

MMM New Zealand News

Issue 3 2020

Building...
Empowering People

DIGGING IN

to make camps better!

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Front Cover; James Pask serving on the CYC
Ngaruawahia project

Letter from the Director

September 2020



You are about to read of a miracle! No, really you are! Given that for last seven weeks MMM, like New Zealand, like most of the world, has been in Lockdown, what could we possibly have to share in our quarterly m

. Serving on an MMM project is a great way to show love and support to front line Christian workers, learn new skills and enjoy fun and fellowship with other believers.

Howard Robinson



Vision: To see the Church empowered and equipped with adequate facilities appropriate to God's mission

Mission: MMMNZ exists to enhance the spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the ministry of building, both people and facilities to serve Christian work and workers in God's global kingdom

New Team Members

WELCOME TO THE PEDERSEN'S

I feel I have known about MMM for about 20 years at least. There has always been a thought in the back of my mind that one day I will go and serve with those guys. I just didn't realise the 'one day' was going to come up so suddenly - like, right now!

I was born in Denmark which may explain my unusual name, Lejf, (pronounced Life). I was born into a religious district, there was a lot of state religion in Denmark, so you do Christian things. I was christened and went to Sunday School as a child and was confirmed when I was 14. When I left home at 18, I thought, "Because I am a good person and God is a good God, because I have done 'right' things that was required of me. I am a Christian and I would go to heaven when I died." That was the theology I left home with and I was quite content with that.

I did my electrical training and then travelled around Europe. I ended up in Israel, of all places, and I spent a few months there. There I discovered the places I had heard of in Sunday School and realized they were real places. That made me think, "If these places are real, perhaps the people who lived and walked here must have been real too." That was an eye opener to me. I also got to rub shoulders with some genuine believers while I was there, and I saw they had something I didn't have. I didn't know what it was – I didn't really even know what questions to ask. Then I ended up in North West England at a place called Capernwray Hall. There I joined the maintenance team as a Christian because you know, I have always been a Christian. But there was this thing, these people have something I don't have and I don't know what it is. It was after a couple months, that God revealed clearly to me, through a conversation I had that I was a sinner. Here I was 25 years old, no idea that there was even sin in me, but once I understood, I gave my life to the Lord. Suddenly, the story about Jesus being crucified made sense. It always saddened me that God let Jesus die on the cross, such a cruel thing, but now I understood it was just so exciting.

I spent a couple years in England and went back to Denmark for a couple years, then God laid it on my heart, you need to go to Bible School. My thought was Capernwray New Zealand, I didn't think of going anywhere else, so I went to Monavale, Cambridge to the Bible School and did a year's course there. It was during that year that I learnt a lot about God. Jesus and myself and



became very friendly with one of the staff members at Capernwray – which does happen sometimes, we have three kids now, that's the short version of that story. I never really left Capernwray, I stayed on and became the Maintenance Manager which is what I have done for over 20 years now.

Now, with Capernwray coming to a standstill (due to Covid-19), I was looking around thinking when what can I do now? There was plenty I could do but I didn't really want to go and do it, the only thing in the back of my mind was I would like to go and serve with MMM. But there are some obstacles in the way, and they were just too big, so I didn't want to go and do it. The obstacles were -they may not want me, I'm not really able to be mobile, and there is the financial side of raising support, so it was all just too much. But when MMM invited me to join and it was arranged that I don't have to travel all over New Zealand, I can just work in the Waikato that was a couple things that was settled but there was the financial side. It is nice to know you get paid once a month you know where the money is going to come from for food and all your bills. But to not have that was so foreign to my mind I didn't feel I could do it.

But then God just clearly revealed through scripture that he can look after anything. There is that saying, "It is easy to believe in God when we food on the table and money in our pocket." But when we don't know where the money for the food is going to come from it's a different story. In our home group we were going through Marks Gospel and we had gone through how Jesus had fed the 5,000 and then he went on to feed the 4,000 and then straight after that there is a passage where the disciples realise, "oh, no we forgot to bring bread! Oh, what are we going to eat?" It's like Jesus really rips into them and says, "Haven't you understood anything. Haven't you got eyes to see and ears to hear?" Didn't you learn anything from those two miracles? The night I was leading the study I was saying, "We have to have faith in God, we have to believe he is going to provide." And to myself I'm saying, "Man, I actually have to live this out. "That was really the turning point where I realised I have to step out in faith.

