

# MOZNEWS

**MOZAMBIQUE OUTREACH NEWS**  
**1 JANUARY 2000**

## **Issued by Email on request.**

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**Web page: <http://www.powerup.com.au/~mozoutreach/index.htm>**

(Still under construction but you can view it)

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**Happy new millennium**

**Here's to the next 1000 years from us in Africa!!!**

**Sent to you a day early in case that on January 1 something doesn't work properly**

## **SET UP**

### **House and Car**

It has been a big month of setting up. I have rented a 3 bedroom house in Esturro, in Beira and managed to furnish it with refrigerator, gas stove, beds and fans. It came with lounge suite and dining table.

I also have purchased a small vehicle. It carries up to 20 people (too many) in the back canopied section after church services as nearly no one here has a vehicle.

Both the house and car are a miracle. The house because the Lord said before I left Brisbane to come here that there would be a house waiting for me. And it literally was waiting for me.

The car, because the lady who owned it (YWAM) rang me on the night before they left to New Zealand for good, to offer me the car at half what they wanted because they felt that I was to have it.

## **STAFF**

We have now 3 staff members.

1. Francis Nsona is our facilitator. He helps me in every area as a right hand man. He arranges government documents, immigration documents, ministry registration etc and translates for me on Sundays and every other day because I am still learning the language. Without him I could not operate. He is 32, married with 3 children. The amazing thing about Francis is that the Lord sent him to me in response to prayer. He has dreams that come to pass regularly.
2. Razao Navateva is our home officer. He handles everything to do with the home, office and training centre. He cooks our food (he was a professional cook and he IS good). He washes and irons and cleans and makes tea and coffee for the numerous pastors passing through. Etc. He is invaluable. When he had Malaria for 3 days, we just about went to pieces without him. He is 25 and married.

3. Sadeira Tika is our night guard to guard house and car. He is a pastor in a church in a village called Vilimasani. He is 42, married with 5 children.

### **PRAYER**

Apart from personal prayer we have a (compulsory) staff prayer meeting from 8 - 8.30am each morning for ministry staff . (That's 2 of us at this stage though another pastor has asked if he can join us). I have joined with the Mozambique House of Prayer's director, Anacleto, every Monday morning from 7am - 9am for prayer. This man is one of the leading men in the community and is the pastor of a thriving and powerful church with the Assemblies of God here in Beira. He, like my friend Keith Robinson from Brisbane, is a man of like spirit, sent from God. Weekly we join for powerful prayer. Where this relationship leads, I have no idea, but I know that Anacleto will be one of the men to watch in these days. He is a BIG man in the Spirit and an amazingly strong, humble leader. Everybody, including government officials respect him and his leadership.

### **ELECTIONS**

Elections have just been held in Mozambique for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time since the 30 years of war. President Chissano has retained presidency but the voting was very close, between the 2 parties involved in the recent war - FRELIMO and RENAMO. We just keep trusting that war will not break out over the result. Everyone believes that it could possibly happen.

Mozambique, once the poorest nation on the planet, has now one of the fastest growing economies on the continent of Africa. We are praising God for this. It is slow, and the nation is anything but wealthy in material wealth, how ever it is on the up.

### **MINISTRY**

#### **Preaching the good news**

I have been avoiding personal ministry during my set up stage, but launched out in mid December. I was invited to a Beira village area called Munhava to a church with 150 people. When I preached the power of God came upon me (and Francis plus the Sena interpreter - me preaching and 2 interpreters: English, Portuguese and Sena). I had an altar call where I admit I made it difficult for people to respond to Jesus (because many evangelists just preach and the people will respond because the preacher is white - not because they want Jesus). So I made it difficult but they still came, 50 of them in a small church - crying out to God for forgiveness.

I had words of knowledge over people who were sick and as I prayed His power was hitting them hard so that they were shaking and crying under His presence. I kept explaining that I couldn't heal anyone, but rather it was the Holy Spirit who healed in the name of Jesus.

