



REACH BEYOND

NEW ZEALAND

Formerly HCJB NZ

VOICE & HANDS

ISSUE 4 | WINTER 2026

IN THIS ISSUE

Letter from the CEO

A Mission Poles Briefing

Dale Stagg - CEO Australia

Reach Beyond Australia

NZ Staff Focus - Janice Reid

SHARING JESUS. GIVING HOPE.
TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES.

A NOTE FROM OUR CEO



Greetings,

Psalm 145 has to be one of my all-time favourite Psalms. Consider these excerpts::

I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever. Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever. Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. (vs 1-3) And later: All your works praise you, LORD; your faithful people extol you. They tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, so that all people may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. (vs 10-12)

This Psalm celebrates the fullness of God's greatness and reminds us of our privilege in sharing the glorious story of His Kingdom.

As you read this fourth edition of Voice and Hands, I trust you will be encouraged to praise God for who He is and for all He has done.

The reality is that villagers in remote and often forgotten parts of Ghana are hearing about God the King through our mission poles. People in Indonesia, Thailand, and other Southeast Asian countries are learning of His greatness through local radio broadcasts. Across New Zealand, children and families are discovering the splendour of His Kingdom through our bilingual SuperBible comics.

All of this is made possible because of you, our "faithful people" who, through your prayers, encouragement, and generous gifts of time and money, continue to extol Him.

As you read, take time to reflect on God's goodness and greatness. Praise Him for all He has done. Be encouraged by the stories in these pages and rejoice in the ways He is at work through His people around the world.

Blessings and warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Russell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

A MISSION POLES UPDATE

80

A lot has happened since our last Voice & Hands, so here's a brief update.

The container of Mission Poles left China in August. The departure was slightly delayed because it needed to travel on a ship certified to carry lithium batteries, but it is now on its way and is expected to arrive at the port of Tema in September.



God opened some remarkable doors during one of Russell's recent trips. A miraculous meeting on a flight from Accra to Dubai led to Russell and Bob being invited to meet key Ghanaian leaders, including Ghana's Minister of

Education, the Director of the Common Assemblies District Fund, and senior staff from GIFEC (Ghana Investment Fund for Electronic Communications). These meetings resulted in official approval for our shipment to enter Ghana free of import duties and customs taxes. Every person we met expressed strong support for the Mission Poles project, and we are confident more opportunities will follow.



The Mission Poles project has now been adopted as a global initiative of Reach Beyond. A new Mission Impact Team (MIT), made up of Reach Beyond representatives from the US, UK, and New Zealand, will provide oversight, with Russell serving as chair. This global structure encourages wider fundraising, increases donor awareness, broadens access to

expertise, and ensures the project is not dependent on just a few individuals.

We have also developed a reporting tool that will help us measure both spiritual and economic impact in villages using Mission Poles. This will strengthen our ability to share stories of transformed lives and communities.



As we expand into Northern Ghana, transportation has become a significant challenge. The region is approximately 620 km from Accra and can take one to two days to reach by road. Hiring trucks for each trip costs more than NZ\$4,500 once transport, security, accommodation, and other expenses are included. Purchasing a dedicated box truck, such as a Hyundai E-Mighty, would be a far more economical and effective long-term solution. At approximately NZ\$42,000 (US\$24,500), it would provide secure transport and mobile storage for equipment, spare parts, and solar equipment. I'm grateful to report that fundraising for this vehicle is already nearly halfway complete.

In September, Bob and Josh will travel to Ghana to install eight more Mission Poles in the Northern Region—a very exciting milestone.

Another wonderful answer to prayer came through a connection made at EMDC this year. We met the team from OneWay Ministries, a mission organisation working extensively throughout Northern Ghana. Their trained evangelists travel by motorbike to remote villages, showing the Jesus Film, leading Bible studies, and sharing the Gospel. They immediately embraced the Mission Pole concept and have already purchased a pole for their training base, which will be installed during Bob and Josh's visit. We are thrilled about this partnership and have great confidence in the ministry God is doing through them.



Thank you for your continued prayers and support as we work together to bring connection, opportunity, and the hope of Christ to remote communities across Ghana.

