

MMM New Zealand News

Issue 3 2021

**Building ...
Empowering People**

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Front Cover: Marty McKone and Taylor Firth
building a wall to create storage for the
Kaipaki Community Church. The children
in the "Growing up in MMM" photo are
Gabrielle and Caleb Hogan.

LETTER FROM THE *Director* September 2021



I am always very thankful for all those who support the ministry of MMM. Through you, each individual, much is achieved for God's Kingdom. In this issue there are some great articles about who we serve and who serves with us and what that impact is. Why a person does what they do is always a good question. I serve with MMM because I believe God called me, and as yet I haven't felt him move me on. This is a ministry where I can have an impact. Some reasons I have loved the last 22 years serving in MMM are being where I believe God has called me; using my practical skills to support and encourage Christian outreach; meeting incredible people who do things and connect with people that I couldn't,

but they do what they can and I do what I can. It's been a great 22 years!

Here in 2021 we have a fantastic team of Full-time Volunteers, Associates and those serving in a regular way in the administration of MMM. There have been a good number of additions to the MMM family for which we are thankful. Our Full-Time Team doesn't always get mentioned in the magazine, but this issue they are.

Roy and Rachael Hogan and family joined the team in June 2020 in preparation to head to Fiji as our Project Coordinators. Their paperwork is still coming through for this but with the current situation in Fiji, their plans have been put on hold. However, they have not allowed this to deter them from serving and so they are being a blessing to the ministries of New Zealand.

Leif Pedersen had the opportunity to change ministries. Formerly serving at Capernwray, he had always liked the idea of serving with MMM. The challenges of Covid brought those plans forward and in July 2020 he began with MMM. It is great having his electrical skills to bless the ministry and those we serve.

After praying for some time to have help in the New Zealand office in the Project Coordination and Administration Support roles, it was wonderful to have Dave and June Gennard arrive in September 2020 with willing hearts to help in these areas.

Recently Wayne MacCarthy came onto the Full-Time Team, it's great to have Wayne serving on the team; he brings a great amount of experience.

Ave Robinson continues as the Administration Officer and Betty Brown continues her role as Accounts Officer.

We have been encouraged by volunteer numbers. The biggest challenge we have is competent Team Leaders, able to go far and wide. We continue to pray and seek Mobile Team Leaders.

Through the challenges the world is facing at present, I see the need of MMM more than ever to be available to come alongside ministries to bring encouragement and blessing. To 'serve those who serve' with grace, to call people to volunteer and use the skills of their hands, to see the kingdom of God grow and the Gospel to be proclaimed.

Thank you for being a part of this blessing.

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

UNASHAMED

LUKE COLLIS



In late July, a team went to assist Luke Collis and family for their newly relocated, off-grid home in Elsthorpe, Hawkes Bay. We were graciously hosted by members of The Station Church in Hastings but this resulted in a 45 minute commute each way! We successfully built a deck, a shed for their solar power and water pump equipment, reframed a portion of the house and installed a new bi-fold door, some interior decorating was done and curtains sewn. Team Leaders - Roy & Rachael Hogan, Chris Pynenburg, Ronnie McArthur, Murray and Anne Packer (first week), Stephen Douglas (second week).

Luke has a passion and gift in evangelism. Why would MMM assist someone with their home? As the founder of UNASHAMED we want to support Luke by helping him get his home liveable so he can focus on what he does so well, share the Gospel! Read on to learn how Luke is reaching out to the youth of Aotearoa!

"Don't ever put pressure on yourself to lead somebody to Christ. Honestly, it's actually not you who leads people to Christ. It's Jesus – He draws people.

"We're the sowers in that process and sometimes we get to be the reapers, but He gets the increase - we have to trust people in God's hands."

Luke Collis is passionate about evangelism and reaching the lost. Based in the Hawke's Bay, he heads up a team - mostly "amazing volunteers" - who help facilitate an outreach movement called UNASHAMED.