The next week I preached in another village and 50 people responded to Jesus. Twice I questioned why they were coming. Perhaps they had misunderstood. They had not misunderstood. Such is the hunger to give up their life of sin and embrace the One who died for the forgiveness of their sin. On their knees in the dust crying out to God for salvation. The noise was incredible. The noise of repentance. Thank you Jesus!!! At mid week meetings people are kneeling and repenting and accepting Jesus for the first time.

In the last 2 weeks we have seen over 110 people genuinely saved - glory to God.

#### **Last meeting for this 1000 years**

Our last meeting for the millennium was in a small church in Massamba. As I was preaching, Francis stopped translating and began to shiver as he recalled that he had seen this exact meeting in exact detail, 5 years earlier in a dream. He said that I looked exactly the same as in the dream and I was preaching exactly the same message as the dream. This was 5 years before I even came to Africa. God is confirming His mighty hand on our involvement in His work here.

#### **Prayer for the sick**

I was taken to a village area where there was a man who couldn't walk because of a disease in his legs. I prayed and asked the Lord to heal him and then he walked with me around his house 3 times. He was so

appreciative. I told him that the next time I wanted to see him running. He is still not totally free, but we are expecting the best.

From there to another village to a man with cancer that appeared to be growing out of his body. This man had been sent home from the hospital to die and everyone expected him to. So I prayed and it appeared that nothing happened, but the power of God had gone in to him and the next day he could see clearly, he knew where he was and asked to be put outside to get some sun. His neighbours say that something amazing has happened to him. I only know that God is wonderful and loves this man and has begun to heal his body and his heart - as he was a renowned bad man, but now is telling the Lord that he is sorry for the wrong things he has done to people.

I prayed for a lady in one meeting who was brought to me having terrible pain that moved in her neck. She said she felt it lift off as I prayed. When we mentioned the healing to the congregation, there was great faith for healings. So I prayed a bulk prayer against sickness and asked the lord to move and He did. The Holy Spirit moved magnificently and people testified of being healed of many different things right there as we prayed together. We just praised and praised and praised Jesus African style.

### **Baptism**

In the same church I called for a special day for baptism. 25 people responded to be baptized including a pastor. The day they chose was new years day - 1 January 2000 at 7 am in the ocean. So I will be baptizing on new years day and as far as I know they will be the first people on the whole continent of Africa to be baptized in the new year, decade, century and Millennium. What a way to kick off the next 1000 years. Glory to God!!!! Preaching the gospel on the beach and dodging cocos (see "The Seaside" - below) while we baptize Africans who are hungry for Jesus. This is living!!!

### **Other churches joining us**

On January 1 2000, 18 churches from 3 provinces - will join Mozambique Outreach. The Lord has confirmed to me over a one month period that we need to cover them. They have been praying for 5 years for an Australian ministry to come and lead them. They are presently under the leadership of Pastor Joao (nearly the closest to an African - Australian that I have ever seen) and he will most likely become one of the Provincial Directors for Mozambique Outreach. The churches are in Sofala, Manica and Tete provinces.

## **WHAT'S IT LIKE IN MOZAMBIQUE?**

**Health** Mozambique is poor, dirty and is a nation that has to be rebuilt. There are hundreds of thousands of orphans from the war and according to the head health officer from the Beira region for "Food for the Hungry", there is a one in two - 50% AIDS problem in the country areas. And yet the people of Mozambique are the kindest, most helpful people you could find anywhere. And they are HUNGRY for Jesus.

Malaria and cholera are a big problem in the wet season (now). If you come to Mozambique you need to bring mosquito protection: repellent and mosquito net.

The hospital in Beira is not a place where anyone would really want to end up. I had to take a man there on Christmas day, when we were supposed to be eating our Christmas dinner, Anacleto, Francis and I had to go urgently to a village area and take a man with malaria and chronic health problems to the hospital. The roads are atrocious and with every bump we hit, the man screamed in agony. The doctor at the hospital took one look at him and said "AIDS". We left some money to look after him and had to leave him there.

