



MISSION AVIATION FELLOWSHIP (MAF)

is one of the Missions supported by Christ Church

MAF UK's newest engineer follows in grandad's footsteps



At the height of the pandemic with the aviation industry collapsing around him, EasyJet engineer Mark Draper's future looked uncertain. Inspired by his late grandfather, RAF engineer Lesley Draper - who helped assemble MAF's first ever Cessna aircraft - Mark decided to apply to MAF.

MAF's Jo Lamb, takes up the story...

On furlough between April and July last year, Luton based EasyJet power plant engineer and married father of three, Mark Draper, faced uncertainty as coronavirus devastated the airline industry. Mark's wife Stephanie, a midwife at Dunstable Hospital continued working while Mark stayed home to school their three daughters Lexi [9], Evelyn [7] and Raya [4]:

'Being furloughed during lockdown was really difficult. Going from doing what I love to being a full-time dad overnight was crazy and so tough, but I'm so grateful for where I am today. I will be working for MAF when I know so many have suffered greatly in the airline industry.'

Mark had dreamed of working for MAF for a while, having been inspired by his late grandfather, Lesley Draper – one of the engineers who helped co-founder, Stuart King, assemble MAF's first ever Cessna 180 aircraft. Lesley also worked on de Havilland Mosquito planes during WWII.

MAF's first four-seater Cessna arrived from America at Heathrow Airport in a crate in 1956. Lesley – a

former RAF radio engineer who also worked for British European Airways as it was known then was one of twenty volunteers to help Stuart assemble the plane piece by piece. Lesley used his particular skills to fit the Cessna's radio and other electrics. In his book 'Hope Has Wings' (1993), Stuart King recalls the challenging task of assembling the Cessna 180 assisted by Lesley and the team:

'Here was a crate full of tightly packed components, large and small, with no sign of where they were supposed to fit. With no manual, parts book or labels, the British Airways Christian Union engineering staff came to my assistance when they were off duty and helped greatly in putting together the carefully designed flying machine.'

'When it had been assembled, we pushed the little aircraft out to be fuelled. An airport official looked quizzically at the plane – an unusual model for Heathrow. He handed me an invoice for a landing fee. When I objected that the aircraft hadn't made its first landing – he said, "Did it come up through a hole in the ground?" He wasn't used to planes being put together out of a crate.'

It would be **Betty Greene - MAF's first pilot and the world's first female mission pilot** who would pilot the MAF Cessna 180's virgin flight to Malakal, Sudan in 1957. On board were Stuart and Phyllis King with their children, Rebecca and John. Like the Drapers today, the Kings were about to start an adventure of a lifetime.

Mark cites his grandfather as a source of much inspiration, motivation, and friendship until his death in 2011 and believes his own dream to serve with MAF stems from his grandfather's faithful commitment to the charity, and passion for aviation:

'My grandad was so kind, humble and inspiring. He's the reason I'm so into aeroplanes - a lot of what I am today is due to him. I loved hearing him talk about his RAF service. He was based in Egypt with the 256 Squadron. He heard about MAF whilst working at Heathrow Airport for British European Airways – as it was called then. 'Grandad supported MAF from that first encounter with Stuart King when they built MAF's first Cessna 180. He would be thrilled to know that I'm working for MAF – he spoke about MAF to everyone he knew.'

The family will relocate to MAF's headquarters in Kampala, Uganda next year where Mark will take up the role of aviation engineer. Mark - who has never been to Africa - contemplates his next chapter:

'It's slightly scary not knowing what it will be like. Although it's a leap of faith, it will be a massive adventure for us as a family. We want to live our

lives supporting other people – especially those less fortunate than ourselves. MAF's humanitarian air service is a perfect way of combining my aviation skills with making a positive difference in people's lives.'

If you would be interested in coming to a prayer meeting for MAF, please contact Joan Remnant (joan.remnant@btinternet.com or 07867 944609)

Sunday Services

All **10.30am** services will be both in church and online (if we have the Tech Team to provide this)

Please Note: The online services will be streamed at 10.30am on Mondays rather than on Sundays.

