

# MY MISSION TRIP TO MOZAMBIQUE



**JULY 2015**

By: Bishop Warwick Cole-Edwardes

Trip 38

## BACKGROUND

On the plane, flying home from Zambia, the in-flight magazine had this quotation:

*"If you love what you do, it becomes your life and can't be divided into weekend and work time. It's all consuming."*

I absolutely love my work it is all consuming, and now I head off on my 38<sup>th</sup> trip into Africa this time to Mozambique. There I will have the privilege of again speaking to the AIM missionaries who have graciously invited me back.



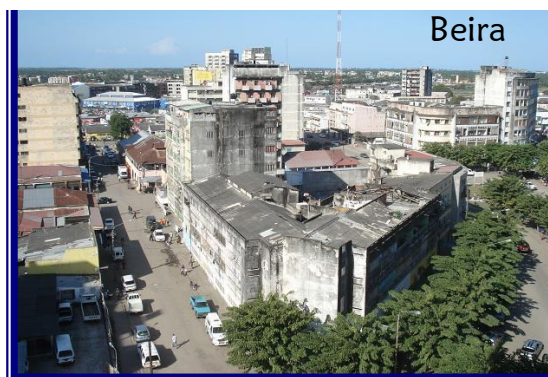
Two of our past students, Jinx and Dawn Reyneke are missionaries in the Espungabera area, so it will be a huge bonus to spend time with them.

What a year this has been ... travelling up to Kenya, Rwanda, Zambia and now to Mozambique, then to Uganda, Tanzania and DRC, encouraging our students, teaching the Bible and urging leaders to study further at KMBC - it has been a phenomenal year thus far.

In addition, it has been wonderful to spend time with Gregg and Yvonne Cameron before they head back to Paraguay, with Mark Fynes-Clinton before he headed on to Singapore to join the Logos Hope, with Sipho and Amanda Moyo who are now the deputy leaders of WEC S.A., with Ken Owino who now has graduated with is Doctorate in Theology, plus all the students at our two conferences - how God is using our past students all over the world!! I absolutely love what Oswald Chambers wrote of his Bible College, it so beautifully summarizes everything for me and my work at KMBC and Footprints into Africa.

*"one student a year who hears God's call would be sufficient for God to have called this College into existence. This College as an organization is not worth anything, it is not academic: it is for nothing else but for God to help himself to lives. Here in this College, God is at work bending, breaking, moulding, and doing as He chooses."*

So come with me to Beira as I spend five days with the AIM missionaries, teaching verse by verse through 1 Thessalonians, giving ten talks in five days. What a privilege to spend this time with these missionaries, I just can't grasp why they want me back ...





# Mozambique

Republic  
of Mozambique  
Africa

Population: 23,405,670

Capital: Maputo  
Urbanites: 38.4%



## Geography

Area: 799,380 sq km

The Zambezi and 24 other rivers divide the 2,800 km-long land and make north-south travel difficult

## Peoples

Peoples: 62 (15% unreached)

## Many groups

Mozambique is home to a variety of groups, who speak around 40 different languages and dialects belonging to the Bantu family.



Groups include the Makua, Thonga, Shona/Ndau, Sena, Nyungwe and Yao. Mozambicans often move around to find work and as in most countries, people are used to intermingling.

## Religion

Mozambique has a mixture of religions. Around a third of Mozambicans are Christian, with Roman Catholicism the major denomination. Around a quarter are Muslims, mainly in the northern regions.

Nearly half the population practises traditional animist beliefs, where the spirits of ancestors can affect the lives of the living. Many groups also believe in an all-powerful God, as well as spirits. Therefore, it is not unusual for traditional beliefs to be incorporated into Christianity.

**Official language:** Portuguese (understood by less than 30%)

**Language difficulties:**  
Following Portugal's colonial rule until 1975, Portuguese remains the official language and is used by government, law and business. However, Mozambicans grow up speaking a local mother-tongue. They must therefore learn Portuguese at school. Since school attendance rates are poor, less than half the population speaks and writes Portuguese with fluency.