**Theft** There are many beggars with parts of limbs missing, or many limbs missing, girls leading their blind mothers around, street kids (orphans) etc.

Theft is common. I had my petrol cap stolen and a spare tyre. It is only petty theft though and not violent. Since the average wage in Mozambique is 450,000 Meticaís (\$50 Aus) per MONTH (not week), many people steal things just to get by. I could probably find my petrol cap down at the local market for sale for a few dollars.

**Food** There is an upside to life in Beira and that is it's tropical fruit and seafood. Prawns like are rarely seen in Australia. Mud crabs for \$1Aus. Paw paws all year around. Mangoes most of the year. Bananas, lychees, cashew nuts, Jaca fruit, etc. etc. etc. Seafood and tropical fruit till you drop.

**The Seaside**

Beira is a seaside port and has some beautiful beaches, but no one swims there because the surf also doubles as the community toilet. Those that have braved the waters in Beira itself say that you have to avoid UFOs (Unidentified FLOATING objects) or cocos. Good sanitation will come.

North of Beira the beaches are magnificent and totally clean - beautiful to get away to once in a while.

**Temperature**

Beira is the same latitude as Bowen in north Queensland. It is very hot but the hard part is the humidity. When it is too hot to exist even without a shirt on because it is between 35 and 40 degrees Celsius, close to 100% humidity, and I have to put on a shirt and tie and long pants, socks and shoes to preach in a church with an iron or thatched roof where the heat radiates 10 -20 degrees hotter than outside, and with the very active dancing Africans - body heat, sweat, dust etc. in a packed church - the romantic side of missionary work just simply ceases to exist. It's the changed lives that keeps me going back for more, much more.

**People**

When you come to Mozambique, one of the things you notice is the people - everywhere. There are literally thousands of people always walking along the road, beside the road, at the markets - people, people, people. Human tide.

The people of Mozambique are the friendliest people on the planet. There are the odd groups that are not but it's the same everywhere. When you ask for directions, they don't just point the way, they will come with you and show you where to go. Today we were visiting the wife of a policeman who was killed on his motorbike yesterday. We didn't know where to go so we asked a lady. She hopped in the car and took us to the house and then left us - to walk back to her house - 20 - 30 minutes away.

**FAMILY**

My family is arriving in Harare, Zimbabwe on the 20<sup>th</sup> January. I am really looking forward to them arriving. There have been many robberies of missionaries in Harare so we are praying for His Divine protection while we are there.

Jay and boys are bringing a lot of unaccompanied luggage to help us with our home and also ministry materials here.

**Signing off.**

So there it is so far.

I have only been in the country for less than 8 weeks so we are in very early stages at the moment, a huge task to undertake. But I am very happy with the progress. As the weeks, months and years go by, I am expecting incredible things in God in this amazing, African land. To Him be the glory.

How can we, any of us, function without His guidance and power? I rely on him totally for everything I have and do. He is my closest friend and I feel His power when He is about to do something - especially changing a person's life.

Thank you for your prayer and support,  
God bless you. Have a great year 2000.

From the field,  
Greg Cumming

**A Prayer**

Lord, how can I say thank you for all you've done for me. You took me a sinner and you made me into a new creature. Then you put me on a long, winding path of life to teach me things that were pertinent to the job you have me doing now. Lord when I see an African lady on her knees crying with great sobs as she tells you "sorry" for the things she's done that have hurt you. When I see a renowned evil man, look at me with a shine in his eyes - thanking me for coming and praying for him in his terminal illness - and then

hearing him praise your name “Hallelujah Senhor Jesus”, and when I hear one of my staff say that since we came, his marriage has never been the same; I know Lord that you are everything and that it is the greatest privilege in all the world to give my life back to you and to serve you where ever you call. What a joy to know you Lord. You are my extreme joy. Thank you.