Sunday 3rd October

10.30am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evening Worship (Reflect)

Tuesday 5th October Community Club

Wednesday 6th October

Café Mosaic, open 9.15am to 2pm

Friday 8th October

Café Mosaic, open 9.15am to 2pm

Saturday 9th October Quiz Night at 7.30am

Sunday 10th October

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
6.30pm Evening Worship (Go Deeper)

Sunday 17th October

10.30am Morning Worship
6.30pm Holy Communion (Reflect)

Sunday 24th October

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
6.30pm Evening Worship (Go Deeper)

Services available online at 10.30am on Monday through the Christ Church Orpington website: www.ccorpington.org

Or on Facebook (you don't need to have a Facebook account) <https://www.facebook.com/ccorpington/live>

You are invited to join **Heather Kroiter** for zoom coffee after church on Sunday from 11.45am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89799757902?pwd=M3A0YXBsTkhlcENIbzcreXFtUT11dz09>

Meeting ID: 897 9975 7902, Passcode: wv12tU

Quiz Night

It's church social time! Come along to **Quiz Night** on **Saturday 9th October** at **7.30pm** in the church hall. You will form teams to answer cryptic questions in the main rounds, plus bonus picture and puzzle rounds to do in your own time. Form a team of up to 8, or we can put you into a team if you prefer. Everyone is welcome for a relaxing, fun, and not too serious evening. Feel free to invite friends and family. Bring your own drinks and snacks (plus tableware) and a £5 contribution to church funds.

Please drop a quick email to Gail and Bob at gabohaythorne@talktalk.net, so that we can get an idea of numbers.

Notices for the next issue of the Family News by 12noon Saturday 9th October please

Email Vernon on vandjmapp@gmail.com

Community Club, Tuesday 5th October

Communion is at 11.00am

On the Lunch Menu:

Chicken soup
Roast pork, apple sauce, roast potatoes and vegetables
Fruit trifle.
Tea or Coffee.

To help us mark our 35th birthday, you are invited to the Spinnaker

Celebration & FUNdraiser

A showcase of all that Spinnaker does and is



on **Thursday 7th October** from **7pm** to **9.45pm** at Jubilee Church, Bromley or online. More information and booking details can be found on the website

<https://www.spinnaker.org.uk/events/4-spinnaker-showcase>

Find out what we do and help us celebrate.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Report to the congregation

The PCC at its meeting on 27 September discussed the financial situation of the church. The deficit over the whole year is projected to reach £40,000. Apart from the effects of Covid, the number of donors has been falling, day-to-day expenditure is rising, and the church is having to meet major bills to maintain the premises, such as the cost of the new church boilers which have just been fitted.

The PCC will review the situation in three months' time.

There will also be a Gift Day on Advent Sunday, 28 November.

The PCC agreed not to revive the New Winepress church magazine. The circulation had fallen markedly even before Covid. The PCC thanked Vernon Mapp, who has produced nearly 100 issues in the 17 years he has been Editor, mostly almost entirely single-handedly. The PCC is grateful that Vernon will continue to edit the weekly Family News: if you wish to receive an email copy, please contact Anna in the church office on 01689 871601.

GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation)

Meina is our GDPR representative and if anyone has any queries relating to GDPR to please contact her on: gdpr@ccorpington.org

Solution to last week's Wordsearch



"If you would like to give to Christ's work here at Christ Church, the best way to give is via our bank account, Sort code 40 52 40, and account number 00095465, or by sending a cheque payable to Christ Church Orpington PCC to 165 Charterhouse Road, Orpington, BR6 9EP. Thank you so much for your wonderful generosity."

