

# Teaching in Madagascar with MAF

## Mission Aviation Fellowship

Kristina Tipper is no stranger to mission life. Growing up in a missionary family, she spent her childhood in Thailand and gave her life to Christ at an early age. Returning to New Zealand, her home country, she qualified as a secondary Science and Technology teacher. After four years of teaching, Kristina spent a year at Bible college before returning to the classroom.

Kristina met and married John. As they prayed about their future, they knew God was calling them into service with MAF. Four months after their wedding, they moved to Madagascar. Before moving, Kristina had been hoping to continue her teaching career. But trying to organise a new job from thousands of miles away proved to be a difficult and stressful task. It was then that she heard God telling her to stop trying and to leave it with Him.



John and Kristina



Kristina with some students and training teachers from Vision Valley School



Grade 5 and 6 at work

## Vision Valley School

One week after their arrival in Antananarivo, Madagascar's Capital, Kristina met a couple who were working at Vision Valley School and they shared the urgent need for a teacher. There was one problem: Kristina was a secondary school teacher, but most of the Vision Valley pupils were primary school age. But God already had it planned. The children needing a teacher were aged 11–13.

Although the two main languages spoken in Madagascar are French and Malagasy, Kristina is able to teach her classes in English. She teaches at

*one student asked if she could take a Bible home, another went to church for the first time*

the school three days a week. The pupils are a mix of missionary children and underprivileged Malagasy children who would otherwise not get the chance of an education. 'It is a real joy to work here and to be involved in the ministry to largely non-Christian families and students,' beams Kristina.

## More information

Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) has been operating light aircraft in Madagascar since 1989, serving the needs of the national churches, missions, relief and development agencies which bring vital food, medical supplies and Christian care to the millions of people who are cut off from basic necessities.

MAF was formed in 1945 by former World War II air force personnel in recognition that aircraft could be used to bring help and hope to those in isolation.

Today MAF's worldwide fleet includes over 130 aircraft operating in more than 30 countries. Every three minutes, an MAF plane is taking off or landing somewhere in the world.

In the UK, MAF is a registered charity funded by voluntary gifts which help finance operational work and support services.

On occasions MAF has teaching vacancies. For more information about the work of MAF, please write to: Mission Aviation Fellowship, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2TN T: 01303 850950 E: [supporter.relations@maf-uk.org](mailto:supporter.relations@maf-uk.org) W: [www.maf-uk.org](http://www.maf-uk.org)



## Exciting things

'Five of my students are from non-Christian homes,' she remarks. 'There are so many exciting things happening in the school; one student asked if she could take a Bible home, another went to church for the first time.'

Kristina is clearly excited about what she does. She enthuses, 'It is great for me to be able to serve God and continue the career I love somewhere as beautiful and exciting as Madagascar. Wow!'

■ Emma Stewart