

Every Language

FEB - MAR 2020



GLOBAL
RECORDINGS
NETWORK

Happy New Decade

A new decade is upon us! It is 2020.

It is also 20 years since I began life as a cross-cultural missionary. On the 17 March 2000, I boarded a plane bound for Ecuador.

As I look back, I see Bible verses that have sustained me: Romans 8:28-30, James 1: 5-8, Philippians 4:4-8. Coming into GRN added Joshua 1:7-9 and even more recently Psalm 23. It has been a wild ride at times, but I can see God's hand every step of the way.

Looking to the future, change will surely continue.

Change can cause anxiety. God says "Do not be anxious about anything, but pray."

We can fear when we do not know what to do. God says "If you lack wisdom, ask and I'll give you the wisdom."

We can fear making a wrong decision. God says "He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake."

Looking to the future, I can see changes coming in the way we work:

- We have people coming to us and saying "Please train us and we will record what we need. Please use your online distribution capacity (5fish and website) to help us distribute our recordings."
- Our majority world offices need to shift their focus to the local church and away from western countries for their primary prayer and financial support.
- Stars are born and they die. Kingdoms rise and fall. GRN offices are the same. And some nearly die before they rise from the ashes and thrive.

I am sure this decade will bring some challenges that I have never considered. However, I can rest secure knowing my Heavenly Father knows what He is doing and will lead us in the way forward – if only we will listen.

The need stays the same. In linguistically diverse places it is

impossible for evangelists to learn all the languages spoken in a particular area. 70% of the world's population would rather learn by hearing than by reading. People need to hear the story of Jesus in the language that they understand best.



The work of GRN remains as necessary and relevant as ever.

Please pray for us as we discern God's wisdom and seek to follow Him in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Pray that His peace, which surpasses understanding, will guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.



Christine Platt
CEO

International Council



The Australian Team

International Council comes around every four years. In November, 46 people from 25 countries met in Thailand, representing our offices around the world. It was a great time of worship, fellowship, learning, sharing and fun. And of course business was done!

The country reports were a real highlight:

Togo: The team has worked with missionaries and church planters in the north for the past three years. This has seen recordings made and distributed. The recordings are also played on the local radio station and in a local hospital. We know of three churches planted through this project.

Nigeria: Our brothers here work in the north and travel into dangerous territory whenever they go out to record or distribute recordings. They are an active team. They travel to remote areas taking the light of the Gospel with them and leaving the good news behind so the people can listen.

Cameroon: The Boko Haram is moving into this nation bringing terror and death with it. Our team here is part of a project to evangelise the north and to meet darkness with light. They are recording messages in appropriate languages and resourcing the evangelists.

South Africa: The Bushmen oral Bible translators of Namibia and Botswana are doing a great job of recording the scriptures they are translating. Our South African team is providing technical support, training and audio processing skills to ensure good quality recordings make it onto the website for download.

Recording in Madagascar is also making good progress, with the added advantage of a local person being trained in recording. This work is being done in partnership with the local Bible translation team.

Mexico: Our leader was delighted to tell us about a large team of volunteers that run outreaches to tribal people who travel the country harvesting crops. They have developed teams who lead outreach programs that evangelise the migrant workers and distribute recordings in well over 100 different languages. They have diagnostic tools to work out what language people speak and then they copy the relevant recordings onto media the people can use. Over the years the teams have heard of many coming to faith and churches being planted in remote villages.

France: Our team has been working to get local churches active in taking the Gospel to refugees. Our leader says that there are many organisations providing food,



clothing and other services to refugees, but few are proclaiming the Gospel. They have had the joy of seeing churches getting involved and refugees coming to faith and then joining them as they reach out to others.

Philippines: Our team has recorded tribal groups who proved very difficult to reach with the Gospel over the past couple of years. Two groups decided they wanted to start a church during the translation and recording process. Since then the team has been invited to meet with other tribal groups, who generally prefer no outside contact, and recording has started.



It was such an encouragement to hear from each country and to gain a picture of what God is doing around the world. I am also thankful for the calibre of people with whom we serve.

Leadership Development: there was a significant training aspect to the program. This was of value to

continues over

the leaders of different offices, and was too good an opportunity to miss for people who may well be leaders in the future. A generous bequest allowed GRN Australia to sponsor the attendance of five young people. It was a real joy to have them there and was of great benefit to them.



One of the five wrote:

"I just want to say thank you to you and to GRN Australia for giving me

the opportunity to attend the council meeting. It's been a blessing to be with the other Center Leaders and learning from them. Being with you all, I have more deeper thoughts and commitment in serving the Lord through GRN. I was sometimes sad and discourage[d] hearing some not so good news from the reports of other centers but we need to move forward for His Kingdom. Better ideas encourage us to be more optimist and at the same time be realistic. I can't express through this letter how grateful I am."

Search for new International

Director: Graydon Colville is commencing his third and final term as International Director. A search committee was appointed and the process has begun. We hope to find someone with enough time to allow a good handover – as there is a lot to learn and a lot of people to meet...

A Needed Transition: It is clear that our centres around the world need the meaningful engagement of their local churches. GRN exists to

provide specialist resources to the church to help the church as they obey Jesus and make disciples of all nations. The church in Pakistan should be working hard to reach the tribes of Pakistan. The church in Namibia should be working hard to reach the tribes of Namibia. If churches value GRN resources, and they seem to, then it makes sense for them to actively support the work.