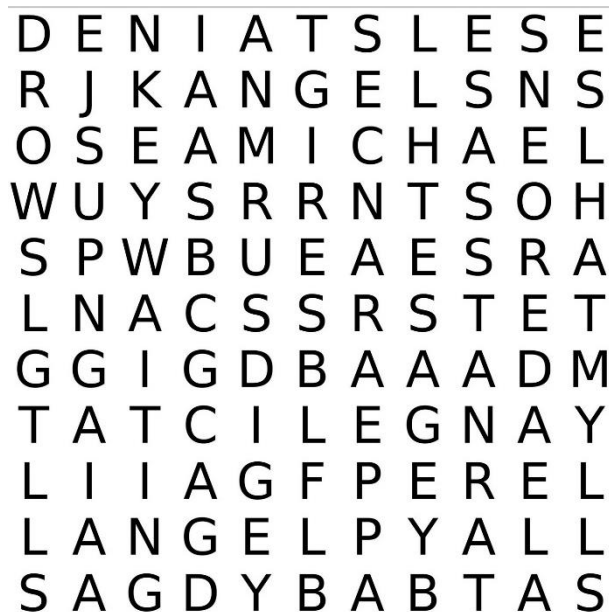
Word Search

MICHAEL and ALL ANGELS



The Bible is full of angels, and often they had a **KEY** role in **CRUCIAL** events. It seems that Michael was their **LEADER**, an 'archangel'. In **STAINED GLASS** he's often seen with a **SWORD**, because in Revelation he leads the **ANGELIC HOST** who fight and **DEFEAT SATAN** and his army.

In the Gospels angels make numerous **APPEARANCES**. Just two examples: **GABRIEL** was sent to **MARY** to announce the coming of her **BABY, JESUS**, the Messiah, the Son of God. Another **ANGEL** was sent to sit in the empty tomb on Easter morning, **WAITING** to tell the startled women that Jesus wasn't there - He had risen (Mark 16:5)



Wordsearch, ✚word, reproduced courtesy of www.parishpump.co.uk

Photo by Kyle Cleveland on Unsplash

God isn't just the God of

Steeple
 Prayer meetings
 Well-paying jobs
 Mission trips
 Intact families
 Worship songs
 Sunday school
 All those visible spaces.
 The ones we show to the world.
 The ones that look like we have our act together.
 The ones where we will be praised.

He's bigger than that. Much much bigger.
 His heart is bigger.
 His presence is bigger.
 His well-worn, tenderness is bigger.
 BECAUSE

He's also and especially the God of
 Oncology visits
 Broken hearts
 Empty checking accounts
 Funeral parlours
 Rehab rooms
 Sleepless and fitful nights
 Bathroom floors
 Messy selves and messy lives

The places where it's just us and Him.
 The ones only He can really see.
 Hear.
 Understand.
 Guide.
 Comfort.
 Heal.

The places of
 Loss
 Despair
 Loneliness
 Doubt
 Fear

That are also the places of
 Growth
 Hope
 Belonging
 Grace
 Peace

The places that nothing and no one else can touch.
 Except for this big big,
 "very present help in time of trouble,"
 tender-hearted God.
 Those are the most sacred places of all.
 And some of the most beautiful.

word

ACROSS

- 1 'Through [Christ] we have gained — by faith into this grace' (Romans 5:2) (6)
- 4 Deprives of sight (Deuteronomy 16:19) (6)
- 8 The words of a hymn do this (mostly) (5)
- 9 Faithful allegiance (1 Chronicles 12:33) (7)
- 10 Belgium's chief port (7)
- 11 Where John was baptizing 'because there was plenty of water' (John 3:23) (5)
- 12 Imposing height (Psalm 48:2) (9)
- 17 Jesus' tempter in the wilderness (Mark 1:13) (5)
- 19 Comes between Amos and Jonah (7)
- 21 'Your will be done — as it is in heaven' (Matthew 6:10) (2,5)
- 22 Gale (Matthew 8:24) (5)
- 23 Axle, eh? (anag.) (6)
- 24 'Out of the — I cry to you, O Lord' (Psalm 130:1) (6)

Down

- 1 Popular Christian author and humourist, — Plass (6)
- 2 Transparent ice-like mineral (Revelation 4:6) (7)
- 3 Method of compelling surrender by surrounding target of attack (2 Chronicles 32:1) (5)
- 5 Expose (Isaiah 52:10) (3,4)
- 6 Lonny (anag.) (5)
- 7 Utterance (1 Timothy 1:15) (6)
- 9 Husband of Deborah, the prophetess (Judges 4:4) (9)
- 13 Burial service (Jeremiah 34:5) (7)
- 14 What Christ threatened to do to the lukewarm church in Laodicea (Revelation 3:16) (4,3)
- 15 'Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net —' (John 21:11) (6)
- 16 His response to Jesus' decision to return to Judea was 'Let us also go, that we may die with him' (John 11:16) (6)
- 18 'There will be weeping and gnashing of —' (Matthew 8:12) (5)
- 20 Walkway between rows of pews in a church (5)