It is wonderful to have Lejf on the MMm Team. Lejf is well known to the Christian community around the Waikato and is a great blessing to the team. Lejf was encouraged to pursue his desire to serve with MMM by his wife Lynette and family, Anita, Emma and Lucas.

SOLD!

**Have you made a Trademe purchase lately?
Well, here's a story that could be a warning!**

From time to time MMM has excess donated goods and we sell those items on Trademe.

Recently we sold a benchtop. We were happy for the price the auction received when towards the end of the auction a war of bidding went on between two bidders. When a couple came to collect the bench the guy asked, "What is this place, what do you



do here?" Howard, who was helping them load the bench into their vehicle, explained MMM with the buyer replying, "Well, I'm glad we are donating to a worthy cause. You might find this funny. But my wife and I both bided on this item! I didn't know

my wife's Trademe account name and didn't realise I was bidding against her! I can tell you this, we have agreed never to speak of this Trademe deal again!" We thanked them very much for their generosity!

HOGAN'S ON A MOBILE MISSION

It is great to have Roy and Rachael, Joshua, Gabrielle and Caleb, serving with MMM. Roy as a capable Team Leader and Rachael educating the kids and keeping everything else running. If you are wondering what that is like for a family five to be on the move serving with MMM in a variety of places read on!

They say that the only thing that we can be sure of in life is change and that pretty much sums up life for our family right now.

The last 6 weeks have been so jam packed, sleeping in 6 different places in that time in Pirongia, Lower Hutt, Kāpiti and Tairua. We have done so much and seen so many places and people. They have been good, crazy, busy, chaotic, exciting, fun, but also at times, kinda hard and full on.

We have been able to use the opportunity so far to explore these areas with the kids - we are so lucky to live in an amazing country where there is so much to see and do. We have done bike rides and walks, explored beaches, local parks and libraries. We even fit in a week of swimming lessons for the kids and catching up with friends and family when in Kāpiti. We have been to Cathedral Cove, Hot Water Beach and Pauanui. The kids loved Hot Water Beach and are keen to go back... but who wouldn't love lying in hot water at the beach for a couple of hours in the middle of winter?!

I see the kids growing in resilience and perseverance as they are continually put in new situations, having new experiences and with new people. This is something that couldn't be learnt if they weren't put outside of their comfort zones.

So there has been lots to keep us busy, but also heaps of change. I have been reminded that one thing we can be sure of in life and in



our new journey is that there will be different seasons, but none of them last forever and even in the depths of the dark winters where there maybe a lot of chaos and confusion, the new life of spring isn't too far away... but we need those hard bits to learn how to persevere so we can really grow when spring comes.

For those who know me it may be a surprise to some that I don't actually like going to new places and meeting new people all the time, I actually quite like just being around the people I already know well. But as I walked alone along Tairua's Ocean Beach one evening looking out at the incredible view I was reminded that sometimes you gotta make yourself vulnerable and uncomfortable to see the beauty that was there all along. I wouldn't have been able to see that view or had the experiences our family have had in the last six weeks if we were still living our comfortable lives in Waikanae. The kids all told me that as the week of their swimming lessons went on, it got easier and I think it's true, doing new stuff isn't always easy... but slowly it becomes easier when you keep at it.

We continue to be humbled and overwhelmed by the generosity, encouragement, support and prayers of so many people who help us negotiate these changing seasons.

If you would like to read more of their journey check out; <https://hogansonamission.blogspot.com>

TRIBUTE TO ERNIE

When Peter and Kay Brown and their boys moved into the MMM property at 1 Kane Street, Pirongia towards the end of 1995, they began fellowshiping at the Te Awamutu Bible Chapel. A friendship soon developed between the Brown family and Ernie and Grace McLay which was the beginning of a long relationship between them and with MMM NZ.

As MMM began to get established there were plenty of opportunities for Ernie and Grace to get involved and this they did with great willingness! The renovation of the house for the Brown family was one of the first projects they got involved with and Ernie spent many hours cutting and laying second hand carpet throughout the house. Ernie's 'green fingers' were put to good use helping to establish the orchard and gardens and his skills were greatly appreciated when it came to pruning time, both the fruit trees and the roses thriving under his care.

Ernie joined the MMM Management Team, taking on the role of Minute writer in the very early days of MMM's establishment and



continued in this role until the end of 2012 when the concentration of the meetings began to become a struggle for him.

Right from the beginning, Ernie and Grace regularly helped out with the folding and preparing for posting the

Prayer Force on a monthly basis and also the MMM News magazine each quarter.

