

Flying Mission

Newsletter

April 2008

Editorial

Dear Friends of FM

Botswana has had some lovely rains and wow, how nature around us just blossoms in this very arid country!! Pondering over 1 Cor. 3:5-9, twice scripture clearly states „... **but God makes it grow.**”

So, as we observe growth around us and in us, let’s look beyond the obvious and see God’s hands at work, His fingerprints all over.

That is how we felt with Dave Young’s visit for the organisational assessment, events just dovetailed one another... we now have a clearer understanding for the way forward. ‘Change agents’ Tom de Waal and John Lübbe were appointed to work on the details of the structure that takes on board past growth and caters for future growth. What an opportunity!!

Thank you for your prayers.

John F. Lübbe, Director

OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW



Flying Mission Zambia FMZ

Connecting in Zambia

God uses people to serve people. FMZ is in the business of **connecting** the people here in Zambia with the God who cares about their needs.

We **connect** expert medical staff with rural health facilities

We **connect** medical emergencies with life-saving care

We **connect** short-term volunteers with rural projects

We **connect** new Christians and pastors with leadership training, materials and programmes

We **connect** ‘least-reached people groups’ with the Gospel

We **connect** ministries with the equipment they need to do their job in the bush

We **connect** local people and children with Jesus Christ...

Challenge to change

Mbala is an Air Force base in northeastern Province of Zambia. International Missions Board, a partner with FMZ, arranged to train chaplains in the True Love Waits programme which advocates abstinence before, and faithfulness in, marriage. FMZ was called to fly the team of 3 Zambians and their supervisor to this rural place. Arrangements did not come easy - it took 6 weeks for permission to land the plane to be granted. Even on the day of the flight, changes were required and it had to be postponed a day.

Finally, however, training took place. It took 2 days. Now those chaplains are teaching the programme in all of Zambia’s military bases, multiplying the effectiveness of this most relevant Christian message to an AIDS-afflicted country, challenging people to behavioural change.

This, and many other connections like it, are serving the need of rural Zambia and showing God’s heart of love ... join us by praying, giving, coming.

By Sally Green



Inside this issue

Holy Cross Hospice	2
Opportunities to touch lives	2
An ambulance arrives	3
Returning to Maun	3
Personnel info	4
Personnel needs	4

Theme of this issue

OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW

Flying Mission Zambia FMZ

Department updates

- ò ! 4 bedroom re-modelled **Guest House** due to open soon
- ò ! Broke ground for **new hangar** in March, \$75 000 raised, \$25 000 still needed
- ò ! New **improved engine** shipped from USA for Cessna 206



HIV/AIDS

Department



...the transformation of an old office room into a peaceful, beautiful place...



Transformations

The Holy Cross Hospice provides help for people in the community as a day-care centre and home-based care service, providing a life of dignity for people who are ill. Two nurses from Flying Mission currently work there 1 ½ days each week. They go with the medical staff to home visits and work on a schedule for the day care patients, sharing with people who need to know about the love of God.

The latest project carried out was the transformation of an old office room into a peaceful, beautiful place - a relaxation room. The money to create this new room was donated by colleagues of one of our nurses, who is from the UK. The idea of the room was based on the idea that patients dealing with pain and stress need a safe and quiet place to relax.

The room was dark and ugly when short-termers Stefan, Christian,

Deborah, Nicola and Jessica started to paint the walls a nice bright colour, bought attractive furniture and decorated the room comfortably. The room is a place of refuge and a place where the patients can receive a massage. One of the most important things for these people, most of whom are HIV positive, is physical touch and the sense of being understood. Most of the staff at the centre have never had a massage, so we hired a masseuse to show the staff the value of physical touch. The results were awesome - people left the room dancing, smiling and wanting to learn how to do massage. The aim now is to find somebody who can train the staff to massage the patients and we are in contact with a massage trainer. We hope the room will continue to be a place of rest and of renewal.

by Nicola Hofmann, Short-termer

Opportunities to touch lives



...I assist with preparing breakfast and lunch, help by teaching the children numbers, play and sing with them...

The Community Relief Day Care Centre (CRDCC) was established in Tlokweg by BORNUS (Botswana Retired Nurses Association) in 2003. The main goal of the centre is to provide comprehensive quality health care and support to chronically and terminally ill clients including HIV/AIDS patients, as well as orphans, vulnerable children and the elderly, who are mostly caregivers. In addition, the Centre exists to relieve the burden of care on caregivers and the affected families.

I started to go to the Day Care Centre a few months ago. My first impression was very positive and I enjoyed the open, friendly team. The

reason I go there once a week is to assist the only teacher they have who has a class of 24 small children. I assist her with preparing breakfast and lunch for the children, help by teaching them numbers and letters and play or sing with them in their garden. The children take a nap after lunch, and then I have time to do administrative work on the computer or I play some card or table games with the adult patients there.

The picture was taken on a trip to the Gaborone Game Reserve. I think it was a wonderful experience for the children and they really enjoyed it.

by Deborah Urech, Short-termer

HIV/AIDS

Department updates

- ò Bible distribution at the Tumelong Day Care Centre in Kumakwane at the Christmas party held on 17 December
- ò 10 caregivers from different day care centres around Botswana completed 6 weeks of **Little Seeds training** in December
- ò Two vehicles were purchased for the HIV/AIDS department with funds donated by a church community in Oregon, with the help of a former FM missionary
- ò FM short-term volunteers continue to support the **Tlamele feeding programme** by helping to prepare meals and ministering to the children through drama and play

If you want to know more about these exciting developments, go to our news site at <http://www.flyingmission.org/news> and read about them there.

