



## Mozambique: Very active co-workers!



**P**eter Stockholm has been a GNM co-worker, using the picture material, for many years. He and his team members were recently invited by Pastor Xavier Massingue for a visit to Mozambique. In 2003 Massingue did evangelisation with *TEAM South Africa*. This outreach was especially aimed at Massingue's home province – a congregation in Maputo and four other congregations surrounding Xai-Xai.

Nowadays Pastor Xavier Massingue is a lecturer at a Bible School in Maputo. In earlier years, he and other pastors in the vicinity established the congregations that Peter visited. During the outreach, Peter used the GNM picture card sets in his teaching sessions (as can be seen in the picture).

### Three issues strike Peter during the outreach:

- There is still an enormous lack of Bible knowledge in this area of Mozambique. Therefore the gospel does not yet have a life-changing influence on the people. Outreach teams often focus on the northern part of Mozambique – which is also called the neglected part. However, according to Peter, far more shaping and teaching is needed in this area.
- The larger amount of women attending the assemblies is remarkable. Other problems, for which the local church should find solutions for, are in connection with the people's culture and their church traditions.
- To overcome the lack of Bible knowledge, more GNM resources and picture material are necessary.



Inácio busy loading new programmes onto a *Saber MP3* player

### Chris Hemborough

**I**n the northern part of the Sofala province in Mozambique, Chris Hemborough and his team went full steam ahead with the work at the Sena churches.

The work mostly entails greater exposure to the GNM resources and maintenance work is done on the *Messenger* cassette players and *Saber MP3* players. New possibilities for resources are investigated on a regular basis.

- In many places, the old *Messenger* cassette players are still being used regularly. Parts for the *Messenger* (especially the levers) are frequently in demand. Inácio – the trained technician – is constantly busy servicing these cassette players and replacing broken parts.
- New *Saber MP3* players are now in greater demand. Missionaries are very impressed with the quality of these players. The sound quality, good volume and the fact that the lever does not have to be turned all the time, makes the *Saber MP3* players very user friendly. Adding to this, it is also very easy to repair. The increase in its popularity is thus completely logical.
- Battery problems: The *Saber MP3* players' batteries must be recharged regularly. Sometimes these players are used for too long at once, resulting in the batteries running down completely. This means that the player has to be once again programmed and charged from scratch. It is also important to always keep the sun panels for the charging process close at hand.
- "Project Mozambique" also distributes some of the *Saber MP3* players and other resources by means of missionary organisations. This is especially the case in the north where there are many isolated communities.

The *Saber MP3* players are a big relief and inspiration for the missionaries working under these isolated circumstances.

- A motorcycle was bought to help expand the maintenance task. It makes it possible for the technician, Inácio, to visit more small churches in a bigger area, more often. During such visits the *MP3* players are programmed and new programmes can be loaded immediately. In this way the *MP3* players are used far more effectively – new programmes help keep listeners interested. Chris Hemborough and his team need a laptop to make all the activities run smoothly.



Chris Hemborough with his wife and children

on ground level. *Project Mozambique's* outreaches are bringing more and more people in contact with God's Word. The outreaches also help the local church to do follow up work. The Gospel of redemption through Jesus Christ brings hope to many people who would otherwise have had a dull and limited view of the future. We still hear about people who travel far distances by bicycle to come and listen to the messages."

(For the immediate future, Chris and his team are in need of a laptop, more *Saber MP3* players and a number of new batteries for the Sabers which have been in use for quite some time already.)

Chris adds the following: "We are still encouraged by the positive feedback

## Malawi outreaches

**F**ishers, Trainers & Senders (FTS) is GNM's most important partner in Malawi. Louise Laubscher and Dallion Chitekwe, members of the FTS team, are doing incredible work along with outreaching teams. Both have been familiar with the GNM resources for quite some time. They manage the distribution of these resources in Malawi.

Although most outreaches in Southern Africa take place during June, the FTS team organised an outreach to the Nkoma and Chilenje areas at the beginning of the year as well. Altogether the team consisted of 13 high school learners (ages 16 to 18 years) and four adults. Louise and Dallion made sure everybody knew and used the GNM material, as well as helped with distributing it during the outreach. The outcome was extremely positive – so positive they cannot stop talking about it!

