



...FOR
THOSE
BEYOND
REACH

NEWSLETTER

READY FOR THE JOURNEY?

DREAM TO REALITY

We have all heard of the famous Martin Luther King Jr. speech “I have a dream....” A dream that led to a more fortunate life for many. Well, we all have dreams – for a better life, a better world. God puts His dreams and desires upon our hearts.

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HFA started with a dream as well, a dream of reaching the many isolated peoples who have never heard the name of Jesus – by using aviation and technology. And what began as a dream over ten years ago, became a reality. A small group of Jesus-followers got to work and used their God given talents and skills to create solutions to help answer the call that all peoples would hear of the Good News of Jesus Christ. One such solution being an autonomous boat – a water drone – to ‘ship’ the Gospel message across oceans to reach the many otherwise unreachable people.

Just like God called Noah to build an Ark, the *HFA* team received a call to build a ‘boat’, and this they did. Over the years, God has drawn together a team with various operational and technical skills from welders to aviation and mechanical engineers, to creative technical designers, and electronic and IT-experts to bring into reality what was once just a dream. Many hours have been spent under the hot and cold tin roof of a simple workshop designing, cutting, welding, wiring, programming, painting, and much, much more; including testing on a lake and troubleshooting issues with much hair-pulling to finally see this dream become real!

We may not think we have the skills or abilities God needs. But He never wastes anything. God draws together our skills and talents so that His Glory may be known to the ends of the earth. God calls us all to be a part of His team. By saying yes to Jesus, we are all called; and it is a privilege to partner with God on His mission.

God equips the called, so whatever part of God’s mission He is calling you to, He will train and equip you. He did this for me, and He can do it for you. What desires and dreams has He placed on your heart?

I am sure just like Noah, the *HFA* team thought that building a boat to carry the Gospel message might be impossible. But when we dream with God, nothing is impossible for Him!



Perhaps there are dreams you have laid down because it seemed just too hard, you did not feel equipped, or you were told it was impossible; but with God.....

Psalm 37:4 says:

“Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.”

His dreams become our dreams.

Kate
COO

OFFICE TO JUNGLE

“Ready for your trip? ”, John* asked me by text message.

“Really looking forward to it!”, I typed back.

However, this trip to South America wouldn't be a holiday! HFA had already worked with our partners — a not-for-profit-organisation focusing on remote jungle areas – for ten years and I was frequently communicating with them but this would be my first face-to-face meeting and trip to the jungle.

A team member's words were still in my mind: *“try not to get eaten by a jaguar!”* So, in our church small group I found myself voicing my main prayer request: *“that I'd come home after the trip!”* Not exactly inspirational stuff but for me this was the reality of leaving home, family and flying to the other side of the world.

Still, the indigenous people our partners are endeavouring to reach with the saving message of Christ live in inaccessible areas and without our help they may not be reached at this time.

Arriving at the capital after my trip half-way around the world, I received a very warm welcome. Shortly after, our partner organisation and several other invited guests met in an outside courtyard for a seminar. I soon found out: in South America nothing much moves without food and lots of talking.



For boat testing, the IT specialist had to be creative to see the screen in the bright sunlight.

The topics we discussed ranged from my update on the water drone we're building in Australia for Bible deliveries to a closed country, to Government and tribal perspectives on the work of our partners. *“One of our key values is being transparent with the Government,”* a board member stressed. *“This is vital in order to be received as a credible organisation. Only this way we'll get permission to operate in areas where unreached people are.”*

“Distributing the Bible and telling people the plan of salvation is the whole reason we exist,” John stated. This sums up where the hearts and minds of our organisations unite. At HFA, we assist teams in various countries to reach unreached people with the Gospel, using aviation and technology. For several years now, we've supplied John and his team with technology, know-how and sometimes funds to charter aircraft. It was time to discuss new ideas as to how HFA could help.