They faithfully supported all the events held at the MMM Centre, including Open Days, Garage Sales along with various celebrations and farewells. Ernie - supported by a very faithful Grace, served MMM for almost 25 years.

All at MMM appreciated Ernie's quiet but very effective service over these years and give thanks to God and wish to pass our heartfelt condolences to Grace at this time of Ernie's passing to Glory.

- Bruce Alchin

Prayer



Yes, MMM is a practical ministry but did you know MMM has ways to pray for the ministry? Did you know you could receive our prayer calendar, Prayer Force, so that you can pray for the ministry every day? Or get along to a Prayer Fellowship where you meet with others to pray. MMM Prayer Fellowships currently meet in Hamilton, Tauranga and Titahi Bay, Porirua. A wonderful opportunity to fellowship and pray together.

Prayer is a battle and we need your support. Will you pray with us? Contact the MMM office to receive the Prayer Force or more information on the Prayer Fellowships.

COME AND JOIN A PRAYER FELLOWSHIP!

Hamilton Prayer Fellowship

2nd Thurs of the month, 6:15pm
- Bring a pot-luck dish-
David & Jenny Halse
5 Huntington Drive, Huntington
Hamilton 3210

Tauranga Prayer Fellowship

2nd Tuesday of the month
1.45pm Afternoon tea
Home of Norm & Jean Hockly
1 Burrows St., Tauranga South
Phone 07 578 8178

Porirua Pudding & Prayer

2nd Monday of the month, 7:30pm
Home of Ossie & Jenny Fountain
3/63 Main Road
Titahi Bay, Porirua
04 831 1171

OR START A NEW ONE IN YOUR AREA!

Contact the office.

Thank you
FARMERS
we appreciate
you!



Around New Zealand farmers support the work of MMM by raising or grazing stock, that are then sold when they reach maturity with the funds going to support MMM's overseas work.

This year we are unable to send teams to Fiji but we are still renting a unit. MMM New Zealand also supports the work of MMM in other countries. We are able to do that through the Farmers' Fellowship programme.

If you are able to gift or graze
stock for MMM we would love to
hear from you!

Sometimes we have stock in an area but no feed or vice versa, so if you still only have feed, or are willing to donate an animal still get in touch, we would love hear from you!

Contact Maurice Turner 027 4984 993 or
Doug Carson 027 4550 100.



MMM WORLDWIDE

MMM is an international ministry operating in Australia, Fiji, Hong Kong, Thailand, South Africa and Zambia. Please pray for the leaders in these various countries as they face huge challenges due to the challenges of the global pandemic.

MMM Hong Kong is facing other challenges with government changes and Covid-19 they ask that we pray for wisdom as they share the vision of MMM with the church. They also have a need for more volunteers who have the skills and time to serve and donors to support the ministry.

Both Australia and Hong Kong have challenges due to the level of Lockdown in those countries. Pray for wisdom, strength and encouragement as they manage the

teams and strive to encourage workers when work cannot get ahead.

MMM Zambia has it's own challenges with there being no water to the property for over six weeks due to a broken pipe, outside their gate which the council hasn't fixed. They are waiting on their own well which would release them from relying on the town supply. They are also working toward income generating projects to create a sustainable future But these have stalled due to COVID-19 restrictions. **If you would like to assist MMM Zambia financially with the challenges they are facing please contact the MMM New Zealand office.**

Please pray with us for the challenges facing MMM worldwide.



Serving those who serve....

Full-Time Team: James Pask, Roy & Rachael Hogan, Leif Pedersen.

MMM Shed, Pirongia

We have been very grateful to have so much great support in getting the MMM Shed and Hong Kong unit finished. It has been a while since we last did any big projects at the MMM Centre. We are very grateful for the wonderful property MMM has in Pirongia and it is a great asset to have. Now we have a much improved shed which can protect vehicles and store donated items that can be recycled back on to projects, wonderful! We have also got the Hong Kong unit finished in time for new volunteers arriving involving a shuffle of the MMM accommodation. Many thanks to all who served on these projects. *Team Leader - James Pask, Stephen Douglas, Roy Hogan, John Jackson, Wayne MacCarthy, Rodney Morse, Ronnie McArthur, Leif Pedersen, Graham and Colleen Stokes and Ben Wooding.*



Matamata Christian School



During the school holidays the team returned to Matamata Christian School to put a roof over the deck they built last year. Being in the holidays meant they could be caravans in their carpark with the weather getting a bit rough one day they were happy to have their homes right there. *Team Leader James Pask, Rod Brooks, Eric and Ruth Jack, Dave King, Graham and Colleen Stokes and Graham Wright. Leif Pedersen*

