

MMM New Zealand News

Issue 2 2025



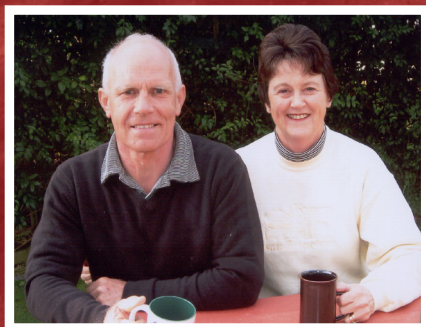
**MEET OUR NEW
PROJECT COORDINATOR**

In this issue:

Letter from the Director p2

MMM in the news p5

Upcoming projects p8



**TRIBUTE TO DAVID
HALSE** *Page 3*



PROJECT REPORTS
Page 6



FIJI UPDATE
Page 4

CONTACT DETAILS:

NEW ZEALAND

1 Kane Street
Pirongia 3802
Phone: +64 (0)7 871 9161
Email: mmmnz@mmm.org.nz
Web: www.mmm.org.nz

Bank Account:
Westpac 030442 0148838 00

AUSTRALIA

5/621 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham
Victoria 3132
Australia
Phone: +61 (0)3 9837 2700
Email: admin@mmm.org.au
Web: www.mmm.org.au

HONG KONG

Unit A 10/F Viet Luen Factory Building
126 Wai Yip Street,
Kwun Tong, Kowloon
Hong Kong
Phone: +852 2605 4813
Email: mmmhk@mmm.org.hk
Web: www.mmm.org.hk

FIJI

PO Box 225
Sabeto
Fiji Islands
office@mmmfiji.org
www.mmmfiji.org

SOUTH AFRICA

Postnet Suite # 115
Private Bag X1, Menio Park 0102,
South Africa
Mobile: +27 (0)76 2010499
Email: info@mmmsouthafrica.org

THAILAND

PO Box 103
Bandu
Chiang Rai 57100
Thailand
Phone: +66 (053)705 595
Email: mmmthai@mmm.org.au

ZAMBIA

PO Box 73624
Ndola
Zambia
Phone: +260 (0)974 998368
+260 (0)955 103343
Email: mmmzambia.office@gmail.com

INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE

5/621 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham
Victoria 3132
Australia
Phone: +61 (0)3 9837 2700
Email: howard@mmm.org.nz
Web: www.mmminternational.net

Printed by: Rosetown Print, Te Awamutu

Front Cover: MMM team build a stage and seating structure around a fire pit at CYC Christian Camp, Ngaruawahia.

LETTER FROM THE Director

JULY 2025



Over the past four months there has not been a dull moment with plenty of activity going on in multiple areas within MMM; I have experienced many firsts since picking up where Howard left off and fair to say It's been a moving feast of activity as I have been getting to grips with the diverse ebb and flow of MMM's office workload.

Over this time, I have had the pleasure of attending several external events to raise the awareness of MMM; the most recent being by invitation to speak at the Morrinsville Baptists Sunday mission service, with the key theme being "decision". When thinking about what to present on such an important topic the song "I have decided to follow Jesus" sprung to mind. Curious to the songs history, I googled it only to discover a Baptist missionary was central to the origin of the story where a young Indian convert and his family were martyred rather than renounce their faith in Christ; a very solemn reminder of the weight of some decisions and how we should be focused on the work the Lord has called us to as our real reward is beyond the temporary confines of this earth, amen! Matthew 5:12

Well, that got serious fast. ☺ Now on a slightly lighter note, as you will read in this issue, the project teams have been busy on all fronts to deliver much needed work for organisations across the country and Fiji. I am thankful for each and every one of the Volunteers, Team, and the Board that have been working hard to fulfil the Lord's calling on their lives to carry out the mission of sowing into His kingdom, albeit through the work of our hands. And as our good friend, David Halse, put it "It is our act of worship unto the Lord". To which, I am reminded of the scripture in Psalm 149:6.

On a spiritually practical note, please do hold us up in prayer as we seek more volunteers and team leaders for up-and-coming projects and for the work of our software development team as we work together to finish putting our project application and management processes online. More to come on this shortly!