With the seminar over and preparations finalised we headed to the local airport for a series of late night to early morning flights. As the airplanes took us deep into the jungle, the scenery below us changed from city to farmland to less and less inhabited areas.

Our next stop was a visit at the church of an indigenous evangelist we've worked with for years. Finally, I met Paulo* and some of his six children. He frequently goes out by plane, by boat

and on foot, looking for jungle tribes to bring them the Gospel message. In the last years, we've supplied Paulo and other indigenous missionaries like him with equipment such as GPS trackers, water filters, First Aid Kits, as well as reconnaissance like satellite and aerial images. While this has made their journeys a little safer and much shorter, the risk remains enormous.

Later John quietly let me know of the reality of Paulo's journeys. Diseases, jaguars, snakes, alligators, warriors and travel injuries are all very real threats.

“There are so many dangers and it must be hard to let your husband and father go, so why do you do it?”, John had once asked Paulo's wife. *“That's true”*, she had replied, *“but if he doesn't go, then who will?”* This brave family had gone through immensely painful experiences. Finding Jesus and experiencing His love, healing, reconciliation, freedom from fear and bondage as well as the hope of spending eternity with Him had changed everything for them. They knew from experience the pain and despair people without the Gospel live in so they had decided to share this saving message with others who have never heard it.

Other indigenous Christians our team had encountered had similar stories: *“we want to go and find our brothers in the jungle. We used to be like them and we know the fear they live in so we need to go and tell them about Jesus.”*

Tribal wars and hunger bring many tribes to the brink of extinction and child abuse is commonplace as well. Like Paulo, those Christians are willing to lay their lives on the line to make contact with unreached tribes to bring them hope for today and eternity. Some issues at home had a perspective change.

After flying again domestically, gaining an upset stomach and ensuring a total lack of sleep we were 'ready' to fly in a small missions-aircraft. Praise God, my symptoms subsided. We arrived at a



Visiting isolated jungle-station only accessible by helicopter and boat.



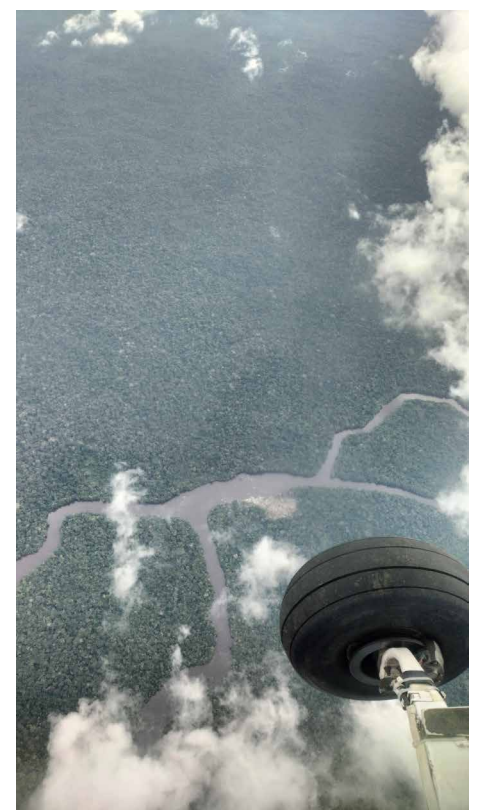
Flying over the seemingly endless jungle.

small hangar with an even smaller aeroplane inside. As we'd have to fly low over the jungle for a reconnaissance flight, John had to stay behind to reduce the weight on the aircraft. Next, our team members were unscrewing parts from the plane to fit cameras and stuffed batteries into the wings. To the uninitiated it appeared like we were modifying a perfectly good aircraft! Then we flew. The cameras worked, the weather was great, and the visit to a village, amazing. We returned after a day flying with the footage we needed. Flying over the jungle I hadn't seen many signs of life or tribal huts but that's why we were using 360° cameras. While the flights only take a few hours, the painstaking work that follows takes days of looking at the computer screen, scrolling through the footage in three strips for each flight and rolling the camera angle back and forth, almost creating a 3D