CYC Ngaruawahia



Camps have had it rough with the current uncertain time of Covid-19. Our team had a great job helping CYC Ngaruawahia with some of it's to-do list now that it has reduced staff. The team straightened some retaining walls, put in new fencing, renovated a bathroom, while others on the team got stuck into some interior painting of accommodation. One staff enthusiastically reported how thankful she was that the MMM team were working on the maintenance list because she much preferred her usual duties over painting. *Team Leader James Pask, Max Cope, Stephen Douglas, Sarah Howard, Pauline Jeffs, David King, Wayne MacCarthy, David McDonald, Leif Pedersen, Ben Wooding.*

make friends
see New Zealand



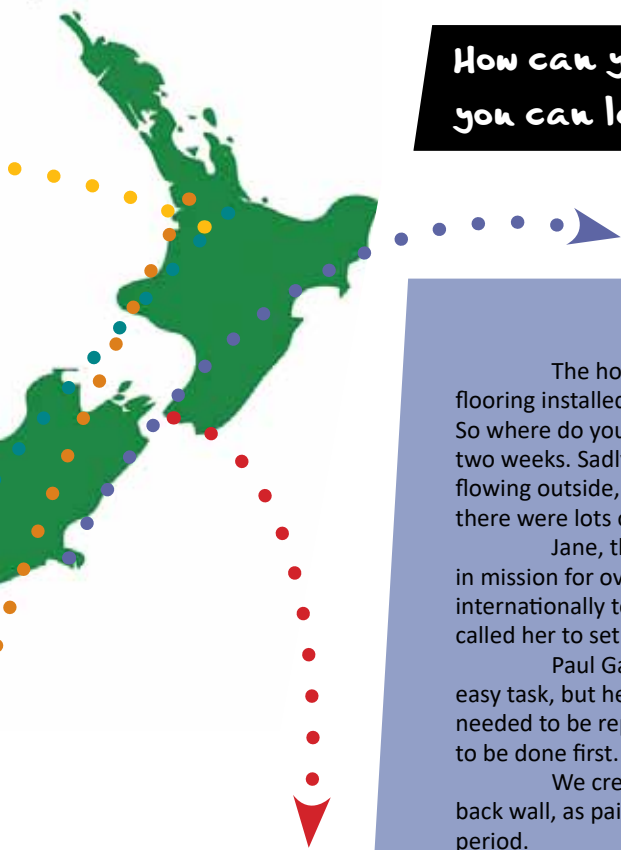
bless others
gain skills
love others

Encourage others

Fellowship

With MMM! Serve ministries

How can you help? Check the back page for projects you can lend a hand on !



Jane Trington, Canterbury

The house we were to help renovate was built in 1864, it had been 3/4 re-piled and new flooring installed, there was no back wall in the house and only the kitchen area had been framed. So where do you start? With a time frame of two weeks, and rain and snow expected for the next two weeks. Sadly the weather report was correct, there was enough rain fall to create two creeks flowing outside, one on the road and one where it belonged, but first things first, on the upside there were lots of borer ridden planks and beams for the fire so we kept warm!

Jane, the owner of the house, has been in full-time Christian ministry serving in prayer in mission for over 30 years. For the last three years she has been travelling nationally and internationally to see the body of Christ stand in unity to Bless Israel. Now Jane feels the Lord has called her to set up a home that she can share and be a place of prayer.

Paul Galbraith, a builder, his first project with MMM, was made the project leader. Not an easy task, but he also had a look at the project before hand. He decided the foundation and flooring needed to be replaced, the back wall framing, including new backdoor and larger windows, needed to be done first.

We created a paint area inside the lounge, to under-coat the new weather boards for the back wall, as painting outside was impossible. This got done by Femmy and Andrea over a 2 day period.

The guys worked mainly on the foundation, flooring and back wall framing. This also included digging out the clay underneath the floor to 400 mm, to create airflow under the house.

Not a great job when there is constant rain, it makes things rather slippery. The ladies did their fair share of digging and carting clay. Jane now has a clay garden. We also used the rocks that held up the house for a rock garden. At MMM, we do it all, rain or shine.

We did what we could inside, straighten the walls where needed, put dwangs between all the studs, fit corner framing etc. to fit the Gib later on.