# MY DIARY

## TUESDAY, 30 JUNE

Today is another exciting day for me as I head up north into Mozambique for my 38<sup>th</sup> trip into Africa. But first to read the Bible where my readings came from Joshua, Psalms, Isaiah and Matthew. In my prayers for the unreached people of our world, I prayed for the GAWAMAA people of SUDAN. Then my mentor, **Oswald Chambers** wrote a timely word:

“never water down the Word of God: preach it in its undiluted sternness. There must be unflinching loyalty to the Word of God; BUT when you come to personal dealings with your fellowman, remember who you are – not a special being made up in heaven, but a sinner saved by grace.”

My bag is packed, my notes are in my Bible, the malaria tablets are in, and I have brought some good books to read, so I am looking forward to the trip. Last week two things happened at the College that added to the fun.

1. KMBC won a local Soccer Tournament the students were so proud ...
2. KMBC hosted a Missions Fest Conference, which was our South African Conference, in addition to having our current students attend, we invited past students who had trained at our College to come together with their leaders, and it was a brilliant time. *All our guest speakers were either past students or lecturers*, which made the conference even more meaningful and special for KMBC and for **Footprints into Africa**, who was the main sponsor for the event. Venessa Huthoram, one of our past students kindly supplied a delicious breyani for one of the lunches, and it was delicious (as only our locals can make it ... causing a bit of a sweat ....) It was incredibly touching for me to see a student being so supportive and giving something back to the ministry of KMBC. These were our speakers:



**Rev. Jeremiah Zondi** - *“How to be a Pastor in Africa”*;

**Bishop Njabulu Mazibuko** - *“How to be a Leader in Africa”*;

**Rev. Andries Tsehle** - *“Theological Training in Africa” & “Reaching Africa for Christ”*;

**Sipho Moyo** - *“Opportunities for Missions in Africa”*;

**Rev. Dietrich Wichmann** - *“Paul, the Model Missionary”*;

**Rev. Luis Esteves** - *“The Local Church and Missions”*;

I did the morning devotions, a session on the life of one of my heroes, **David Livingstone** as well as one of the evening meetings.

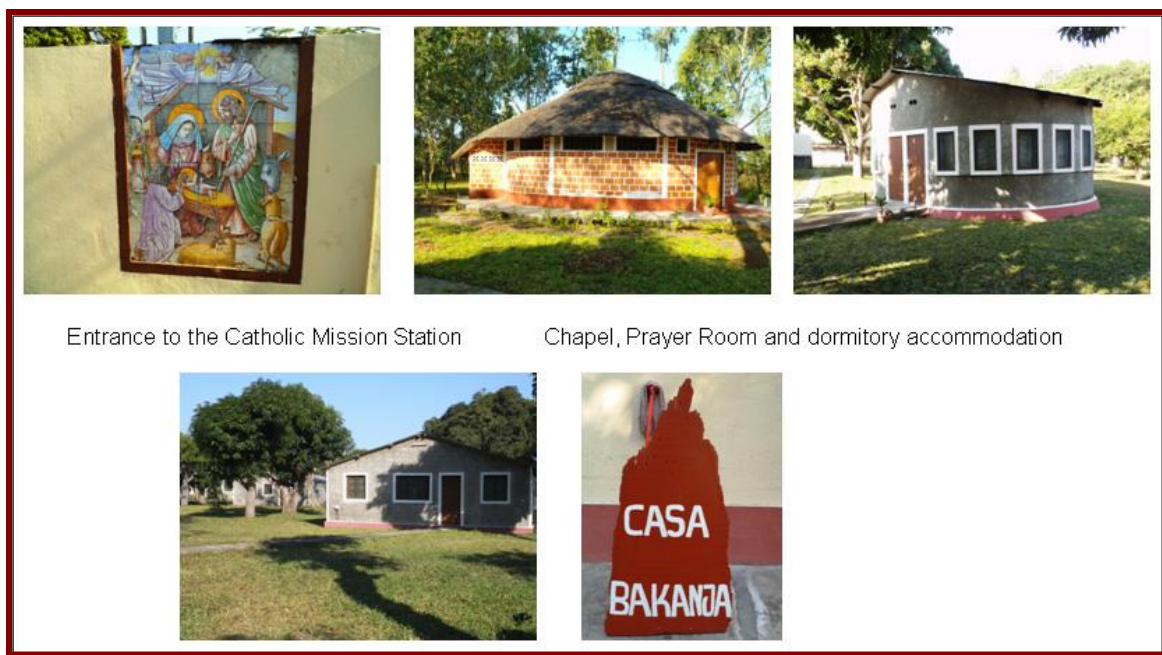
The conference closed with a service at **Holy Trinity Imbali** on the Sunday morning, followed by a lovely lunch - the folks there are really gracious and warm hosts.

So by God's amazing grace, Footprints into Africa has held two great Conferences for our current and past students, and the Lord has blessed us all richly. Enjoy the picture gallery:



After a busy term, which ended off with a great Conference I am now off to Mozambique ... phew life is so exhilarating and my work all consuming. I caught the 06:45 am flight out of Pietermaritzburg to Johannesburg, from where I flew on to Beira arriving just after 13:00 hrs. It was good to see the familiar landmarks and there to meet me was Tim and Beth Wood. As usual, I got a SIM card and we were soon on our way through Beira to the Roman Catholic Mission where the Conference will be held. Travelling along the road, Tim remarked how the Chinese were about to re-surface the road all the way up to Zimbabwe - it is incredible to see what China is doing in Africa.

The mission station was very basic, but comfortable and I was taken to my little room that will be my home for the next few days. My room was in the Casa Bakanja dormitory.



Entrance to the Catholic Mission Station

Chapel, Prayer Room and dormitory accommodation

For this trip, I have brought two excellent books, which I am looking forward to reading:



**"Heroes of the Faith" by Gene Fedele**

**"Perspectives on Church History" by G.J. Pillay**

At the morning sessions, I will be going verse by verse through 1 Thessalonians but in the evenings, I will be trying to deal with some of the challenges we all face in life, sharing from 2 Corinthians. Tonight I will be speaking on "DEALING WITH GUILT, GRUDGES AND GRIEF" as well as showing a DVD about Steve Saint who sadly lost his teenage daughter some years ago.

The meeting seemed to go well, so now I am off to do some reading and then get some sleep. Let **Spurgeon** close off the day for us ...

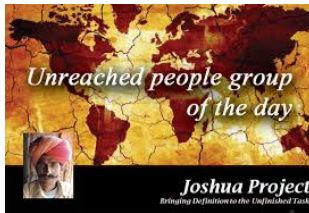
"be zealous – Revelation 3:19. It is not the extent of your knowledge. Though that is useful. It is not the extent of your talent, though that is not to be despised – it is your zeal that should do great exploits. This zeal is the fruit of the Holy Spirit; it draws its vital force from the continual operations of the Holy Spirit in the soul."



Please pray for that zeal in my life! Now I am off to sleep feeling so incredibly grateful to be here in Mozambique teaching the Bible.

## WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY

It is still dark outside but how better to start another day than by reading from the Word of God. My readings continued from Joshua, Psalms, Isaiah and Matthew, after which I was able to pray for the WALA people in GHANA, another unreached people group.



I love doing this each day in addition to all my other prayers; it keeps the fire for missions burning in my life.

Afterwards, in "My Utmost for His Highest", **Oswald Chambers** wrote:

"our personal property and possessions are a matter of indifference, we have to sit loosely to all these things: if we do not, there will be panic and heartbreak and distress."

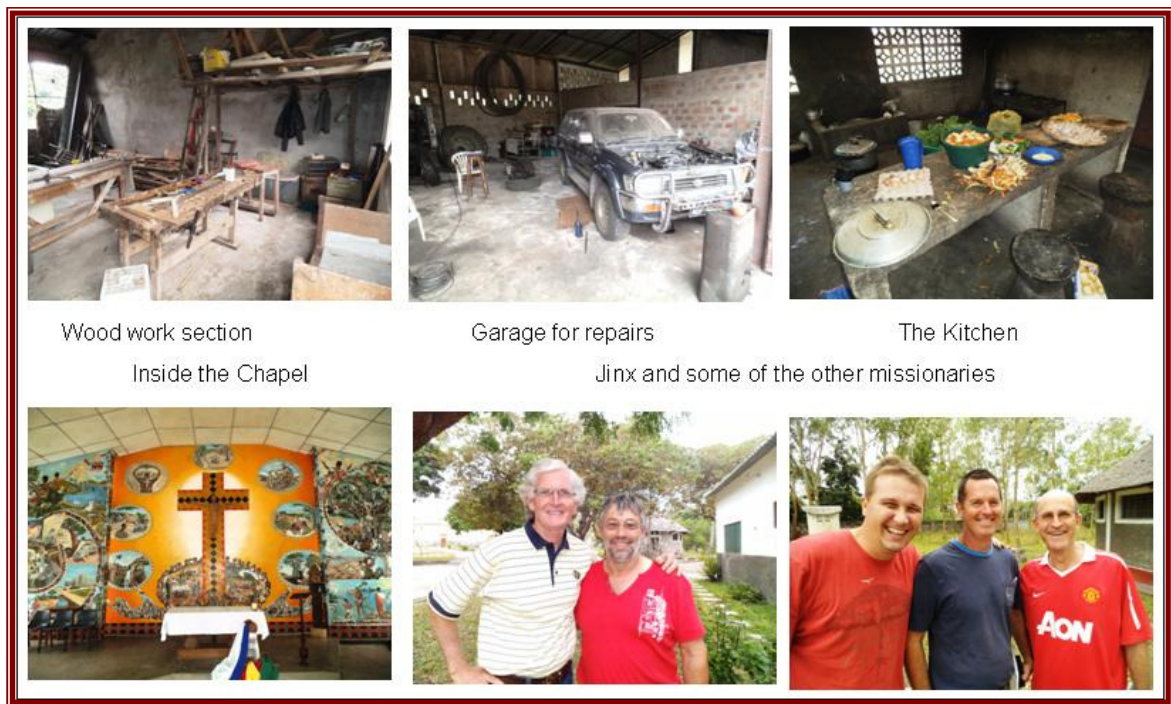
Now it is time for a shower and then to head off to breakfast before I go and teach from 1 Thessalonians Chapter 1 on CHRISTIAN EVANGELISM.



These dear servants of God were so appreciative of the talk so I came away grateful. We then went into a time of prayer for each of the missionaries serving in Mozambique, which was so moving.

After lunch, I was free to read so I dived into my books and also prepared for tonight where I will be speaking on "DEALING WITH FAILURE" and showing a supporting video clip.

It was also a good opportunity for me to walk around the mission station, it really is amazing what these people have done, and I hope that my photos will do the setup justice. I would love to head up a mission station like this for *Footprints into Africa* ... it truly is remarkable.



After supper, I spoke on "DEALING WITH FAILURE" and enjoyed some lovely fellowship with the missionaries. Now let **Thomas Brook** close off a brilliant day for us:

"There are three things that early riches can never do –  
 They can never satisfy divine justice  
 They can never pacify divine wrath  
 Nor can they quiet a guilty conscience ... and till these things are done, man is undone"

Thank you Lord, for a perfect day in Africa!

## **THURSDAY, 2 JULY**

There was a short shower of rain during the night so everything was crisp and beautiful this morning as the sun rose to usher in another day. My Bible readings continued in Joshua, Psalms, Isaiah and Matthew. Then during my time of prayer, I was able to remember the FOODO people of BENIN, another unreached people group. This morning, **Oswald Chambers** was particularly challenging, listen ...

"discipleship means personal, passionate, devotion to a person, our Lord Jesus Christ. To be a disciple is to be a devoted love-slave of the Lord Jesus. Whenever the Holy Spirit sees a chance of glorifying Jesus, He will take your heart, your nerves, your whole personality, and simply make you blaze and glow with devotion to Jesus Christ."

May the Lord set me ablaze and glow with devotion to our Lord Jesus. At breakfast, there was a short delay as we waited for some milk because they were still milking the cows ... wow couldn't be fresher than that ... right out of the cow into my coffee!!!





I then gave my talk on Chapter 2, which dealt with CHRISTIAN MINISTRY after which we were all taken to a restaurant, about 60 kms away and treated to a fabulous lunch ... so very spoilt. Then it was wonderful to spend time on my own and enjoyed reading this book on Church History. Giving all the Church History lectures at KMBC gives me real joy, so to read this book will benefit me greatly and of course refresh my memory.



After supper, I gave my fifth talk with the text from 2 Corinthians 4, on DEALING WITH OPPOSITION. Afterwards I made my way back to my room, overwhelmed by God's goodness in allowing me to serve as a missionary to Africa. If only this had happened years before, but I know, I was not fully prepared. John Piper said it all so well, listen:

"when you are involved in Missions, when you are laying down your life to rescue people from perishing, it tends to authenticate your faith and deepen your assurance and sweeten your fellowship with Jesus, and heighten your love for people and sharpen your doctrines of Christ and heaven and hell."

It is late, my book is almost read, I have tried to preach my heart out so let me fall asleep safe in the arms of Jesus and so thrilled to be here in Africa.

### FRIDAY, 3 JULY

Another beautiful morning greeted us and it feels so good to be here in Mozambique. So after a warm shower I did my daily devotions. My Bible readings this morning continued in Joshua, Psalms, Isaiah and Matthew. In my prayer time, I prayed for the MUMUYE people in NIGERIA, another unreached people group. Praying for the unreached people every day is so important - it reminds me daily of the need for missions. Then as always, Oswald Chambers writes in his daily reading:

"the initiative of the saint is not towards self-realization, but towards knowing Jesus Christ. There is a reckless abandonment about him."

Off to breakfast then to preach again from 1 Thessalonians - surely this is life at its best!!



My third talk from 1 Thessalonians covered Chapter 3 and dealt with CHRISTIAN BEHAVIOUR. Afterwards I was able to finish my book on Church History, which taught me a lot, especially the last few chapters which covered the history of the Church in South Africa. It was thrilling to read of the first missionary who came out to South Africa, George Schmidt and then of Van der Kemp and John Philip, three amazing men. What also struck me was to read of how John Wesley preached over 40,000 sermons during his lifetime and covered over a quarter of a million miles. These are our heroes ... now I can begin the other book I brought, *HEROES OF THE FAITH* by Gene Fedele.

After supper, I preached my fourth sermon from 2 Corinthians Chapter 4, which covered "DEALING WITH DISCOURAGEMENT". The talks have been greatly appreciated by all the missionaries and for that, I am very grateful. So after a glorious day, let me allow **JIM ELIOT** to close for us:

"I pray that the Lord might crown this year with His goodness and in the coming one give you a hallowed-dare-devil spirit in lifting the biting sword of the Spirit, and consuming you with a passion that is called by the cultured citizens of Christendom FANATICISM, but known to God as that saintly madness that led His son through bloody sweat and tears to agony of the Cross."

Phew ... what a man!!

## **SATURDAY, 4 JULY**

As the sun slowly rises over the mission, it is wonderful to begin this new day reading from the Bible and in prayer. My readings continued from Joshua, Psalms, Isaiah and Matthew and then afterwards in my prayer time I was able to pray for the DENDI people of BENIN. Oswald Chambers then wrote, as always so very challenging:

"it is so easy to talk about resting in the Lord and waiting patiently for Him, until the next is upset – until we live, as so many are doing in tumult and anguish, is it possible then to rest in the Lord? All our fret and worry is caused by calculating without God."

I am so enjoying this book "Heroes of the Faith"; it is a fantastic book on seventy biographical sketches of some of the great Christian heroes of the past. It was moving to read this of the **Apostle Paul**:

“during his missionary journeys he traveled more than 10,000 miles, displaying almost superhuman energy and endurance. He suffered every trial imaginable – stoning, shipwrecks, beatings, imprisonments in order to spread the Gospel. One could say the successes Paul experienced as a missionary, writer, evangelist, preacher and theologian could be found in what he wrote to the Church at Ephesus – ‘however I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me’ ...”

After a warm shower and some breakfast, I gave my fourth talk on 1 Thessalonians from Chapter 4 dealing with CHRISTIAN HOPE. This passage deals with death, the coming of the Lord, the resurrection and my heart was so much with JON - I miss him terribly. Afterwards I went into the little Chapel here at the mission just to be alone and pour out my heart to God ... soon he would have been gone for two years.



After lunch, I was able to spend some time reading, to walk around the mission and prepare for my evening session on the life of BARNABAS. The missionaries have really enjoyed all my quotes, but they all wanted this one from **John Piper**, which will close off another wonderful day of ministry in Africa.

“fight for us O God that we do not drift numb and blind and foolish into vain and empty excitements. Life is too short, too precious, too painful to waste on worldly bubbles that burst. Heaven is too great, hell is too horrible, eternity is too long that we should putter around on the porch of eternity.”

## SUNDAY, 5 JULY

This is my final morning of what has been such a special time with the AIM missionaries in Mozambique. My Bible reading continued from Joshua, Psalms and Matthew and today we started Jeremiah. In my time of prayer, I was able to pray for another unreached people, the BADHUI people of PAKISTAN. I am so grateful to the Joshua Project for sending me all this information each day. Then **Oswald Chambers** wrote:



“haul yourself up a 101 times a day in order to do it, until you get into the habit of putting God first and calculating with Him in view.”



He continues to challenge my life each day as he has done for the past forty-eight years!!! After breakfast, I gave my tenth and final talk from 1 Thessalonians Chapter 5 on 'CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY' and afterwards I was whisked off to the airport to catch my flight home. It has been such a huge privilege for me to be here, they have all been so gracious to me, and so it is with a heavy heart that I take my leave. But as Donald McClure, a missionary to Africa for 50 years wrote:

"I am filled with an undying ambition to do something worthwhile in the grand land of AFRICA ..."



### LOOKING BACK .....

What an incredible 10 days I have just had: with the Footprints into Africa Missions Fest Conference at KMBC and now this trip to Mozambique.

- Speaking over 15 times has been such a privilege
- Spending time with Jinx and Dawn was very special. When you lead someone to Christ they become part of ones family
- Spending time with all our past students at the Conference was very humbling and listening to their talks made me very proud
- It has all re-enforced my dream when I founded KMBC, to be able to train Africans for Africa who will go with passion, teaching the precious Word of God ... it is happening
- To be able to travel across Africa is for me, sheer joy - I love it more than you will ever believe. The trips this year to Kenya, Rwanda, Zambia and now Mozambique is the greatest privilege anyone could ever have. Now I go home for a few days and then I leave with Gregg to preach in Uganda, arriving back just in time to begin my lectures at KMBC as the College gets under way for the 3<sup>rd</sup> term
- So grateful for the time to read these books, they fire up my heart for the work

Before I close **THANK YOU** for your amazing support, which enables me to carry on this work ..., I am very grateful.

Now let **Jim Eliot** close off this journal and my 38<sup>th</sup> trip into Africa with a prayer:

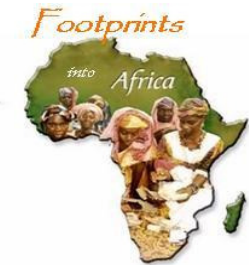


“God I pray Thee, light these idle sticks of my life and may I burn for Thee. Consume my life, my God, for it is Thine. I seek not a long life, but a full one, like you, Lord Jesus. Take my life, yea my blood if Thou will and consume it with Thine enveloping fire. I would not save it, for it is not mine to save. Have it Lord, have it all. Pour out my life as an oblation for the world. Make me Thy fuel, flame of God.”



If you would like to share in, or support my work into Africa, I would value your partnership. Perhaps you may like to consider one the followings avenues:

- ☑ Pray for one of the countries and the past students who are working there
- ☑ Sponsor a student's training
- ☑ Contribute to supply the pastors with resources for their work
- ☑ Contribute towards my missionary trips into Africa
- ☑ General support



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