Congregations started buying *Saber MP3* players to use in their area. At one stage the GNM resources stock was so low, the FTS team had to give their own resources to congregations. The fact that Dallion can service and repair the *Saber MP3* players is an important motivational factor to the congregations – especially when they are considering purchasing more.

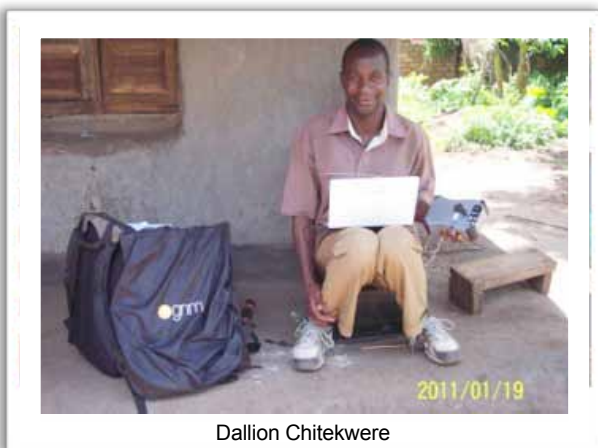
The figures below explain the huge excitement. During the past 12 months the following could be done:



Sunday school group

- The Gospel was introduced to 21 776 people with the help of GNM material.
- 3 021 people chose Christ because of this introduction.
- GNM material was used in 28 districts – 13 more districts in Mozambique can be added to this amount.
- In the meantime, 3 225 children have joined Sunday school and children clubs.
- 39 Sunday school and children club leaders were equipped with comprehensive gospel sets. The FTS team needs at least 50 more of these gospel sets, simply to provide the group leaders with the necessary material.

The FTS team is very grateful for the growth, even though there are delays at times. The rain season, for example, is quite long. During this time a lot of places are basically inaccessible. This holds up the essential follow up work and the maintenance of the *Saber MP3* players.



Dallion Chitekwe



Louise Laubscher

# Zambia: Five languages in sight!

James and Jess Lucas are handling and managing the research and (Bible) translation project from Mongu. Their main task is to help the research teams to start developing an alphabet for every one of the five languages: Few, Mashi, Nkoya and Kwangwa (a variant name for Luyana). James humorously refers to their hunting expedition of the “big five” – which, in this case, has got nothing to do with game.

During the last few months there was a lot of pressure in identifying six translation helpers for each language within the local communities. The first language to get a turn, was Few.

When the first meetings with 70 Few elders took place over a period of three days, James discovered that these people have been looking forward to their visit for months. After the meetings, six translation helpers were chosen. One of the newly chosen translation helpers remarked: “This is a dream come true.”

The next phase of the project will commence shortly. Seven international translation consultants will then lead the official translation process.

James writes: “We knew these people value the work we do, but we could not fathom the enthusiasm and passion

with which they are looking forward to reading the Bible in their own language, beforehand.”



James (front left) with the head of the Bible School, the Clinic official, Few elders (chiefs) and a newly appointed translator.