Blessings,

Steven Senn
Director, MMM New Zealand



Practical Ministry

People Ministry

Spiritual Ministry

International Ministry

Vision:

To see the church empowered and equipped with adequate facilities appropriate to God's mission.

Mission:

MMM NZ Exists to enhance the spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the ministry of building, both people and facilities to serve Christian workers in God's global kingdom.

WADE LINNELL**Welcome to the Team!**

Wade Linnell is standing in for Mike Taylor while Mike and his wife, Elisabeth, take an extended holiday in the UK. Thank you Mike for the hard work you have put in to keep the MMM projects on track over the last two years!

Wade is based in Matamata, and is owner of a building company. He is also on the Ministry Development team for the Matamata Bible Church, and is a past president of the local Rotary Club. He will relate well to both our project recipients and our tradie volunteers. In the late 90's Wade was the Maintenance Manager for Kiwi Ranch and later, after a stint with Totara Springs Christian Centre as catering Manager, he worked as site foreman for Peter Vossen Builders.

As you can tell, he has all the experience needed for this demanding role and MMM is delighted to welcome Wade Linnell to the MMM Management Team.

Thought you might be interested...

David Halse did not feel that he was a missionary in the traditional sense, but working with MMM was a way he could serve the Lord using all his skills and experience.

In the beginning, it was Charlie Sundgren who encouraged David to do a couple of jobs in the Wellington area, to get a taste of what MMM was like. Charlie knew David's father, they were both joiners in a factory in Wellington. So began Charlie's determined campaign to enlist David to MMM.

David, his wife Jenny, and their young family were later in Papua New Guinea for 2 months to help build the Erima Christian Center. Lo and behold, Charlie arrived on the job while in PNG to visit his sister who was a missionary there. He didn't last long working in the scorching heat, and was soon done in. But it seemed that God's plan was not for Charlie to build the Centre but rather to capture David's address details and sign him up to the MMM News Magazine. After returning home to milder temperatures, Charlie duly posted the magazines to David with a little note, "Thought you might be interested..."

David recalled that the line had hit him like an arrow when he read it. But, like a lot of people, both he and Jenny thought, "Joining MMM, that's just something we'll do when we retire."

Nonetheless, they drove north to Pirongia to take a look at the MMM Centre. Still, they thought, "One day when the kids leave home..."

Fast forward a few years, and the very Monday after the eldest daughter got married, Charlie and Ruth just happened to be in Wellington. Again Charlie urged, "Come and give it a go."

Just shy of his 49th birthday, and with their three girls grown, the time was right, David sold their house and bought two rentals. With this income and a favourable sale of a section, they headed North. So followed over 16 years with MMM. From 1999, David recounted sleeping in over 300 different beds as he was billeted around NZ on MMM work projects.....more than 400 projects in all. His work with MMM took him also to projects in Hong Kong, Fiji, Tonga and as far away as Russia.

David and Jenny based themselves at the MMM Pirongia Centre, moving into the 'Hong Kong' unit, and later the two bedroom Zambia unit, with Jenny taking the admin role. They had moved up to Pirongia before Christmas 1998 and Charlie and Ruth retired at Easter.

**Tribute to
DAVID HALSE**

David joked that he was 'married on weekends'... returning to Jenny on Friday evening and making the most of this time together. He called Jenny each week night to talk about his day and how the project recipients had spoiled the MMM team with their home-baking and local excursions.



David was a team leader who at the end of the morning tea break and devotion would say, "Come on, lets get back to worship!"

To him, work was worship. He worked the team hard and to a high standard, leaving MMM with a great reputation. Many of the project recipients went on to adopt the morning tea devotion time into their own daily routines.

David loved the companionship, and believed, as he got older, that it was safer to work in a team, and he enjoyed teaching and passing on his skills. And he always got a kick out of seeing buildings he had constructed or restored being used for the Kingdom of God.



David Halse passed into glory on the 24th Feb 2025 aged 74. His funeral service was held at Chapel Hill Community Church in Hamilton, a structure that was one of his first builds with MMM New Zealand.