We invited an Indonesian brother to Council who has successfully engaged the Indonesian church in a similar ministry to GRN. He told his story, and explained his thinking and what he did. He was an excellent and encouraging speaker. Please pray for our offices around the world to grasp the need for a change in thinking and to make steps towards change.

We are thankful for a wonderful time together and the evident spirit of unity. Pray for us as we seek to understand each other and work together for God's glory.



Feedback from Papua New Guinea Kela language recording

"This is very useful at current time because my people Kela, seems to forget about their origin, who and what we are. My people are living their lives just as the story in this recording (the days of Noah). I think this recording is a reminder to them to change their lives. I very much appreciate this GRN for this recording." - **Ismael**



The Kairos course on 'God, the Church & the World'

You're invited to attend the Kairos course on 'God, the Church & the World'

When: April 30th – June 25th 2020, on Thursdays 7.00 - 9.15pm (plus 1-2hrs between classes for assigned readings)

Venue: GRN Office 1/36 Stoddart Road, Prospect, NSW

Cost: \$100 includes Course Reader, Snacks, Graduation certificate etc.

Who: all followers of Jesus, 15yo & above

Register by calling 02 9899 2211, or **email:** au@globalrecordings.net

Registration Deadline: April 17th 2020

For more information go to: www.simplymobilising.com.au/courses/kairos

Myanmar Visitors



David and Naing Oo

Myanmar Visitors - Canberra

For the past 4 years, GRN has participated in the Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students (AFES) National Training Event (NTE). NTE is an annual conference where around 1,800 students from around Australia and overseas converge on Canberra to study the Bible and engage with mission agencies and Bible colleges.

This year, AFES invited David and Naing Oo from GRN's Myanmar office to attend the conference. David and Naing Oo took part in the overseas visitor program where they studied the Bible with other

overseas visitors and built relationships with Myanmar Fellowship of Evangelical Student leaders who also attended NTE. They also spent a great deal of time sharing about life and ministry in Myanmar with the university students.

As part of GRN's presence at the conference students were encouraged to support a GRN project. This year, the project was to record the New Testament in a local language in Myanmar. It was helpful for the students to meet the GRN team members who will be making the recordings funded through this project.

Myanmar Visitors - Sydney

After NTE, David and Naing Oo then came to Sydney to spend two weeks in our studios to receive further training in the technical side of being a recordist. David and Naing Oo are both recordists who received training in Thailand last year. David has several years of experience while Naing Oo is new to the role.

We hope to see their skills increase as they spend time with experienced recordists.

This was an opportunity for them to meet people in the Australian office. Knowing the people they are working with is always helpful, especially when much communication must be done by email. Socialising and sharing meals together really does help cement relationships.

The visit also gave them a bigger picture of GRN than what they could gain from Myanmar. They could see the computer servers they have been using. They have seen the studios and the staff who work there. They have met the people who look after the finances and visited churches telling their stories.

We pray that this visit has improved their understanding of what we do, the needs we have and the ways they can be involved beyond their own national boundaries.

About Global Recordings Network

We exist to give everyone the opportunity to hear the story of Jesus in their own heart language.

Previous Names - Gospel Recordings and Language Recordings

Our Vision

That people might hear and understand God's Word in their heart language, especially those who are oral communicators and those who do not have Scriptures in a form they can access.

Our Mission

In partnership with the church, to effectively communicate the Good News of Jesus Christ by means of culturally appropriate audio and

audio-visual materials in every language.

Subscribe

'Every Language' (newsletter) and 'Rejoice' (monthly prayer letter) are free publications of GRN Australia. To subscribe - please call us or visit: www.globalrecordings.net/ausubscribe

Represent GRN in your church

Help your church connect with GRN by representing us in your church. To find out more - call us or visit: www.globalrecordings.net/aurep

Use our Resources

We want to serve you, by providing Bible teaching and evangelistic resources for you to use in your

ministry. Contact us for more information, or download them for free today www.globalrecordings.net www.5fish.mobi (mobile apps)

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Thanks to Wendy Bytheway for editing.

If you feel led to give



Leadership Training

It is important that we prepare our up and coming leaders well so they are ready at the right time to become GRN country directors or global ministry co-ordinators.

GRN has identified twelve people from our International Network as future leaders that would benefit from leadership training. We would like to send them on an intensive two week residential course to help them grow in their leadership skills.

The total cost to train all 12 GRN staff is \$30,000AUD.

Please pray that the Lord will provide the funds needed to train these future leaders of GRN.

A bequest can change lives

Like many mission organisations, we can benefit greatly when friends make a final gift that continues to bless the ministries they have generously supported in life. Once you have made proper and primary provision for family and friends this can be a very effective way to go on making a difference to the church on earth when you have joined the church in glory! If you would like to consider this option in your Will please contact the GRN office on 02 9899 2211 or we have some information on our website: www.globalrecordings.net/au-bequests.

Donate online

www.globalrecordings.net/audonate or by **Phone** on 02 9899 2211.

Direct Deposit

Global Recordings Network Australia, BSB 032 388, Account Number 222 860

(Please include your name and where you would like your gift to go in the description box.)

Mail - fill out form below.

I would like my gift to go to

- Where most needed (GRN General Fund)
- Leadership Training
- Other _____

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- \$500 Other \$ _____

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Please make all cheques payable to "Global Recordings Network Australia".
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- Visa Mastercard American Express

at the intervals I/We have specified

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- GRN speaking at my Church
- Leaving a bequest to GRN in my will

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