Passing the Baton



Dale Stagg has served as CEO of Reach Beyond Australia (formerly HCJB Australia) since February 2009, guiding a ministry dedicated to sharing the gospel through media, healthcare, and community development in some of the world's most unreached regions, particularly across the Asia-Pacific.

Before joining Reach Beyond, Dale built a diverse career blending public service, counselling, and Christian ministry.

Reach Beyond Australia's vision and mission is straight forward. To see Jesus known and loved by unreached people, transforming the lives of individuals and communities by using dynamic media and community development initiatives that serve as the Voice and Hands of Jesus.

Under Dale's leadership, the Australian office has advanced its broadcasting capabilities. A key milestone was the dedication of a new shortwave radio

site in Kununurra, Western Australia, fulfilling a long-term vision and providing powerful coverage to the Asia-Pacific region, with a focus on rural and remote communities.

Dale's approach combines strategic leadership with deep pastoral concern, describing the organisation's passion as "bringing spiritual and social transformation to people in remote and unreached communities where hope is needed."

He is known for his collaborative style and the quality of media productions supporting the ministry.

His tenure has been marked by both visible and foundational contributions. Under his leadership, Reach Beyond Australia has strengthened financial stewardship, expanded strategic partnerships, and remained firmly anchored in its mission—proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ among some of the most remote and least-reached communities in the world.

Beyond these outcomes, Dale's leadership has been characterised by humility, collaboration, and care for people. His approach has fostered strong teams and meaningful partnerships, enabling ministry growth across the region, including outreach in heart languages to communities such as the Chin Matu, Rohingya, and Bhutanese peoples.

After nearly 18 years of faithful and impactful service, Dale will be stepping down as Chief Executive Officer effective September 30, 2026. He will continue through to the end of the year to support a smooth and orderly transition to new leadership in the Australian office.



REACH BEYOND AUSTRALIA

Reach Beyond Australia, formerly known as HCJB Australia, forms a vital part of the global Reach Beyond ministry (previously HCJB or World Radio Missionary Fellowship). It uses shortwave radio, digital media, and partnerships to share the Christian gospel, provide hope, and support community transformation, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region.

Global Roots and Australian Beginnings

The story traces back to Christmas Day 1931, when Radio Station HCJB (Heralding Christ Jesus' Blessings) first broadcast from Quito, Ecuador, under the vision of Clarence Jones. What began as a local AM station evolved into a major international shortwave ministry known as the "Voice of the Andes."

Australians caught the vision in the early 1950s. For decades, supporters promoted the global work, raised funds, and sent missionaries to serve in radio, healthcare, and other areas in Ecuador. Key milestones included the incorporation of HCJB in Australia as The World Radio Missionary Fellowship of Australia Inc. in November 1986.

David Maindonald became the first full-time director in the late 1980s. Studio facilities expanded with a new headquarters and studios dedicated in 1993 at a site partnered with a Melbourne church.

Becoming a Broadcaster: The Kununurra Miracle

A pivotal development was establishing a broadcasting presence in Australia. In 1997–1998, HCJB Australia acquired a 200-acre property near Kununurra in Western Australia's Kimberley region, adjacent to the Ord River. International experts praised its strategic advantages for reaching Asia and the South Pacific.

After legal changes and persistent advocacy, Australia granted international broadcast licenses in 2001. Broadcasting commenced in January 2003 to the South Pacific, followed shortly by Asia. By 2010, reception reports arrived from at least 57 countries.

In 2006, the ministry leased a larger 1,200-acre site nearby for expanded operations. A new shortwave facility was dedicated in 2013, fulfilling a 24-year vision. Transmitters (including 100 kW units relocated or refurbished from Ecuador) and large antennas now deliver stronger, clearer signals across vast distances.

The original property now supports staff housing, volunteer accommodation, a caravan park, and community initiatives like Alta-1 College for local students.



Name Change and Strategic Evolution

In 2014, the global ministry transitioned from HCJB to Reach Beyond, reflecting an expanded focus beyond radio to include healthcare, community development, and digital outreach while maintaining the core mission of reaching the unreached.

Current Work: Voice, Hands, and Partnerships

Today, Reach Beyond Australia operates from its national office and studios in Kilsyth, Victoria, and the Kununurra broadcast site. It transmits powerful shortwave signals in over 30 languages, including many South Asian ones, targeting remote and isolated communities across the Asia-Pacific—home to billions where traditional media access is limited.