Bula! From Roy & Rachael Hogan MMM (Fiji) Team Leaders

We have had a busy start to the dry season with three projects and teams. Morrinsville Baptist brought their third team in just over a year; this time to the Evangelism Explosion, Kennedy Centre, where we were able to continue on from a project last year, strengthening a bure that had been unusable for years. The Kennedy Centre is used by local and International teams to train people in evangelism but also hosts other churches and retreats.

We have spent several weeks at Malake Island, a 10 minute boat ride from Rakiraki. We were joined by a couple of guys from YouBuild in Nelson during one of these weeks and some of our local guys.

Here we were able to demolish and rebuild the covered entry and a storage room attached to the church. This church suffered damage to the roof during 2016's Cyclone Winston, which has



not been repaired. As this building is also the evacuation centre for the island, we are journeying with them to remedy that as well.

We then partnered with a great team from Fenton Park Bible Church to continue the house build for Pastor Elik and Lata Lalauvaki, who have been building this house since before COVID.

They have paid local contractors to work on the house, but not always had a good standard of work done and was then left unfinished by the builder. MMM Fiji was asked by Fenton Park to assist them to complete it, resulting in a huge encouragement to the Lalauvaki's, having the house progress to a point where it is now much more liveable.

When we have teams come over, it is a huge blessing to ministries to have skilled labour and labourers volunteering their time and teaching locals skills they can use for the rest of their lives.

Morrinsville Baptist Team head to Fiji



Kia ora Koutou!

My name is Ngaia Mason and I was part of the Morrinsville Baptist Church Mission team who headed over to help the wonderful MMM Fiji team in May this year, and what a mission it was!

With our journey from Morrinsville commencing before even the local farmers were awake to begin their morning milking, the team began the trek north leaving behind our foggy, crisp, Waikato mornings for a week of what we hoped would be warmth, sunshine and tropical delights. As we stepped off the plane in Fiji, that tropical warmth blanketed us and we began to realise just how hot our work was going to be this week and began to wonder just how impacted we would be from this heat as we set about our building tasks for the week....

After getting through customs, we were greeted with two wonderful, warm and welcoming smiles on the face of Rachael and Roy Hogan, who quickly began to feel like part of our team from back home in New Zealand, despite only just connecting with most of the team in the International arrivals lounge. Roy and Rachael quickly began to orientate us into the local world of Fiji as we made our journey to the Kennedy Christian Center.

It was immediately obvious, as we soaked up the new sights and smells that permeated the air as we embarked on our travels, that although this was indeed a physical mission trip, it was also a mission trip in which hearts were going to be softened, awoken and amazed at the contrasting differences between our home in NZ and the life that the locals of Fiji lived daily.

Once we arrived at the Kennedy Christian Center we were tasked with the job of continuing to finish a job that a previous team from our Church had begun last year. As we met with the group of Fijian boys, there was an especially harmonious feel to the team which only highlighted God's incredible ability to bring people of all shapes,

sizes and experiences together when working for his glory. Very quickly the team worked out our different roles that were going to enable us to complete the project by the end of the week, and sure enough throughout the week everyone tried all sorts of building skills. We had different people welding, digging, hammering, using power tools, mixing concrete, and hanging up material to keep the bugs out. Absolutely all sorts!

With open hearts to the work we were over in Fiji to do, and an open mind to be used however God felt would best support the project, you truly got to experience practical support for others in an incredible way!



But what was even more awesome about this mission trip, was that through this practical mission, relationships were deepened, developed and connected between each of us and the Fijian crew that the Hogans had enlisted to help us get the mahi done. That sense of satisfaction to have completed the goals set by Roy at the end of the week so that we were leaving the Kennedy Christian Center in a better place than when we arrived was great, but what I think was even more incredible, was the impact that God made on us through this opportunity. By stepping out in faith to serve him in ways that we didn't normally do, we were left enriched by the interactions, relationships and connections this mission trip gave us! The building project was just the vehicle in which he showed us his amazing glory and love for people!

MMM In the News



St Andrew's mobile makeover

An article by Shirley Jamieson, made it into the Paetūmōkai (Featherston) Phoenix community paper.

