

The news and prayer letter of Chris and Cãmica Hemborough

Project Mozambique - Plus

**WORKING WITH THE CHURCH OF MOZAMBIQUE AND OTHER
PORTUGUESE SPEAKING COUNTRIES IN AFRICA AND PORTUGAL.**

NOVEMBER 2025



Recent Trip to Mozambique

Dear Friends and Supporters,

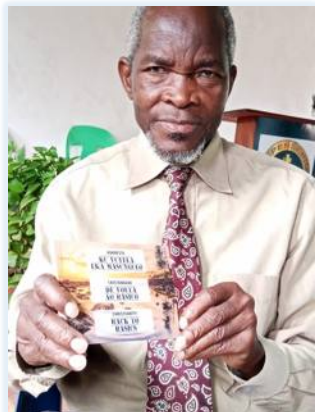
We have just recently returned from Mozambique where we had a very encouraging time as we travelled literally hundreds of miles across the country. Along the way we met some very faithful people working in their churches in different and, at times, challenging situations. We also got to see how we have helped equip those people in what they are doing; all of which has been achieved through your prayers and support, and as we all join hands to work together in God's Church. So we hope that through what we share in this 'longer than normal news/prayer letter' that you too, will be as encouraged as we have been.

Part one – Arriving and connecting up with faithful servants in God's Church.

Arriving into Maputo on Saturday 13th September we were able to attend a very lively service the following day. This was at a church led by **Pastor Inoque** who had received some of our books. It was good to meet him and his congregation, and we were grateful to our old friend Marie Josée who gave us a lift to the church. Then the following day, we arrived at Xai Xai after what turned out to be quite an eventful journey. There we were met by Mark and Lesley of **Provision Mozambique**. They took us to a house where we would be staying for the next seven days. It was a lovely place, with a view overlooking the Xai Xai beach with some fantastic sun rises, as seen in this photo.



The next morning, we met Carol who continues to arrange much of our printing and distribution. Carol had arranged some programs for us to visit local church leaders, but first she took us to **Infantário Provincial de Gaza-Xai-Xai** orphanage that she helping to support at which there are a number of very needy children. We were wanting to visit this orphanage as Cãmica and friends in Portugal had been making dresses for the girls there through an organization called '**Dress a Girl Portugal**'; the dresses would be both for this orphanage and for girls in need in other parts of the country.



During the following two days Carol had arranged for us to meet a couple of local pastors who had been working with the books which Project Mozambique – Plus provides the funds to print; plus two other books which we use that are produced and financed by BeaconLight.

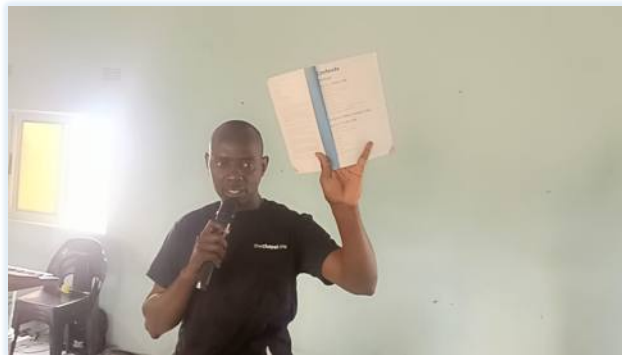
The first was **Pastor Nélío** who also helps at the orphanage. He took us out to visit some churches in a nearby district called Chibuto. There we met this very faithful servant of God on the left called **Pastor Samuel Souto** who expressed his gratitude to us for the books that he had received through Pastor Nélío. This was one of many wonderful examples of what is being achieved as the Body of Christ (the Church) works together as one. The photo shows Pastor Samuel Souto with one such book that Carol had produced titled **Back to Basics**; a very helpful book which is wonderfully illustrated for those who are new to the Christian faith, printed in Shangana, Portuguese and English.

We then travelled further with Pastor Nélío to visit communities situated in quite barren countryside. Here too Pastor Nélío had passed on Bible studies on our behalf and it was very encouraging to see in those areas how the Good News in Christ Jesus is being received and is prospering in many hearts. Though this was a barren landscape some fine church buildings have been built for the people to meet in, one of which is being pastored by a very cheerful young lady called Maria (in the first photo on right) who currently has a congregation of approximately 200 people. So we can say that while the land might be somewhat barren, God's Word is producing much fruit in fertile hearts.