An ambulance arrives

FMS has an agreement with the Ministry of Health to provide air ambulance services, carrying on a 28-year tradition of transporting critically ill and injured patients in Botswana. FMS contracted with Rescue One to provide paramedic services both in the air and on the ground. These two organizations recently joined with Rotary Club Gaborone to celebrate the donation of a ground ambulance by Rotary Club. The ambulance, coming from the UK, was originally slated to go to South Africa, but a series of events brought it to Botswana instead. Based in Francistown, it has been in service with FMS since early September.

FMS hosted this celebration to show its appreciation to Rotary Club and to God for providing the ambulance as a

tool for serving the country of Botswana. Close to 60 people gathered at the FMS hangar at SSK airport, including a delegation from Rotary, representatives from the Department of Civil Aviation, Rescue One personnel, and guests of Flying Mission. In a symbolic gesture of the donation the Rotarians handed the ambulance keys to FMS Managing Director, Bob Patterson.

"This ambulance has already served us well," said Director of Operations, Mark Spicer. "Today we dedicated it to God for serving critically ill and injured Batswana, and it is our hope that it will serve us well for many years to come."

by Debbie Spicer



...we dedicated this ambulance to God for serving ill and injured Batswana...



Returning to Maun

FMS re-opened its Maun base on third January with the commencement of air charter service for Uncharted Africa into the popular Jack's Camp. We are rotating our pilots to Maun until Travis Weaver can settle there in late March. The flexibility and willingness of our pilots to do whatever they can to help during this time of transition is enabling us to restart this program in a professional and efficient manner. Another asset is the addition of Melly Moswela to our team as flight coordinator for Maun. Melly comes to FMS with a great deal of experience in this field.

Travis Weaver's father, Roger, was the FM pilot who first opened our Maun base, moving there with his family in the late 1980's. It is hoped that the Maun programme will once again flourish and begin generating

income for Flying Mission ministries.

by Debbie Spicer



...FMS reopened its Maun base on third January...



FMS

Department updates

- ! Opening of the **AME School** has been delayed, but we still hope to open by mid-2008. We still need maintenance instructors for the school
- ! **Two more pilots** have joined us: Ryan Cole from Canada and Bryan Lindner from the USA (along with wife, Amy, and son, Elijah)
- ! Terry Norr, an **expert in business management** for mission organizations, spent a week with FMS, assessing our programme and giving input and recommendations

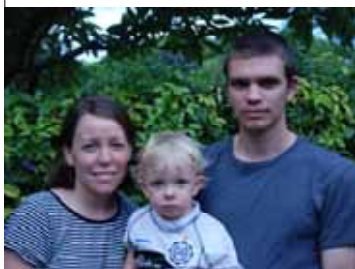
Personnel info



Ryan Cole (Pilot)
joined Flying Mission Services in Botswana in February 2008.



Graham Crawford (System Administrator) returned for long-term service in Botswana in October 2007.



Bryan and Amy Lindner with Elijah (Pilot and Homemaker) joined FMS in February 2008.



Melly Moswela
Flight Co-ordinator and Scheduler FMS



Luke Saffarek (Coordinator of Short-Term Volunteers) returned to Botswana for long-term service in November 2007



Diane Vos (Administrator) is moving to Zambia in July 08



Richard Wheatley (IT Manager) is relocating to Zambia in April 2008.



Ernst & Susi Schneider (Logistics and Guest House Management) joined Flying Mission Zambia in September 2007.

Impacting Botswana

It's a great thing to see youth and young adults come to Botswana from around the world and get involved in mission work. I believe everyone who has taken the opportunity to come as a short-term volunteer has never regretted it.

Our short-term programme is for volunteers who would like to come to Botswana from 6 months to 2 years.

As volunteers begin their time here, they are each taken through orientation which involves introductions to the language, culture, and history of Botswana. Some of the opportunities for volunteers are orphan care projects, building projects, office jobs, errands, sports ministry. There are also opportunities for those with specialized skills such as IT, accounting, construction, mechanics, teaching and nursing. Throughout their time here short-termers can join a weekly Bible study group, and participate in short-term volunteer retreats and outings.

Our aim is that each volunteer who participates in Flying Mission's short-term programme is challenged and encouraged to continue to follow God's leading in their life as they return home changed, and challenged to impact their own nation for God.

If you have questions or would like more information about our short-term programme please contact me at lsaffarek@flyingmission.org.

Luke Saffarek, Coordinator of Short-term Volunteers



- Human Resources Manager
- Development Manager
- Aviation Engineer/Trainer
- Aviation Engineer

please contact hr@flyingmission.org

Note: Applicants for all positions will need to raise their own financial support.

Personnel needs

Botswana: Office: Tel/Fax: 267 3912981, E-mail: office@flyingmission.org
Flights & maintenance: Tel: 267 3900297, Fax: 267 3904181

Zambia: Office: Tel: 260 1214386
Flights: E-mail: flights@flyingmission.org

Webpage: www.flyingmission.org
News pages: www.flyingmission.org/news

Flying Mission is registered as a society in Botswana, as a non-profit corporation in the USA, and as a charity in the UK (Charity No. 1114919)

Contact details

