



In Every Language...



Recording in GRN studios

The last working day of 2023 saw our studio recording songs in Mongolian! The singer is Mongolian and studies theology in Sydney. He hopes to return home and plant churches in remote communities and sees audio recording as a useful tool for that ministry. We are training him to that end.

Aussie studio staff are recognized as GRN's audio experts within the mission. Our team are called upon

to provide training regularly. We have a You Tube channel with tutorial videos. We provide training in a variety of situations and plan on finishing our new studios this year to enable more in house training for our people around the world. We will also record music and produce videos more comfortably.

5fish continues to enable people to hear the story of Jesus in every language. The development team is

working on new features and improvements. This year will see extensive testing of 5fish by people around the world in a variety of contexts. Pray that 5fish will become easier to use and available to more people.

Recording is a challenging process. Getting the paperwork right is important and tedious! The first version of Rekordo has been released. This is an App (computer program) designed to help our field staff with their recording projects. Now it is used to send their finished recordings to the studio via the internet. Soon it will be the place to record their field research and language data.

We are so thankful for Tim Wildig who has joined our team as a JavaScript programmer – the answer to a longstanding prayer. Our IT team is very happy to welcome Tim and we look forward to seeing Rekordo development accelerate as a result.

Office staff are often seen as having boring and unimportant jobs in

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mission work, but they are vital. Finances, compliance, reception, orders... without good and competent people looking after these functions we would end up in goal or bankrupt or both! Wira has been looking after our finances for many years and would like to retire in 2024. We need a new accountant or bookkeeper. Please pray. Do you know someone who might fill this role?

We have the privilege of supporting GRN offices in nine countries plus the work we do here in Australia. Two are in Africa (South Africa and Kenya) and seven are in Asia (Thailand, Philippines and the rest are better off unnamed). As you can imagine each office is in a different stage of development and facing its own unique challenges.

We have 10 recording teams who are working in way more than 10 different countries. Each team is working with partners to see their recordings used in church planting efforts in a variety of contexts. Some are using tried and true methods, others are more creative with their content and planning. Pray for us as we seek to support each team with training, advice,

finances and equipment. Our Kenyan team completed the Look, Listen and Live series in the Sengwar language this year and are planning to distribute recordings made in a sensitive language in January. This distribution assembles local church leaders and trains them in the use of GRN materials so they can effectively use them in their outreach efforts and congregations.



GRN Kenya director Walter

One Asia country better off unnamed has two competent recordists. Candra travelled to a remote people group a few months ago where he recorded several GRN programs in a minority language. Candra is currently editing and programming these recordings. While he was away he also distributed existing recordings in some neighbouring languages. He hopes to repeat this pattern next

year when he distributes the recordings just made and will record in another local language.

An Asian country on the Open Doors watch list (high level of Christian persecution) is working well with the local church to train Christians to work with them in translation, recording and outreach. They have new staff needing training and are very courageous in the face of opposition.

Thailand and a neighbouring country have recorded the New Testament in a language that crosses their border. Our 4 recordists are busily editing their work and having it checked by the translation team.

Pray for these teams. Pray for us as we seek to support them wisely. Unrest and trouble is growing around the world, but our God goes before us. Pray that we might continue to tell the story of Jesus in every language.



*Christine Platt
CEO*

Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has been in the news a lot lately as it has been advancing in leaps and bounds. It is becoming part of many people's daily lives. Some aspects of it are quite scary but aspects of GRN's ministry stand to benefit from smart use of AI technology.

Language Identification

It is often a challenge to work out what language a person speaks when they speak a minor language from a remote place. They often don't have a name for their language, or if they do, they do not

know how to spell it! At the moment we find their language by trial and error, playing language samples until the person's eyes light up.

Technology is now emerging that can identify the language being spoken! Several very large corporations are working on this technology. Meta AI (Facebook) recently released an AI model that has a fairly high success rate (>70%) in identifying languages. Meta AI used publicly available audio (including GRN's) in thousands of languages to train their AI model.

Media Generation

Another interesting application of AI technology for GRN is media generation. GRN provides programs in audio, video, and text formats. AI technology now exists for generating content in these formats.

Speech to text detection can be used to generate transcripts of recordings. This is currently only possible for major languages. However, the number of supported languages is likely to increase. GRN has a collection of pictures that are used for our audio video

programs. We would like more pictures of the same style to provide more detail for our bible stories. AI technology now exists to automatically generate pictures for new content based on the style of an existing picture. It might also prove able to animate our pictures.

It is now possible to generate realistic speech matching a person's voice. While this poses scary security implications, there are potential applications for GRN. Perhaps it would be useful in generating missing speech during audio editing.

Due to the scale of GRN's media archive (13,500 programs in 6,358

languages) any mass changes we make need to be automated. AI can assist with that.

Productivity

Some of us are using AI to assist in writing computer programs. We can now start typing and the AI starts suggesting what code to write next. We can also tell AI what the code should do, and AI writes the code which then needs some human final touches. It is saving lots of time and can help with code quality.

Security

While AI is helping us identify security problems with our

technology it is also being used by those who want to undermine our security.

These are some of the potential benefits and challenges that AI presents for GRN's ministry. GRN has always tried to utilise the technology of the day for its ministry in telling the story of Jesus in every language. AI is likely to become yet another technology that will aid in bringing the gospel to more people.



*James Thomas
Information Systems*

Nigeria



GRN outreach

In September our Nigerian Team travelled to the Bangwinji tribe where GRN gospel recordings were distributed and played over and over again in various groups. A recent report indicates that five individuals decided to receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour and are now attending local churches.



Giving medical treatment

They conducted their annual medical outreach in early December. Local violence caused concern but didn't stop the ministry. A minor accident on the way home damaged the rear of the GRN vehicle causing a broken rear window but not a lot of damage.



GRN Nigeria director Kish

Hundreds of people received needed medical attention and also heard the good news about our Lord Jesus Christ. This outreach allows hundred of people to hear the story of Jesus in their own language.

AUDIO BIBLE

NIV | NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION™

read by David Suchet

MEGAVOICE
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GRN is pleased to announce the launch of the NIV Audio Bible with hymns. The complete NIV Bible, narrated by distinguished British actor David Suchet, renowned for his portrayal of Agatha Christie's Hercule Poirot, along with a selection of over 50 well known and loved hymns, all on a Megavoiced MP3 player. The Megavoiced device is a pocket-sized, rechargeable, solar powered, audio player used worldwide to communicate with non-readers, visually impaired and blind people.

Order yours now for just \$75 including postage anywhere in Australia by contacting the GRN office on 02 9899 2211 or au@globalrecordings.net.

Bangladesh



National Pastors and Leaders Conference

Bangladesh is one of the most densely populated countries in the world with around 200 million people of whom less than 0.4% are Christian. But that is still around 800,000 Christians! These Christians hold very large festivals which are often attended by members of the wider community along with the Christians.

Our GRN team visits these festivals along with smaller church events. They set up a stall and offer GRN recordings and picture books to attendees and a significant amount of GRN materials are distributed.

Our team also visits churches and Christian ministries around the



A pastor viewing a flip chart

country. GRN materials are appreciated by church leaders

because they help greatly in teaching the illiterate and children. Somewhere around 40 languages are spoken in Bangladesh along with a number of speech varieties (dialects) and GRN has gospel recordings in 55 of them.

Our Bangladesh team are learning the art of recording. They are half way through recording their first Look, Listen and Live set. They hope to complete this recording in March.

Please pray for them as they develop their skills and ask our Lord to provide them with many recording opportunities.

Pray too for the people they meet at these festivals and conferences. Pray for people to hear God's word and for the work of the Holy Spirit to bring them to repentance and faith.

Pray for our team as they travel throughout Bangladesh carrying God's word with them. Ask our Lord to give them boldness, protection and guidance.

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: grn.org.au

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: grn.org.au/serve

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 grn.org.au/listen www.5fish.mobi (mobile apps)

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If you feel led to give



Flipcharts for Bangladesh

Our Good News and Look, Listen and Live (LLL) flipcharts, when distributed with GRN recordings, have proven to be an effective way of spreading the Gospel in difficult to reach nations like Bangladesh.

Our team in Bangladesh has been distributing flipcharts to evangelists and church planters for many years. The time has come to reprint. GRN Australia would like to fund the printing of flipcharts to the value of \$20,000AUD for our team in Bangladesh to distribute with our Good News and LLL recordings.

Please pray for these funds and prayerfully consider if you may be able to contribute.

Go to grn.org.au/give

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

grn.org.au/give

or by **Phone** on 02 9899 2211.

Direct Deposit

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

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 \$500 Other \$ _____

I wish to pay

- A single donation Monthly Quarterly

I wish to pay by

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at the intervals I/We have specified

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Number on card

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New Zealand donations see 'Rejoice'

I would like further information on

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No stamp required on envelope



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