“You may have noticed a lot of activity going on at St Andrew's Church in June. Mobile homes were in the carpark accompanied by sounds of people busy working. The church's entryway, foyer, morning tea area and kitchen had seen better days and needed a facelift.

As the church membership is small and unable to do the work themselves, the parish council had contacted MMM New Zealand to apply for assistance with the painting project. MMM (formerly Mobile Mission Maintenance) serves Christian churches, camping complexes and missions. By donating their time and expertise, they upgrade Christian charity properties throughout the country. MMM volunteer teams pray each day for God to bless their work, and they care about the people they help. Their moto, Serving Those Who Serve, sums it up.

Volunteers began arriving at St Andrew's Church on June 9 and helped locals taking down everything off the walls and move furniture. Preparation work, like erecting scaffolding, applying masking tape and laying down protective sheets followed. They worked as a unit, filling little holes, sanding and priming before painting on the topcoat. The church provided all the materials needed for the job. Each day church members arrived with morning tea and a hot lunch for the team, enjoying a friendly chat. Humour peppered the atmosphere as they worked to a high standard. Peanut, the canine member of the team, was their delightful little mascot, and welcomed all who came in. The new warm colour brightens that whole area in the church. And it will be a warm reminder of the MMM team and their kindness for years to come. Our Sunday church service is at 10.30am. Come and join us.”

Team: Bruce Welsh (Leader), David King, Nick Ford & Ma Cruz-Ford (Reformation Painters), Malcolm and Anne Ragg and Stephen Douglas.

MMM painted the social areas of the church, used for funerals, prayer meetings, Bible study, the IHC Christmas Party and the women's morning tea for the community.

Geraldine Gospel Chapel

Another MMM 'makeover' was featured in the Geraldine News, a community newspaper, on the 3rd April. This time it was the Geraldine Gospel Chapel, which was originally built in 1908 in the Edwardian Gothic Revival style for the local Primitive Methodist congregation. It holds Heritage Category B status under the Timaru District Plan. The Open Brethren have owned the church for around 50 years.

Church member and admin coordinator Raewyn Bensemann said,

“We're extremely grateful. It means we can direct more funds into our mission overseas.”



Ave & Howard...Going international



In March 2025, Howard and Ave stepped down from their respective positions as MMM NZ Director and Office Administrator after 13 years service. Previously, they had led the MMM Hong Kong ministry for 8 years, after spending 5 years as Mobile Team Leaders around NZ, living in a house bus and raising three children. All-in-all the Robinsons have given 26 years to 'serving those who serve'. We would like to acknowledge the tremendous contribution that this dynamic duo have given to the mission of MMM NZ and to the Christian Community.

At the end of June, they flew out to begin a 3 and a half month globe-trotting sabbatical. We had a few questions for them...

You are flying out to Hong Kong next week. What are your plans?

“Howard is continuing in his role as the chair of the MMM International Alliance and in that role we are visiting MMM Hong Kong, MMM Zambia and then MMM Australia later in the year. We are taking the opportunity to fly on to Europe where we will do a mission's transition/debrief programme called, “On the Threshold” and join a “Brass Tacks” project. Brass Tacks is the UK equivalent to MMM. The project we are joining is an upgrade of accommodation

for a Tyndale Bible College. And quite a bit of sightseeing! As to next year, we are seeking God as to ‘what next?’”

In a way it feels like the end of an era. What aspect of your work with MMM NZ has meant the most to you?

“The people, the people, the people! To see people enjoy using their God given skills to bless others. To see people making friends, friends that go on to support one another in life. To see people, bless and encourage others and enjoy it! The privilege of working alongside ministries that desire to reach their community for Christ.”

What advice would you leave the next generation of MMM-ers?

- Don't deviate from the vision of only helping those organisations that are bearing witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Daily acknowledge that it is only through God's hand that MMM will achieve anything of lasting value.
- Celebrate and encourage the people of the ministry

Howard is an accomplished builder, and we know he is looking forward to getting away from a desk job and back on the tools. Ave is looking forward to spending more time with the grandchildren.



Photo on left -The MMM team spent three weeks at Finlay Park knocking off a number of jobs.