## Botswana

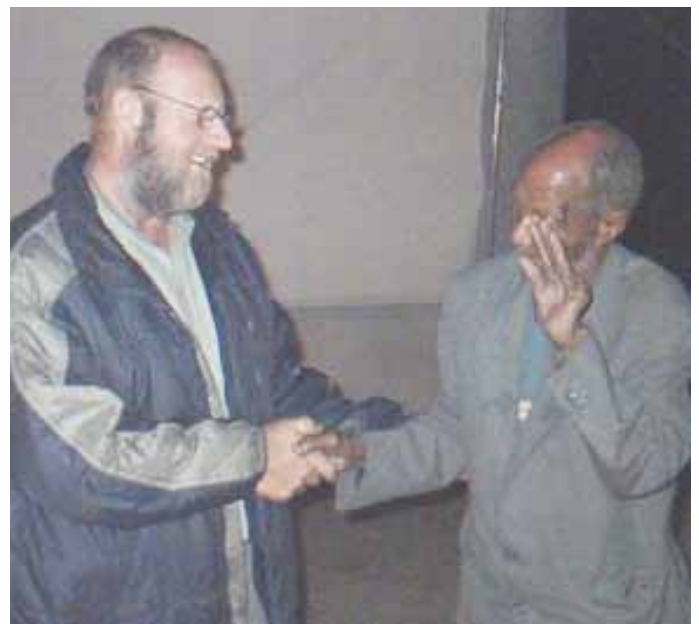
Deon Snyders, one of GNM’s loyal partners from Keimoes (Northern Cape), is doing unbelievable work in Botswana. During his recent outreach he once again did not have enough GNM material to fulfil in the huge need prevailing in the far-off rural parts of the country. Despite this he made contact with 9 863 people on his journey of 5 800 km. He is working with the local communities and the Village Churches throughout.

In some places he even came across the worshipping of idols and certain occult practises. Deon’s heart’s desire is that these people get to know Jesus and realise that He is the only perfect and accepted sacrifice before God for every human being, and that no further blood sacrifices are necessary – the price has already been paid.

According to Deon, these people find Jesus’ love irresistible. As soon as they truly get to understand the Gospel, the change in them is tremendous. Enough willing workmen and the necessary gospel material for follow-up visits are currently the biggest obstructions.

Deon needs sponsorships for much more GNM picture material. During these outreaches, he comes across places where very little people have done Gospel work before. In two such places, more than 40 people each time got to know the contents of the Bible for the very first time by means of the GNM material.

Deon is looking forward to his *Messenger* and *Saber MP3* players being serviced again. His delight, as well as that of thousands of others who are waiting to hear the Gospel, will be immense if donors could help him get a further 10 to 15 *Saber MP3* players (or some of the new *AudiBible* players) for the next outreach.



Deon talking to an older man.

# Which languages are the most popular?

Ilse-Ann Marsh from the duplicating division gives some information on the past three months' happenings:

- Portuguese (Mozambique) and Afrikaans (South Africa) were the most popular languages in which CDs were distributed.
- Of all the *Saber MP3* players distributed, the most were loaded in Lomwe and Mozambique.
- Malagasy (Madagascar) was the most popular language on the *AudiBible*.

Experts say: It is important to remember that equipment material and discipleship training (if available) should also be provided in the mother tongue, even if verbal teaching takes place in a second or third language.

## And where do you get your *Saber* player serviced?

Ilse-Ann Marsh is the contact person (tel: (021) 864 8228 or [ilse@bmedia.co.za](mailto:ilse@bmedia.co.za)) who firstly tests every *Saber MP3* player the moment it lands at the GNM office. If she cannot service it completely or solve the problem, she contacts the supplier to further attend to the matter.

It is always a good idea to contact Ilse-Ann telephonically first before an *MP3* player is sent back straight to the GNM office. The correct information and a bit of advice might often be the solution to the problem.



## Newsletters packed with information!

Bible Media has different departments – these are all set out clearly in our information pamphlet, on our website, on the corporate DVD and also on quite a lot of Bible Media's correspondence. GNM is a division of Bible Media.

- Biblecor (publications) is, for example, one of the bigger departments, with *Groeinuus* being its newsletter through which we give feedback to donors.
- Mema-Media handles the electronic division. We give feedback regarding those activities to donors via *Mema News*.
- Similar to the two mentioned above, **Good News Media** also has its own newsletter – *GNM News*, which we use to provide donors with information.

Wouldn't it make so much more sense if the three newsletters were to be combined, bringing all donors information about all the departments at once? Imagine this – you'll be reading and seeing far more of Bible Media's work in one single newsletter (and in the long run we'll be saving on mailing cost as well)!

Before we consider this option for 2012, we would like your opinion regarding the matter. Please send us a SMS message to 072 022 0392 with the word "yes" or "no", or call (021) 864 8251, or send an email to [delora@bmedia.co.za](mailto:delora@bmedia.co.za) and give your opinion. We look forward to hearing from you.



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