The rain only stopped on the last day, to give us time to remove the gutters, fit the braicing ply to the back wall and rehang the gutters. The foundation and flooring also got finished on the last day.

I would like to thank the whole team for their positive spirit, the jokes, (mainly about the weather) and the great fellowship. - *Gerrard van Leeuwen*. The Team consisted of Gerard and Femmy van Leeuwen, Paul and Helen Galbraith, Peter and Andrea Cooper and Dave Festing.



Ignite Sport Lower Hutt

The first project for the Hogan's, after they moved to Pirongia, fell through but at about that time Rachael read a newsletter from Ignite Sport. They have a building project converting a football clubrooms into a purpose built venue for their organisation. "Ignite Sport is a volunteer-based youth development organisation offering a unique delivery style. Using sport and recreation to engage, Ignite Sport encourages young people to consider character, values, balance and heart." Having grown up in Lower Hutt, I knew

a lot of people that had been involved with this organisation and knew a bit about what they did and we were keen to get onboard and help them out. It is only the beginning of a big project for them. They had recently missed out on some significant funding, and it was good timing for them to be encouraged and see the start of their building transformation. Team Leader - Roy Hogan, Steven Douglas, Ronnie McArthur. (Photograph; team and the Ignite Sport staff.)



Note: Due to COVID-19 inhibiting international travel we have no overseas projects at present. If this is something that interests you could register your interest with the MMM office.

Upcoming Projects in NZ

 <p>NORTH ISLAND PROJECTS</p>	<p>31ST AUG - 18TH SEPT NARROWS PARK CHRISTIAN CAMP 442 Airport Road, Tamahere, Hamilton Reroof huge water tank, put up a second hand double garage, paint Camp Two hall.</p>	<p>21ST SEPT - 9TH OCT HOPE CENTRE 3 Kent Street, Levin Prepare and paint exterior joinery of church and additional maintenance. NOTE - MORNING AND AFTERNOON TEAS AND LUNCH PROVIDED ON MOST PROJECTS.</p>	<p>28TH SEPT - 16TH OCTOBER HAMILTON SAMOAN AOG CHURCH 35 Priscilla Crescent, Melville, Hamilton Prepare and paint exterior of a brick church - windows, doors, fascia's and soffits, some repairs necessary.</p>
<p>12TH - 30TH OCTOBER IAN CROSS (RECENTLY RETIRED FULL-TIME MMM TEAM MEMBER) 115 Somerset Road, Wanganui Prepare, make necessary repairs and paint exterior of home and interior work as time allows.</p>	<p>27TH OCT - 20TH NOV MOIRS POINT CHRISTIAN CENTRE 117 Estuary Drive, Mangawhai Heads Renovate staff house, replace kitchen, replace some windows, bathroom, some relining, prepare and paint, build fence.</p>	<p>2ND - 20TH NOV CAMBRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH 58 Queen Street, Cambridge Continuation of previous project in November 2019. Prepare, make necessary repairs to paint exterior of church and interior work as time allows.</p>	<p>MMM is seeking a Mobile Team Leader for the South Island. If you have practical skills, would like to give your time to something practical and enjoy working with others. Call Howard 021 910 172</p> 
<p>SOUTH ISLAND PROJECTS</p> 	<p>21ST SEPT - 2ND OCT EN HAKKORE RETREAT CENTRE 204 Orangapai Road, Waipiatā, Central Otago Build a kitset three bay shed.</p>	<p>19TH - 30TH OCTOBER JANDRE & MICAELA NIEHAUS STUDENT LIFE TEAM LEADERS, HOM 182 Gladstone Road, Dalmore, Dunedin Paint the exterior of a solid plaster home and any necessary repairs.</p>	<p>NOV/DEC LAKELAND PARK CHRISTIAN CAMP 496 Peninsula Road, Kelvin Heights, Queenstown Alterations to bunk beds to make compliant.</p>

Ministries count on us

123456789

Can we count on you?

Serving those who Serve

MMM offers a great opportunity to practically support churches and Christian ministries.

If you would like to serve, MMM is seeking full-time and part-time team members.

Come and bless, learn new skills, meet great people and encourage God's church.

Phone Howard 021 910 172 for details

Would you like to know more?
 Check out our website
www.mmm.org.nz

Be sure to phone before arriving on a project to ensure it is on schedule, thanks!



PHONE OR EMAIL HOWARD: 021 910 172

projects@mmm.org.nz

HELPERS WELCOME, CARAVAN PARKING

AVAILABLE ON MOST PROJECTS