PROJECT REPORTS

NORTH ISLAND PROJECTS

Living Strong Ministries, Hamilton



Photo above: Mike Higson (applicant) with Andrew Parsons, Leif Pedersen (Leader) and Adam Hanson.

MMM worked at Living Strong Ministries to replace a wooden window with aluminium, install some insulation & gib and generally provide a much warmer, more comfortable venue for the counselling and training services they offer to WEC missionaries worldwide and to the church in NZ.

CYC Christian Camp, Ngaruawahia



Team: Leif Pedersen (Leader), Terry Meads, Mike Taylor, Dave Genard, Andrew Parsons, Luke Greenwood, Elliot Marshall, John Clapp

After completing a wooden walkway in the pool area the team had some time left over, so Steve at CYC asked them to build some seating around a fire pit. But, the project was a little more ambitious than expected! (See the photo on the front cover). The completed structure will be a huge blessing to the CYC ministry and provides a great venue for group discussions that will influence the next generations for years to come.

St Andrews Church, Featherston

Team: Bruce Welsh (Leader), David King, Nick Ford & Ma Cruz-Ford (Reformation Painters), Malcolm and Anne Ragg and Stephen Douglas.



Bruce reported three miracles experienced on the project:

1. Nick and Ma Ford (pictured above) who live in Carterton and are professional painters arrived on first day. They gave us guidance and helped for a few days.
2. The weather was rain every day. We found that the roof of the foyer leaked. When I went up to patch it, the rain stopped.
3. On last day it was again raining heavily. I wanted to go up on the roof to measure up the size of the roof to draw a plan. The rain stopped as I got the ladder out and stayed off while I was up there.

Kauaranga Valley Christian Camp, Thames

Team: Leif Pedersen (Leader), Lynette Pedersen, Lucas Pedersen, Francois Schoeman, Jim Best

The Pedersen family went mobile for this project with Leif's son Lucas and wife Lynette on the tools. The MMM Team completed a number of jobs around the camp and there was even time to finish the bathroom / kitchen upgrade at the intern accommodation.



The team converted the old jigger shed (pictured below) into a "general store".



Highland Home Christian Camp, Pohangina Valley

Team - Chris Pynenburg (Leader)

The project started off with 7 volunteers, with others joining over the course of the 3 weeks. There was a good mix of 'young and enthusiastic' (Joshua, Daniel, Jake, Samuel and Ethan) and 'mature' experienced tradies and handymen (Chris Pynenburg and his neighbour Roger, Stephen Douglas and





SOUTH ISLAND PROJECTS



Geraldine Gospel Chapel

Team: **Alan Mitchell (Leader)** & Rosina Mitchell, Pauline Jeffs, Gerard & Femmy van Leeuwen, Willie Van't Wout, Daniel & Alison, John & Lyn, Peter & Andria, Ronnie, Rob Wilkins, Daniel & Alison le Heux.

The team carried out maintenance and painting of the exterior of the church building. A Chapel member commented:

"We are a smaller group....The expense of engaging a firm to do the work would be expensive and would negatively impact on funds given to workers on the mission field."

YWAM Oxford

Team: **Alan Mitchell (Leader)**, Rosina Mitchell, Willy Van't Wout, John & Lynda Paulin, Peter Copper, Paulen Jess, M Shapcott

3-week project entailed the repair/replacement of weatherboards and exterior painting of the outside of the Bunk Mansion. A large room was divided into two rooms, and 2 sleep outs were insulated and lined. They are used as accommodation for the mission training school, equipping young people to go to the nations and for providing member care, including missionary debriefing, equipping them for further missions. YWAM Oxford also have a climbing, skiing and snowboarding ministry!



MMM first timer, Robert Belmont). Many, many thanks for their dedicated work painting the Camp's lounge and dining areas, ablution blocks and gym.

In the first week, on the Thursday night, they enjoyed a memorable worship session around the fire pit outside . . . a cold but beautifully clear night, with Jake superbly playing the guitar . . . a blessed evening!

A very special thanks to the Foster family at HHCC for their outstanding hospitality. They went above and beyond the usual lunch and morning tea, providing breakfast and dinner also, so that was a definite blessing (especially the venison burgers . . . then roast venison a few nights later!)

