

“Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendour, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.” 1 Chronicles 29:11

May has been a month of **power struggles** here at the Good News Hospital. During the first weeks of 2018, a series of storms caused damage to our internal telephone system, numerous pieces of hospital equipment, as well as the recently-installed solar panel system which provides power to the Voice of the Good News radio station and the Good News School. More recently



though the main transformer (through which we receive electricity from the town supply) was severely damaged by a lightning strike, meaning we

suddenly became 100% reliant on our back-up diesel generators. The transformer could not be repaired locally and so had to be taken to the capital, Tana. Our Maintenance team did an impressive job of providing power to the hospital during this time, despite encountering problem upon problem with the two generators. However, despite these and other challenges, Sarindra and his team managed to get the transformer repaired, safely returned to Mandritsara and manually lifted back in to position, so that a local engineer could connect it up again.

May has also provided Mat with a number of spontaneous opportunities to teach the children some geology, as most days during the last fortnight we have experienced **earthquakes**. The magnitude ~5 earthquakes have originated to the northwest of Madagascar but have been heard and occasionally felt by some of us here in Mandritsara. Having never experienced

earthquakes before, it seems earthquakes are like buses; you wait ages for one and then three (or more) come along at once!

There have been other ominous rumblings here in Madagascar as the struggle to obtain/retain political power ahead of **elections** planned for later this year has begun in earnest. There have been frequent **demonstrations and strikes** that are causing disruption, including affecting some government departments.

In two weeks' time we will welcome a surgeon from Hamlin Fistula Hospital in Ethiopia who is coming to train our surgeons in **fistula**

surgery. Vesico-Vaginal Fistula (VVF) is a debilitating condition which causes women to constantly leak urine or faeces, and often results in women being shunned by their partners, families and friends, leaving them powerless in the communities in which they live. Katy has been involved in preparing for this training, and is enjoying creating a wall-hanging showing a woman finding God-given honour, where there was once shame. (This idea was partly born out of our recent team studies on ministering in honour-shame cultures.) We hope that this will be the experience of many patients attending this fistula camp, and for other FVV patients coming here in the future.

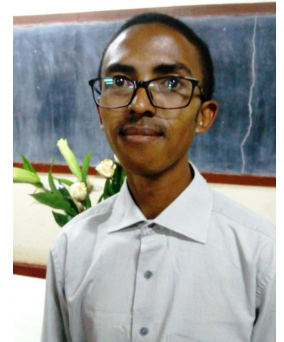
Thank you for praying for Malagasy doctors. We are delighted to announce the (very) recent arrival of



For prayer

- Please thank God for His protection over the project, staff and patients over the time that we have been experiencing these electrical problems
- Please pray for an experienced electrician, either from Madagascar or from overseas, to come to join the team
- For Madagascar – for the political situation, for peaceful resolution
- For the FVV camp that will take place 6th-21st June, for all the logistics, and that many women may be helped – physically, emotionally and spiritually.
- For Dr Tefy as he starts work here and for Katy and the other doctors as they help train him

Dr Tefy from Tana who arrived this morning to join the team here! Please keep praying for other Malagasy doctors and surgeons.



We have also recently been joined by **Bella and Lucy**, a medical student and midwife respectively, who are visiting from one of our supporting churches, Christ



Church Mayfair in London. It's wonderful that they are here to see 'in the

flesh' how God has been answering prayers from his people all over the world over recent months – thank you so much for your prayers and support!

Mat, Katy, Phoebe, Jonah & Barney