effect. While it is impossible to see through the canopy from the airplane flying past even at the lowest speed, this method 'opens up' the forest, so to speak. It is now possible to look directly down into the trees. While during the flights, often there were no signs of human life, each and every time the people at home on the computers would see huts on the footage! Eye-strain and stiff necks were a small price to pay in comparison to what our partners on the ground were willing to pay. However, these findings show that the task to find and reach these tribes is enormous! We simply don't have enough people to analyse all the video footage. Please join us in praying for one of our new projects about to start: the development of an AI solution to speed up the process. It's a privilege to partner with and assist the brave people on the ground. In the coming weeks Paulo would be

heading into the jungle and the findings from the camera recordings of the flights would be a great help.

Another trip took us to an extremely isolated jungle-station only accessible by helicopter and boat. The night before, one of the young children of the missionary team had become very ill. 'By coincidence' we landed on that day and were able to bring very much needed medical supplies. These brave expat missionaries spend years of their lives working in stifling humid heat, translating the Bible and discipling. They couldn't do it without God's help and a chain of people standing behind them. Our partners



Reconnaissance flight in South America.

were able to give practical help to improve their living and working conditions. God is looking after His people. Our prayers for these precious Kingdom-workers were being answered in front of our eyes.

Seeing God at work in the different situations right here in the jungle was a reminder to pray, obey and 'Let God be God' – as John often commented when we talked about insurmountable problems. God wastes nothing and loves to empower us to find a way through things whatever situation we are in.

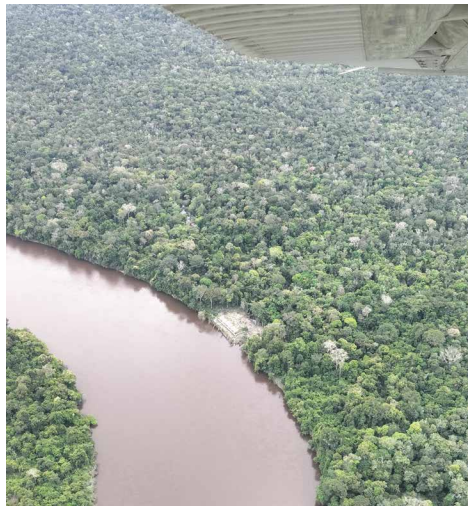
Arriving back home safely, the prayer request in my small group had been answered. But I was thankful for so much more than just coming home after the trip; seeing first-hand what difference the contribution of HFA was making for local evangelists like Paulo and his family in the jungle really gave me a boost to get back to the daily grind of computer work, online meetings, city traffic and the like.

Reaching the last people who have never heard the message of Christ takes team-work. God wants to use each one of us with our unique gifts. If teaching or evangelism isn't your gift but you rather prefer office-work, cleaning, mechanical work, grinding, welding, electronics or praying, please connect with us.

*"Declare His glory among the nations,
His wonders among all peoples."
Psalm 96:3*

*Please note that names have been changed to protect the privacy of our partners.

Robert
CEO



Large river and dense jungle typical of the tribal area.

LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

We are excited to welcome *Stichting Nachtzwaluw* to our Network organisations as we continue to expand our mission across different nations to reach the unreached.

The name *Nachtzwaluw*, derived from Dutch, means Night Swallow— a metaphor that beautifully reflects the work of *Stichting Nachtzwaluw*. The organisation draws its name from the nightjar, a bird known for its ability to navigate through darkness in a slow, silent flight, often pausing mid-air to emit its distinctive call in the most remote and shadowy places. Just as the bird brings its presence to these hidden areas, *Nachtzwaluw* aims to bring hope to those who haven't heard the Good News yet.

Together we, the international *HFA Network* are committed to continue sharing the Good News in the most challenging and isolated environments, fulfilling the Great Commission with hope and purpose.

Visit www.nachtzwaluw.org for more information.



NACHTZWALUW

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Please send to:
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