More photos from the Chibuto area

ON the same trip **Pastor Nélio** (on right) took us to meet a group of women doing a Bible study supplied by our UK mission partners BeaconLight.



Below... Still on the same day in the Chibuto area... As the sun was starting to set we met these women coming home after being out working on the land!



Prayer points...

Please do keep in your **prayers** Pastor Nélio and his family and church, thanking God for his dedication in helping to distribute the books being printed over a large area. Please also remember in **prayer** Pastor Samuel Souto and others who are faithfully working in the Chibuto area in the south while **thanking God** for the help that Carol provides with the printing and distribution of the books.

Back in Xai Xai...

Pastor Moiane, seen in photo on the right, leads a small group of local Christians who visit the prison in Xai Xai each week, doing bible studies with our books and also books from BeaconLight. He therefore arranged for us to be part of one such visit where we had the opportunity of speaking with the prison director, before going into the women's section where Chris was asked to speak. This was a very moving experience where a number of women, sitting on straw mats, asked some very sound questions. This was after Chris had spoken to them on the parables of the lost sheep and lost coin, emphasizing the joy that there is in heaven whenever a sinner repents, and we all need to hear that! **Next**, was the visit to the men's section where Chris again spoke. Here things were very different, with a large group of men standing right in front of us to listen! Chris again spoke on the same theme of joy in heaven when a sinner repents, but this time, moved on to the prodigal son. Afterwards, Pastor Moiane took us to visit two congregations in Xai Xai where good use is being made of the printed resources we are providing. This was followed by another trip out to Chibuto, but to a different area from where we had been the previous day. This time, it was at an open air meeting for a group of women. By the end of the day, Chris had been called to speak on five different occasions, each time using a different passage from the Gospels.



Further prayer points...

The above photo is of women from the prison on a different day. Please keep them, and the men we met, in your prayers; many have hungry hearts for the things of the Lord. Please also **pray** for Pastor Moiane and his team for their work in the prison, and also the work that they do in their local churches.

Part Two - The Long haul!



Mark and Lesley from South Africa (who met us on our arrival in Xai Xai) have been missionaries with Provision Mozambique for many years and together they have established a network of local churches who make up what is known as Live Schools. This network has grown significantly across the country, and Mark and Lesley faithfully seek to visit those churches whenever they can to help equip local Christians with more resources, including Bibles, audio visuals, Bible studies, Bible commentaries supplied by **Manna Publications**, and the Sunday school activity books we have produced along with other material. So, on the Monday of the second week we left behind the Indian Ocean to prepare to travel the next day for a long trip with Mark and Lesley, so that Cãmica could do some training with the teachers. It really was a wonderful time, well worth all the preparation!

The evening before setting off on the long journey we met some children with special needs who Mark and Lesley foster in a project called 'Father's House'. This presented Cãmica with an opportunity to provide some dresses from 'Dress a Girl Portugal'.



So, early on Tuesday morning, we set off with Mark and Lesley for the long drive, taking with us the heavy load of books, as mentioned above. In addition there was other equipment, including TVs for audio visuals. We also had 100 SD cards from **100Fold** which included the printed and recorded version of the New Testament in the Cisena language along with some other visual aids.

We both found this trip to be a very moving experience and enabled us to see the huge commitment on the part of Mark and Lesley to visit these Live Schools. Everyone involved in the Live Schools manage to keep in touch with each other through a very active WhatsApp group, where news and prayer requests, along with photos, are regularly exchanged.

To give an idea of the commitment involved on the part of Mark and Lesley, the distance from their home in Xai Xai to the first Live School in Moatize (near Tete) was 839 miles. That's about the same distance as from Lands End to John O'Groats in the UK, but on the slow and difficult roads the journey took three days of skilful driving on the part of Mark. But by day four, with church leaders and Sunday school teachers arriving at the simple church building, after they themselves had travelled a long way, it became possible for Cãmica to start the training with the Sunday school teachers.



Prayer point...

Moatize is classed as a city and revolves around a large opencast mine from where coal is transported by train to ports for shipment overseas; other minerals are also being mined. One would imagine that this would create a lot of local wealth. However, the many simple homes with no running water, much like the church building in the photo, left us with the impression that it was a very poor area. But, the ray of sunshine shining through into the simple building, while Cãmica was speaking, was a wonderful reminder that the message of God's Good News can break through and transform lives everywhere. So, while we **pray** for the area of Moatize, we **thank God** for the message of hope that we can all share in a needy world.