St. Marks Church, Hamilton

Team: **Lejf Pedersen (Leader)**, Mike Taylor and Bianca Wilson.

The Nawton based St. Marks church is in a low decile area and runs a community centre alongside the church. Programs include an After School Club, a Whanau Fellowship family ministry and food bank in addition to the weekly church services. It was timely encouragement to the vicar when MMM volunteers worked on the



vicarage roof, fixed a fence and repaired base panelling.

Marsden Bay Christian Camp, Whangarei

Team: **Mike Taylor (Leader)**, Howard Robinson, Malcom McAlister, Terry Meads

Marsden Bay Christian Camps stand alone cabins had seen better days and the rotten cladding needed to be replaced. MMM headed to the far north to get the job done.



Finlay Park, Karapiro

Team: **Lejf Pedersen (Leader)**, Elliot Marshall, Luca Marshall, Harry Joe, Janferie Hazel, Robert Belmont, Luke Greenwood, Andrew Parsons, Adam Hanson, Noah Van de Laak

MMM was asked to rebuild the staff house bathroom. Harry and Lejf tackled the job but because of the good turnout of other volunteers, MMM was able to bless the camp with ticking off a list of other jobs during the three weeks spent at the camp.

Finlay Park has a great mission: "To be life changing every time, and to showcase the beauty of God's creation, and the love of Jesus through camping, adventure, and service."

Hope Rising Farm (HRF) Ngaruawahia

Team: **Lejf Pedersen (Leader)**, Harry Joe, Andrew Parsons, Steven Senn, Noah Van de Laak, Elliot and Luca Marshall

Horses and mud are not a great combination, so MMM volunteers were asked to build a shelter for the ponies at HRF. The ponies are used in wellbeing and self-development courses for vulnerable youth and women. The shelter will allow more spaces for the programs to continue in wet weather, and also provide shelter for vet and farrier visits.



Upcoming Projects in NZ

YOU CAN JOIN!

North Island Projects



4 - 22 August
Camp Raglan

Upgrade bathroom,
reroof and paint
sheds

25 Aug - 05
September
Kaipaki Bible Church
Ohaupo

Painting, electrical
work, retaining wall

3 - 21 November
St Mark's Church
Nawton, Hamilton

Painting exterior



South Island Projects



We have
projects we are
yet to schedule
as we are
seeking
capable team
leaders. Get in
touch!

Fellowship and
food are a high
priority at MMM;
every day there is a
devotion and prayer
time!

Projects Still To Be Scheduled

Volunteer Now!

River Church - Ashurst	Paint exterior
Elevate Christian Disability Trust	Painting windows
Hibiscus Coast Presbyterian	Exterior Painting
Birkdale Bible Chapel - Auckland	Exterior Painting
Narrows Park - Hamilton	Office Build
Student Life - Wellington	Convert garage to office
Athletes In Action - Auckland	Painting windows

Reefton Baptist Church	External repair & paint
Woodend Christian Camp	Maintenance & paint
Lakeside Christian Centre	Interior Fit Out
St Pauls, Upper Moutere	Paint church manse

Thank You!! for your generous support!

We did it!
We have reached
our fund raising goal
for a new Fiji 4x4.

Now the
search begins
for the right replacement
vehicle...



Thank you!!

Robert Belmont has gifted MMM NZ with a NZ-built electric powered concrete mixer fitted with a wheeled base and tow bar. Not only that, he also donated a concrete vibrator to go with it.



50 YEARS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

MMM AUSTRALIA
MOBILE MISSION MAINTENANCE

JOIN US AT OUR
CELEBRATION CONFERENCE
3RD - 5TH OCTOBER 2025
BELGRAVE HEIGHTS CONVENTION CENTRE
VICTORIA



SAVE THE DATES
more details to come

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST
email: admin@mmm.org.au

Would you like to
know more?
Check out our
website

www.mmm.org.nz



MMM New Zealand

Volunteers are welcome to join us on projects

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

Project Coordinator: 021 272 1562
projects@mmm.org.nz

caravan parking available on most projects
Lunch, morning and afternoon tea provided