Programming blends gospel messages, Bible teaching, indigenous music, family life topics, and health education under the tagline “Life Changing Radio.” Schedules adapt to propagation conditions, with frequencies varying by time and season.

Beyond radio, the ministry emphasizes:

- Digital Expansion: Programs

and scripture sharing via WhatsApp and Facebook Messenger reach thousands daily.

- Listener Impact: Testimonies highlight transformed lives, villages coming to faith, and practical hope in challenging regions (e.g., updates on India, Bhutan, and Rohingya communities).

- Global Partnerships: As part of Reach Beyond worldwide, it supports media planting, medical caravans, clinics, water projects, and refugee aid in collaboration with local churches and organizations.

- Local Engagement: Opportunities for volunteers and staff in Kununurra and Victoria, plus tours for supporters.

The Australian branch sustains its operations primarily through local donations and partnerships, while contributing to the broader mission of sharing Jesus, giving hope, and transforming communities worldwide.

Looking Ahead

From humble promotion efforts in the 1950s to a sophisticated shortwave and digital ministry today, Reach Beyond Australia exemplifies faithful perseverance and strategic adaptation. Its location uniquely positions it to beam messages of hope into some of the world’s most unreached areas.





Janice Reid

New Zealand Staff Focus



"Every time I listened to the program, I found a way to solve my problem. When we seek God, God always has a way for us, so there's always life."

Mr "Anada", a farmer, was sitting on the step of a simple, country church that was only a few months old. I'd gone



there, up in the mountains of northern Thailand, to hear the story of how the church was established—the outgrowth of Christian radio broadcasts from another town.

The village receives the radio signal via a relay built by a technician who lives there. He'd heard the broadcast when he was driving through the other town, and liked it so much he wanted to listen when he was at home. The rest, as they say, is history!

Mr "Anada" and his wife both believe in Jesus, learning about him from the pastor who speaks on the radio. Mrs "Anada" told me that her husband used to be a drunk—a mean drunk—so she prayed to Jesus to heal him from his alcohol addiction. The radio pastor didn't say, "Stop drinking alcohol"—because Jesus Himself created alcohol. But the presenter said, "If you keep the money and don't spend it on alcohol, you can have more money for your family." Mr "Anada" heard, and decided to follow the presenter's advice. He said God helped him to stop drinking. Mrs "Anada" agrees: "It's changed us."

Stories like this are why I'm so thrilled that God has called me to radio



ministry, and to training those who serve on the front-lines in telling their own communities about His love.

I had wanted to be a missionary since I was a teenager—soon after I came to faith at age 13. After university and a period of working, I went on to study at the Bible College of New Zealand. Finally, when I was 27, my fantastically



I spent two years in Cambodia from 2003, working independently to help any radio ministry that needed it. I officially joined HCJB (former name of Reach Beyond) in 2006. Since joining this mission, I've lived in Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia—returning to NZ in 2021 to care for my disabled brother (who is now with the Lord).



supportive church called me to serve with Far East Broadcasting Company in the Philippines.

I lived in there for eight years, hosting programs then moving on to train other announcers. One highlight was a long radio program series called “Firm Foundations,” with an overview of the character of God and His plan, starting at creation and leading to the death and resurrection of Christ. A lot of writing, that, but others were also interested to use the material. Another mission even gave my scripts to all their new mission-staff who went to Africa!

My first workshop for HCJB was in the Indonesian province of West Timor, but I've taught announcers and station managers in many centres around the country—as well as in Thailand, Vietnam and Myanmar. Now, I mostly develop training materials and teach online, while my colleague Nitha—who is Indonesian—visits stations and translates materials for me.

My most frantic year was 2013 when we started 17 new stations in Thailand—and I taught at 16 of them, as well as three in Indonesia! It was an exhausting year, but a great testimony of God's faithfulness, and evidence of His desire to see the nations worshipping the beauty of His holiness. May many more people come to Christ through radio, or social media, or in whichever way we can communicate His love and goodness!