Since 2016, Luke and his team have been following a prompting of God on a two-fold mission – to see every young person in New Zealand reached with the message of Jesus and to raise up a movement of Christian young people committed to doing the same. The roots of UNASHAMED formed in Ngāruawāhia, Luke says. "Myself and a group of young adults started hanging out with some youth at the skatepark. Many were young people dealing with neglect and the fact there were times when their parents weren't home and they were struggling for food."

For two years, Luke essentially became a youth pastor of a youth group of mainly young people who'd never set foot in a church. "In that season, God opened my eyes to the fact so many young people are open. The thing holding them back wasn't that they'd heard the message of Jesus and rejected it - they'd never actually heard it. For so many, when they were presented with the message of Jesus in an authentic, genuine way they were hungry." That desire led to discussions about how to be as creative as

possible when reaching out with the Gospel message - and ultimately an UNASHAMED event was held - full of the creative arts, spoken word, drama and music - all summed up with the challenge to come to Jesus.

"Lots of the students from the local high school gave their lives to Christ - news spread like wildfire," Luke says.

"We ended up partnering with about 20 Waikato youth groups to run a city-wide UNASHAMED event in Hamilton.

That initial event opened the door for another event – followed by gatherings in Tauranga, Whanganui - then all over New Zealand.

"Young people are hungry for Jesus - they need an encounter with Him - from there, everything changes."

Luke says in New Zealand, there are about 700,000 young people aged 13-25. Approximately 600,000 of those don't go to church.

"We can look at it this way - raising up those 100,000 young people to share their faith is key to how I believe we will reach the 600,000 young people for Jesus. If those 100,000 people shared the Gospel with just six people who don't know Christ, our whole nation would be reached."

So, are there steps we can take as Christians to be more effective in sharing our faith with people?

"Connecting with those who don't know Jesus doesn't need to be forced or awkward – just start a conversation. In the moments where you have a chance to share, you've got to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit as to what to share at what time, and then trust God with the results." - An excerpt from *The Authentic* magazine, used with permission.



Open Doors of Blessing

DOOR SALES

Instead, bless – that's your job, to bless. You'll be a blessing and also get a blessing. 1 Peter 3:8 (The Message)

If you had driven into the MMM property a few weeks ago, you could have thought you'd arrived at a door business! There were vans and trailers being emptied of doors. Lots and lots of brand new doors - over 250 doors! These doors are an incredible blessing to the ministry and are donated from OpenDoors NZ Ltd.

Seven years ago MMM was contacted by Richard and Judith Smith who have a pre-hung door company. They wanted to know if MMM would have any use for their door seconds? Many of the doors are perfectly fine. They may have been a cancelled order, or not been made to the right size, or maybe slightly damaged, something a sand and a coat of paint will fix. We said, "Yes!" We would be able to use doors. Richard also said we were even welcome to sell them as a fundraiser. Over the years these doors have been used on many MMM projects, a few have also been used as desktops or

shelving and many have been sold to raise funds, what a blessing! We are very grateful for the generosity of Richard and Judith. If MMM didn't take the doors they would likely end up in a landfill. Richard was telling Howard how he likes the opportunity to give them away as he sees it is important to be a good example of minimising waste, having a generous spirit, blessing others and to his staff.

We all love a good blessing being shared, don't we?! If you or anyone you know is door shopping, be sure to give us a call!



MMM CONFERENCE 2022



See you there!

Plan your trip now!
* Bring the camper!
* Join some projects!

SAVE THE DATE!

April 1st -3rd 2022

Lakeland Park Christian Camp, Queenstown is the amazing location of our next Conference! Don't miss it!

Donations

We are sorry but due to bank changes we are no longer able to accept cheques. However, gifts can be given in the following ways:

- * Via online banking directly to our bank acc., 030442 0148838 00, please email us to ensure we can thank you!
- * By requesting your bank to do a direct transfer.
- * By setting up a regular automatic payment.
- * By going to our website, mmm.org.nz and clicking donate. Donations given through the website incur a 4.4% fee.

