



AUGUST 2009 - # 4

IT'S BEEN 10 YEARS!

On 6th August this year Prison Broadcasting Network turns 10 YEARS OLD! It has not been an easy road and we have faced many, many challenges along the way. But we have and continue to persevere to see changed lives behind bars.

Over the years we have trained over **100** offenders in skills ranging from radio, television and music production; to computer literacy and sound engineering. Alongside their training they also received personal and/or group ministry and counselling. Many of them managed to stay for the duration of their training while others left due to: transfers, releases, accessibility difficulties, or change of interest.

As far as our contribution to reduce the recidivism rate (rate at which ex-offenders return to prison after their release), we are only aware of **3** of our ex-offender students who have returned to prison! Realistically however there may be more as we have unfortunately lost touch with many of them and some are still in prison. We can confidently state though that far less than 75% (the approximate current recidivism rate in South Africa) returned to prison.

Our official Personal and Spiritual Development division which existed from 1999-2006 ministered to and counselled over **420** offenders and our radio broadcasts were heard by an estimated **22,000** individuals behind bars! During our broadcasts we received hundreds of dedications from the offenders and many gave their lives to Christ and received prayer and/or counsel. The majority of our former students also gave their lives to Christ at some stage during their training or were already Christians.

I don't believe in making claims as to how many people were 'saved' as:

- Salvation is a heart issue – anyone can make a declaration, but the decision is made in the heart.
- No ministry or individual can lay claim to 'saving' lives – The Lord saves lives and it is usually a process which involves many.
- Salvation is just the beginning – it's discipleship we were called to.

So to all of you who have partnered with us throughout the years in one way or another we would like to thank and honour you. We could not have got this far without you.



We are now forging ahead to get our next project up and running – establishing a **dedicated prison television channel**. It is going to require much prayer, staff, financial backing and favour from Correctional Services. In the meantime we are continuing our television production training and producing shows to be broadcast throughout the prison television systems.

The prison intercom system through which we run our radio broadcasts is **STILL** in a state of disrepair and no information is available as to when it will be up and running again.

EX-OFFENDER UPDATE – DEAN CLARKE

Many of you will remember Dean Clarke – one of our former offender students. He spent 2 years working with us while in prison and then joined our full-time staff as an employee for the next year. Unfortunately we weren't able to pay him much and eventually he left to follow other interests. When we launched our television division he returned as a volunteer for about 5 months and then left again.

He is now working in **China** teaching English! Dean was one of the most eloquent speakers of the English language I have met, which is what made him such a great candidate for our radio programmes. They are no doubt getting some great teaching and we wish him all the best.

TV PROGRAMMES IN PRODUCTION

Our **NEW DAY** programmes usually take precedence over most of our other work but we recently produced a programme for Correctional Services' "Responsible Manhood" event. We also filmed the entire event and produced a DVD for Correctional Services of the day. All the camerawork and sound was done by our offender students.

We have now produced enough inserts for approximately five **NEW DAY** programmes, but progress is still slow due to lack of skilled staff, resources and funding. You will find some of the **frame grabs (pics) from some of the TV inserts above.**

As we wish to produce **RELEVANT** programmes, when we produce an insert on a **RAP** artist, we try to make him look the part (see pic left above). Inserts on the work done by Correctional Officials also forms part of these programmes in order to encourage the working together of offenders and Correctional Officers.



- (Frame grab from one of our productions) -

PRAYER NEEDS

- Favour from Correctional Services
- For provision for all our needs
- For specialist TV volunteers
- For protection & wisdom

OTHER INFORMATION

Prison Broadcasting Network is committed to the holistic rehabilitation and moral rejuvenation of inmates utilizing the mediums of radio and television.

We are a registered Non-Profit Voluntary Association - Reg. 027-721NPO and a registered Service Provider to Correctional Services – Reg. PL004/06.

We are members of the Association of Christian Broadcasters and accountable to Valley Christian Church.

We exist by faith and value your support and prayers.

CONTACT DETAILS

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EXPERT TRAINING

Our students recently received some expert training from an SABC Producer, professional scriptwriter, 3rd year journalist student, and location sound engineer. We thank Tertius, Kyla, Hazel and Brendon for their invaluable input and the time that they gave so freely.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

We are still looking for anyone in Cape Town who has some background in television production or television broadcasting (including all technical aspects) to assist us on a voluntary basis.

A PERSONAL NOTE


If you haven't heard already, my wife Rochelle and I are proud to announce the birth of our second daughter, ASHLEIGH PAIGE BOADEN who was born on 30th June 2009.

LAST SAY

Thank you to those of you who have and continue to support us. Let's remember that life is a marathon, not a sprint. Our ultimate goal will take time, but changing just ONE life will prevent a murder, rape, hijack or some other crime.

If you would like to become a partner or volunteer, please contact me at info@prisonbroadcast.org.za or on 082 4888 345.

Many thanks and blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marius Boaden". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.