Across the world, a fresh and vibrant expression of biblical storytelling is capturing the imagination of young people. Heroes of History, our Bible Comics series, has become a innovative tools in our mission to share Scripture with thousands

SuperBible is a strategic in bridging generational, cultural, and linguistic divides. Bob and his team are tirelessly expanding the library of available languages, ensuring that people can encounter the Word of God in their heart language. These comics are reaching communities living under political restrictions, social pressures, and spiritual isolation—offering a lifeline of hope, truth, and redemption.

A New Chapter: Heroes of History in the Matu Language

One of the most exciting developments underway is the creation of Heroes of History in the Matu language. Under the leadership of Pastor “Asnee” and in collaboration with our New Zealand and Australian teams, three episodes—Job, Noah, and Creation—have already been completed. These will soon be printed and distributed throughout villages in Myanmar.

Our own Abbey Grainger has played a key role in scripting the Matu translations. Matu is spoken in the Chin State

of western Myanmar, a region where Buddhism is the predominant religion and access to Christian resources is limited. This project represents a significant step in making the gospel accessible to this unreached people group.



Pastor “Asnee” has been faithfully ministering among the Matu people through the Hingna Awl (“Living Waters”) shortwave radio program, bringing the gospel to listeners who may have no other access to Christian teaching. His commitment has created significant opportunities for many to hear the message of Jesus—often for the very first time—and his partnership in this initiative has been truly invaluable.

The Transformative Power of Scripture

The impact of God’s Word is unmistakable. It restores families, strengthens communities, and brings healing to hearts. In a world searching for peace and meaning, the gospel offers a hope that does not fade. Our mission is to nurture deep, enduring engagement with Scripture to spark genuine spiritual transformation that shapes lives and communities for generations.



Testimony Corner



"I am a farmer in this village, Akrakese. Ever since Reach Beyond brought us this pole, our lives have been transformed. The Word of God it plays automatically has had a powerful impact on us. In addition to playing the Scriptures, the light from the pole has also helped protect our village from thieves. Before this pole was installed in our village, you couldn't leave cocoa seeds here overnight—someone might come and steal them. But since we received this pole and its light shines over parts of the village, it has put a stop to thieves coming to steal our cocoa beans. Thank you very much, Reach Beyond. God bless you. We are grateful and hope to have more of these in our village."

Amoah Razack, from Akurakese

"Reach beyond. Thank you very much for your honest to us.

I'm away for some time ago when I came.

I'm very grateful to meet your reach beyond system that you put here, especially the Bible preaching to us. We are quite acknowledged from your preachings and our people gathering here. They appreciate you. Thank you very much for your assistance to us.

We again communicate through you to the environment and the entire village to year of the group who very well as the systematic unit is working. We thank you very much for your instrument given to us for us to hear the word of God. When you see over here the shrine is there it's over shadow the shrine now they are also wanted to enter into us for more gospel as you brought to us. They wish to be more than us but the Bible overcame them and shadow them so you could see they do renovation as you painted your pole but they cannot do whatever you will do. We thank you very much for your message given to us through your Internet. Thank you very much."

Hope Singh Disu, from Doglokpo

LEAVE A LEGACY OF HOPE

TRANSFORM LIVES FOR CHRIST

You can leave a lasting impact for God's Kingdom. Your legacy gift to Reach Beyond can transform lives and bring hope to those in desperate need of Jesus Christ. Here is what your support can do:

- ➔ Expand the reach: Your gift will extend ministry around the world to reach even more people who don't know Christ.
- ➔ Transform lives: Through our radio, digital media, healthcare, and community development ministries, we witness miraculous changes as people find hope and come to know the saving power of Jesus Christ.
- ➔ Ensure your vision lives on: Leaving a legacy gift means you will be investing in reaching the unreached for Christ into the future. By making a planned gift, you can continue the work of Reach Beyond during and after your lifetime.

Please contact us so we can answer questions and talk through the options. Have you already included Reach Beyond in your estate planning? Let us know!

REACH BEYOND

✉ PO Box 97-610, Manukau City 22412

☎ 0800-REACH-1 (0800-732-241)

@ office@reachbeyond.nz

🌐 www.reachbeyond.nz

f reachbeyondnz

📷 @reachbeyondnz

BEYOND WORDS

BEYOND BORDERS

BEYOND OURSELVES