,500**

Organisations

**1,400**

MAF Staff

 Destinations

**29**

Countries served

**42**

Countries with MAF presence

**24**

MAF flight programs

**1,049**

Total destinations





Medical care

# Fuelling life saving flights



**We are immensely  
thankful to MAF.**

– William's Father

**Because of you, MAF has facilitated  
countless missions that have brought help,  
hope and healing in the past year.**

Thanks to your generosity, MAF in Timor-Leste, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and National Ambulance Service, conducted 207 medevacs in 2023.

As the sole air ambulance service in Timor-Leste, MAF serves as a lifeline for patients in remote areas, transporting them to Guido Valadares National Hospital in the capital city of Dili—the country's only hospital.

Among these missions is that of a one-year-old boy, William, who was suffering with a severe lung condition, requiring urgent specialised medical care. With every second being critical, MAF's intervention was vital as the child's home on Atauro Island was separated from the medical facilities in Dili by 30 km of water.

The child's father expressed his gratitude to the pilots, stating, "We are immensely thankful to MAF because, at that moment, the ocean waves were treacherous, and we were unable to transport him by boat."



**Timor-Leste  
2023 Stats**



**207**  
Medevacs



**545**  
Hours flown



**3,412**  
Passengers



**87,161**  
Distance flown  
(kilometres)

*Total data for all flights in Timor-Leste  
over 2023.*





## Education

# Empowering youth in rural communities



**If it wasn't for MAF, these students wouldn't be here. We wouldn't be able to run our program.**

– Sophie Grambeau, Teacher

**In 2023, MAF in Arnhem Land undertook 641 education flights, flying a total of 693 hours and carrying 2,553 passengers to and from homeland schools.**

That is an average of 16 flights a week during school terms.

Driving to school could consume up to 40% of the week! These flights facilitate teachers' travel to homeland schools and enable high school students to board at Garrthalala's Makarrata College.

"If it wasn't for MAF, these students wouldn't be here, we wouldn't be able to run our program," says Secondary Programs Teacher, Sophie Grambeau. "There's been times where we've seen pilots walk into a community that's one kilometre away to check if the students are there, so they don't miss the plane for school."

Thank you for contributing to our tax appeal in 2023 in order to continue this essential service in 2024.



## Arnhem Land 2023 Stats



**641**  
Education flights



**3,000**  
Hours flown



**13,282**  
Passengers



**549,020**  
Distance flown  
(kilometres)

Total data for all flights in Arnhem Land over 2023.





Christian ministry

# Making the Good News accessible



**I am truly grateful to MAF Technologies for their ongoing support.**

– Pastor at Fellowship of National Bible Churches

**MAF Technologies continue to support remote churches to promote transformation and strengthening of faith in Christ through Bible distributions.**

Addressing PNG's literacy challenges (61.6% literacy rate), MAF actively enhances Bible accessibility by delivering solar-powered audio Bibles to isolated northern communities. This initiative allows villagers to easily listen to God's word in their native language at the press of a button.

In October 2023, in collaboration with Fellowship of National Bible Churches (FNBC), MAF PNG flew hundreds of these Bibles to Morobe Province. Accompanying these audio Bibles, one of FNBC's pastors offered an opportunity to go deeper in discovering the Bible.

He said: "The printed and audio Bibles have been an instrumental tool to help comprehend the Word of God and I am truly grateful to MAF Technologies for their ongoing support." As a result of this initiative, more than 170 gave their lives to Christ and were baptised.



## Papua New Guinea 2023 Stats



**70**  
Organisations served



**5,719**  
Hours flown



**35,251**  
Passengers



**1 million+**  
Distance flown  
(kilometres)

*Total data for all flights in Papua New Guinea over 2023.*





## Engineering

# Fuelling help, hope and healing



**The Mareeba hangar carried out 38 maintenance jobs on 17 different aircraft in 2023.**

Engineering Administrator, Faith Blanch says “2023 was a productive year for us. We had planes from Arnhem Land, Papua New Guinea, and Timor-Leste at the MAF Training Centre here in Mareeba. We had engineers from other country programs around the world join the team here to share their experience and expertise.”

The maintenance hub in Mareeba plays an important role in keeping MAF planes flying, and sending skilled engineers to support our mission to bring hope, help and healing to isolated communities.

A key maintenance event in 2023 was the work undertaken on the Indonesian registered aircraft PK-MAD. This was a joint effort between MAF US Engineers and Pilots, the Mareeba team, and the externally contracted aircraft painter.

Another key milestone for the team was the purchase of VH-LZT which is being used as a training aircraft by our Mareeba Training Centre.

Thank you for supporting the ongoing maintenance work at the Mareeba hangar over this past year.

## MAFI Staff 2023 Stats



**1,400**  
Total staff



**125**  
Pilots



**71**  
Mechanics



**85**  
Maintenance  
Technicians or  
Engineers

*Total data for MAFI over 2023.*



# Financials 2023

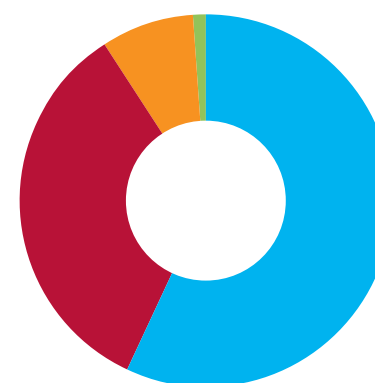
## Consolidated Financial Activity

MAF Australia and its controlled entities.

\$000's

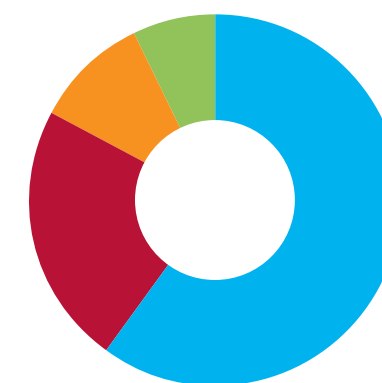
<b>Income</b>	<b>\$5,310</b>
Staff Sponsorships	\$1,825
Donations	\$2,999
Gifts-in-Wills	\$411
Other	\$75
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>\$6,743</b>
Program Distributions	\$4,045*
Local Program Expenses	\$471
Fundraising	\$1,549
Admin & Accountability	\$678
<b>Deficit</b>	<b>(\$1,433)</b>

\* Program Expenses include Program Distributions and Local Program Expenses.



**Income**      \$5.3m

<b>57%</b>	Donations
<b>34%</b>	Staff Sponsorships
<b>8%</b>	Gifts-in-Wills
<b>1%</b>	Other



**Expenditure**      \$6.7m

<b>60%</b>	Program Distributions**
<b>23%</b>	Fundraising
<b>10%</b>	Admin & Accountability
<b>7%</b>	Local Program Expenses**

\*\* Program Expenses include Program Distributions and Local Program Expenses.

For more information please call our office on 1800 650 169.





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