Further prayer point...

The first photo on the right is of a small Sunday school class of very young children in Moatize. The second photo shows a box of activity books based on the Apostle Paul. Please **pray** that we are able to receive further funding in order to continue printing many more activity books which greatly help children and young people. The books also help provide further opportunities to practise their reading and writing skills which too, is a valuable educational contribution in Mozambique for which we **thank God**.



On this page you can ride along with us and see where we passed through on our way to more Live Schools!

After Moatize, we travelled on a long and difficult dirt track road to the town of Mutarara. Chris regularly came to this town and area in times past when we lived in Mozambique; often traveling with two of the team which we had then, Domingos and Inácio, who are both now with the Lord. Back then, we would show the Jesus film, distribute cassette tapes of the Scriptures, Bible studies and Sunday school activity books. What we can both see now, is that, in all that that Mark and Lesley are doing through the Live Schools, this work is both continuing and reaching a much greater area – and that is a joy to see!



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Here are a small number of photos from and around Mutarara...

1. The church where the Sunday school training took place.

2. The view from the church of the Zambezi river.

3. Though the river passes by, in the dry season Mutarara can be like a desert, as seen in this photo taken at the side of the church.

4. Mark is keeping children amused as he arranges some visual aids.

5. One of the very long coal trains that pass from Moatize through Mutarara on route for shipment.



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Following on from our time in Mutarara, we moved on to a town called Inhaminga which is located 55 miles south of the river Zambezi. But first we had to cross the river Chire which flows from nearby Malawi into the Zambezi; a river that had been navigated by former missionary and explorer David Livingstone. The crossing was via an old cable ferry worked by hand. This brought back memories, as did an interesting place we passed afterwards called 'Águas Quentes' (Hot Waters) - due to a natural hot spring bubbling up out of the ground. This was then followed by further difficult dirt track roads through isolated communities.

1. Winding the cable ferry across the river.

2. Coming across the river to drop off a vehicle and to take us back across

3. Mark taking a well-earned rest from driving

4. While winding the ferry across was slow work, this loaded canoe came 'speeding' by us.

5. The nearby steaming hot springs on the other side of the river

6. Old memories of when Chris would pass by here with our old Land Rover, on that occasion it was a somewhat wet day!



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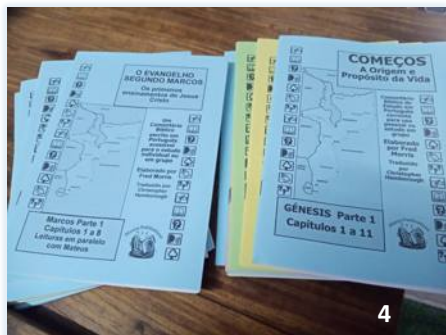
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Inhaminga

Due to having to return to Xai Xai to extend our visas, the town of Inhaminga was, for us our last port of call with Mark and Lesley. We had anticipated this, and so Lesley was observing Cá mica to see how she did the teacher training in order to follow on at the other locations further north, where other teachers would also be receiving the Sunday school material.

The town of Inhaminga, had suffered much during the civil war which finished in 1992; now it is a much more vibrant town. Here, a number of Sunday school teachers travelled considerable distances to be at the seminar, reminding us again that this work has grown significantly with Mark and Lesley. Here are a few photos from our time there.

1. One route for Inhaminga- Lesley and Cá mica at the hot springs.
2. The church building at Inhaminga which, unlike the church building in Mutarara, was a more basic building; similar to the one in Moatize.
3. All those attending each of the seminars received a pack with the Sunday school material and other helpful resources.
4. Included in the bag was a set of very helpful Bible commentaries produced by Manna Publications; an organization with whom we have worked with for some considerable years.
5. One of the participants for the teacher training with her bag of resources to take back to her church.
6. We also distributed the SD cards with the New Testament scriptures and other material in the Cisená language, produced by **100Fold** for use in smart phones and tablets.
7. Lesley would always ask Chris to start the day with a thought from God's Word, something that he always enjoyed doing. Here in Inhaminga he was speaking about when Jesus walked on water.