Many thanks, in advance for your generous support. All donations to MMM New Zealand receive a tax deductible receipt.

MMM Sweatshirts!

Want to look cool this winter but stay warm?

MMM has charcoal grey, Large size hooded sweatshirts for sale for \$65
Contact the office



MMM Families

GROWING UP IN MMM

"Hey Mum! We quickly drove past this church in Nelson this morning. Am I right in saying this is the one with the massive tree (to the right) where our bus was parked for a while??? I flashed back when I saw it!"

The above was a random message I recently received from our adult son Lance, when he was visiting Nelson, and yes, he was right! When he was about eight years old, we spent several weeks repairing and painting that church. The kids loved the ginormous gum tree in front of the church and had a lot of fun climbing around it. There are many churches, camps and ministries around New Zealand that could look familiar to our, now adult children because when they were young we spent five years living in a house bus travelling New Zealand, serving on MMM projects. With the busy-ness of life, I don't think about that time much but just before I received Lance's message, Rosina Mitchell sent in her article (below) reminding me of many great memories. Rosina, her husband Alan and their three daughters also travelled with us from time to time. As Rosina so aptly describes it, at times it certainly did seem a bit mad! However, I would also agree with Rosina's thoughts that growing up on MMM projects exposed our kids to great people; wonderful examples! There are many still ask after them today.

These days there is a lot of worry ensuring we are providing children with all they need. I did at times feel our kids were missing out on those things you learn in childhood, music lessons, dance lessons, gymnastics, etc. But I can honestly say, God provides. As adults our kids, play musical instruments, lead worship and can dance. At different times in different places, they did have those opportunities. Not in the conventional way perhaps, of regular lessons, from a regular teacher but God provided. When my husband Howard first floated the idea of living in a house bus and serving with MMM I remember telling him, "But, we've got kids!" To which he replied, "God knows we have kids and if he has called us, he has called them." And they have not "missed out".

The Hogan's who are serving with MMM at present and moving around to different projects have discovered their children find the question, "Where are you from?" Hilarious, because they don't know!

Life on the road for our family did have its amusing moments too! Once, we arrived in Dunedin separately; I had driven our van, and Howard the bus. When I arrived Howard called to let me know where he was parked. When I took the call, I was in a shop and when I got off the phone Lance asked, "So, do you know where home is now Mum?" It must have sounded a funny question; what kind of a mother doesn't know where home is!? But that's what our bus was, home, and it moved!

I remember reading a newsletter from a missionary friend who was serving on a medical ship. Her comment that stuck with me was, "Mission life is so interesting, I don't know why more people don't try it!" I would concur. It certainly is an interesting life that has created some great memories!

May I ask, what stops you from serving with MMM? What are you afraid of? Talk to us! We as a family have found God faithful. We would love to share our journey. - Ave Robinson



MUM, ROSINA SHARES THEIR MMM JOURNEY

Why do you serve on MMM projects?

Alan and I serve on MMM projects because when we got married our main shared interest was that we both wanted to do mission work. We had been to the Philippines on a YWAM DTS outreach and we had been impacted by the needs in third world countries and really wanted to spend our lives serving others. The motto of YWAM is "We are blessed to be a blessing," which married well with MMM's, "Serving those who Serve". We had looked at different ministries and Alan really wanted to work for a building ministry. By chance a friend told us about an MMM project that was near where we lived. We met Howard, Ave and kids and the rest is history! We started when our kids were 5, 7 and 8 and now they are 22, 24 and 25! We all loved our years of travelling in our house truck and doing MMM work projects, some years full-time and some part-time. Most years we have been involved in at least one project.

What makes it enjoyable?

The people of course! The amazing ministries we get to serve all over New Zealand that are growing and thriving is awesome. The workers who become like family to us. Our kids have had amazing surrogate grandparents - