



Changing of the Guard



Tim and Lois Strauss and Graydon Colville

After serving as the Australian CEO for 12 years and International Director for 12 years, Graydon Colville will be passing on the baton to Tim Strauss in April 2024. Tim was elected to the role late last year at our International Council meeting but delayed taking it on while working on a doctorate.

Graydon is not retiring. He will continue to be a member of GRN Australia and to serve from the Australian office. He will probably

work with a combination of international and local responsibilities.

We are very excited to have Tim Strauss join us as International Director. He looks to be uniquely gifted and well prepared to take it on. I will let Tim introduce himself in his own words:

“I was born in Huntsville, Alabama and accepted the Lord at a very young age. I grew up in Escondido,



Tim Strauss

California where we moved to when I was 8 years old. My father was the pastor of Emmanuel Faith Community Church. He was a tremendous example to me of giving his life whole-heartedly to the Lord while maintaining a healthy balance between ministry obligations and his role as a husband and father. He passed away from cancer in 1993.

I met my wife at our home church and got married in 1990. We have four kids all of whom are grown.

It has been both my life’s joy and passion to serve the Lord in whatever job, circumstance, or location He has placed me. For the last 30 years I have been a

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missionary with Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) in the countries of Lesotho, Albania, Kazakhstan and the last 4 years in Istanbul, Turkey. While each new role and location had its own set of challenges and joys, without a doubt the most fulfilling aspect of my mission career is the deep friendships I've been able to develop with people from countries and cultures all over the world.

For the last 20 years my leadership roles have included building and leading teams to accomplish mission and strategic planning,

identify organizational culture issues, and impact lives in a varied range of circumstances and settings. My mission experience covers 13 countries and multiple languages. The large portion of my experience has been focused on some of the most unreached countries in the world, working closely with a wide variety of denominations, nationalities, mission organizations and staff of all ages. Through these relationships, I have seen and experienced successes and failures of ministry. I have developed a deep appreciation for the daily

struggles of serving outside of our comfort zone, which has led me to a strong belief in integrated ministry."

Please pray for Tim as he gets to know us and settles into the role. He will be based in San Diego, USA and travelling a lot.



Christine Platt
CEO

Soldiering on in Thailand Feb 2024



The team with the Nyaw people

Thailand is a Buddhist majority country where growth in God's kingdom is slow. The GRN team there has adapted its methods to suit the local culture and legal requirements. They spend a lot of time going into remote communities and getting to know people. They eat with people, share their lives and find ways to help and demonstrate God's love in action.

Recently Lot and Boy spent two days with the Nyaw people, helping them with the construction of their church building. Lot reports that it was a good opportunity to work together with them to strengthen their relationship, showing them God's love, and joining them in worship and prayer each day before work.

Early last year the team joined forces with a neighbouring country to record the New Testament in the Moken language. This is a huge undertaking. They are currently checking the edited recording with the Moken people. Pray that the Moken New Testament audio recording will soon be available for the Moken people to use.



The team has been studying Thai Buddhist culture and worldview and adapting our Good News script in order to address their particular questions and concerns. This has been a major project done over many months. We pray that God will use this script to open the spiritual eyes of many Thai people.



The team traveled to visit the Nyeu people in Sisaket Province. They took the GRN Good News script and picture book and spent time talking with a couple of Nyeu people, a Christian woman and a village leader, about plans to record in the Nyeu language. They agreed to help the team to record in their language.

The first step was to translate the Good News script into the Nyeu language. Praise God that this translation work has been completed. By the time you read this some team members hope to have visited the village to help the language helper, the Christian lady, to practice speaking in a way that is natural and interesting in preparation to record.



Anabel with the Hmong people

Team member Anabel had the opportunity to facilitate and participate in the distribution of wheelchairs to 5 Hmong living in a neighboring country. When a leader at the local wheelchair project in Chiang Mai saw photos of these handicapped individuals, he

exclaimed, "That is the very kind of people we want to help!" These are poor people with a disability, often sitting in the dirt, scooting around as best they can. One little boy is from a Christian family. The others are not, but there are believers in both villages.



Give thanks for our Thai team and the opportunities God has given them to love and serve the Thai people and their neighbours while telling the story of Jesus in the languages they find around them.

Our project for this Every Language is to allow the Thai team to finish building the perimeter wall around their property. We already have half of the money for this job and the team needs another \$5,000 to be able to complete it.

Meanwhile in Australia...



GRN at the 2023 AFES conference

As you read all these exciting things that are happening around the world you might wonder what on earth are all these people doing in our Australian office to tell the story of Jesus in every language?

Our Look, Listen and Live script is planned to be recorded in Malayalam, a major Indian language, this year. The translation is now complete and recording should start soon. This recording will then be used to translate the script into a minor Indian language with few if any Christians amongst their number.

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C E L E B R A T E S



A U S T R A L I A

Please rejoice with us in thanking God for 70 years of ministry through GRN Australia. He has brought us a long way from humble beginnings in 1953 and we give all glory and praise to Him for sustaining our work, supporters, staff and volunteers over the last 70 years. We continue to trust in Him for the future of GRN Australia.

Engaging with Bible agencies in Australia and the Pacific has been a recent focus. We are looking for opportunities to provide training so translated Bibles can be recorded for populations who often do not read their own language. Please pray for God to open doors for this work to grow and develop.



New studios are on the drawing board, and we plan on talking to some builders soon. Please pray for those who are working on the plans and will then engage the builders. These studios will be used for training, recording and video purposes.

The concept of 'recording teams' has been developing as the range and depth of expertise needed to

produce good recordings grows with changing technology and listener expectations. Training is being planned for our Asia/Pacific people and will require input from the Australian studio team.

The 5fish Android App is getting a facelift from our IS team. 5fish enables anyone with a device and internet connection to access God's word in over 7,000 languages and speech varieties in about 30 seconds. Our Rekordo App is being developed for our recording teams to help them with many aspects of recording process. It can be used offline and we hope will make our field people's life a lot easier. It is a major focus for our IS team.

We visit churches, small groups and conferences. We seek to encourage God's people and we invite you to join us in this exciting ministry. God answers your prayers to enable recordings to be made and distributed. He works in hearts and minds to bring people to repentance and faith as they hear God's word spoken. Your financial gifts enable our office to run and directly supports GRN offices,

recording and distribution in 10 different countries.

A big need we have right now is for an accountant. Please pray for God's provision of a suitable person. Like all positions here GRN pays a small allowance and we look to God to make up the difference – usually through the person's church and others led to invest in their ministry.

If you would like someone to come and visit your church or group, or you would like to join our online monthly prayer meeting at 7:30pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month, please contact the office. We regularly thank God for each one he prompts to join us as we tell the story of Jesus in every language.



Christine Platt
CEO

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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*Street: 57 Bing Lucas Drive, Tawa,
Wellington 5028
Phone: 4 232 6222*

If you feel led to give



A Wall for the Thailand Office

Our team in Thailand has a need to finish a perimeter wall around part of their property in Chiang Mai to provide security and separation from adjoining properties. God has generously provided half of the funds need to construct this wall, but the team still requires \$5,000AUD to complete this project.

Please pray with us for God to provide the remaining funds to complete this wall and consider if this is something that He is leading you to contribute to.

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

(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

- Thailand Wall
- General Fund
- Other _____

I wish to give

- \$30 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$200
- \$500 Other \$ _____

I wish to pay

- A single donation Monthly Quarterly

I wish to pay by

- I enclose my cheque or money order**
Please make all cheques payable to "Global Recordings Network Australia".
- Credit card**

I/We request GRN to debit funds from my/our

- Visa Mastercard American Express
- at the intervals I/We have specified

Name on card

Number on card

Expiry date

CVV

Signature

Name:

Email:

Phone:

New Zealand donations see 'Rejoice'

I would like further information on

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

No stamp required on envelope



Please return this form to:
Global Recordings Network
Reply Paid 87984
Seven Hills NSW 1730