Prayer Points- Mark and Lesley - plus Provision Mozambique

1. We **thank God** for His protection during the whole of the journey, including Mark and Lesley as they continued to travel further north while we headed south.
2. We **thank God** for all that was achieved during our time with Mark and Lesley.
3. Please **pray** that the seeds of God's Word, which was shared during the training, will be planted in the lives of many, from children to adults.
4. Please **pray** that others can come and work alongside Mark and Lesley to help take on this vital work, and that their strength is renewed.
5. Do take a look at Mark and Lesley's website where you can see further ways of praying and supporting them both. The address is: <https://provision-mozambique.org/>

Heading south back to Xai Xai—and to the third and final part of our time in Mozambique...

And it turned out that we weren't the only ones heading south. At this time of the year the humpback whales can be seen along the Mozambican coast migrating back to the cold waters of the Antarctic. This whale, brilliantly captured on film by Carol, reminds us of the words in Psalm 98:7-9.

Let the sea roar, and all its fullness. The world and those who dwell in it; let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills be joyful together before the LORD. For He is coming to judge the earth. With righteousness He shall judge the world, and the peoples with equity.

So, after saying our 'goodbyes' to Mark and Lesley we travelled by bus to Beira from where we then flew to Maputo and took a minibus back up to Xai Xai. This time we stayed in a fascinating house at the Blue Dolphin restaurant which is owned by Carol's brother, Lance, and sister-in-law, Lisa, so we were all neighbours for 10 days. After this we met Mark and Lesley again who were traveling to South Africa, so they very kindly gave us a lift back to Maputo for our flight home. It was good that God enabled us to all meet up again. Mark and Lesley then flew on to Portugal for a well earned rest with family.

While back in the south, Carol had arranged some further very helpful programs. Firstly, to the home of Pastor António and his wife Gladys from the Reformed Church.

Then we had a very encouraging time when we met members from different churches in the area of Xai Xai who are using some of the literature we supply. Carol arranged this meeting through a very faithful servant of God called Mara who is also responsible for 'The Bible Shop' in Xai Xai and so has contact with local churches. This for us was a very fruitful and rewarding morning in which we received feedback from people in regards to the literature that we produce. **The photo** on right shows Mara at the meeting with more packs of books to distribute.



Finally, it was appropriate that towards the end of our time we again focused on children. Firstly with a visit to a local Sunday school in Xai Xai run by Pastor Mandlane (photo on left). This was arranged by Lynn, who had kindly arranged a safe place for the storage of all the books - see photo below on right with Carol and a couple of boxes.

Then on our final Sunday in Xai Xai, we attended an open air service arranged by Pastor Nélío and his young church. This was followed by another visit to the **Infantário Provincial de Gaza-Xai-Xai** to distribute more dresses that Cá mica and friends in Portugal had made.



Contact information, including for donations...

Donations for the work of Project Mozambique - Plus can be sent to our treasurer at the UK address...

Ana Hemborough,
5 Tai Penyard, Merthyr Tydfil, CF47 0LP.

This is now the address for all correspondence.

Tel: 07826 450 187

Email: ana.hemborough@gmail.com

Cheques to be made payable to
'Project Mozambique'

Ana can also provide information on gift aided donations.

Bank details for online donations :

Name of Account: Project Mozambique
Sort code: 20-99-40

Account number: 00993972

E-mail: projectmoz@gmail.com

Website: www.projectmozambique.com

Project Mozambique is a registered charity in the UK.

Charity number - 1074456.



During our final days back in Maputo we again met Marie Josée and her family, plus Jorge and Alice who are Portuguese missionaries in Mozambique during many years. **Interestingly**, we met Mark and Lesley again recently! This time at Lisbon Airport as they were allowed an extra suitcase on their return flight. What an opportunity! We therefore filled up a suitcase with Bible study books for Mark and Lesley to take back to Mozambique.

Please keep the country of Mozambique in your **prayers**, especially in the north where we continue to hear of further dreadful atrocities committed by what is referred to as 'Islamic State Mozambique'. Please **pray** for an end to these dreadful attacks.

Our **prayer** is that this much longer news and prayer letter, with all its photos, has enabled you to see more of the work that you so very kindly support through your giving and prayers. We hope too that even through this letter you have been able to 'travel' with us on this journey in Mozambique and to have met some of the people who are always an inspiration to us.

God bless,
Chris and Cá mica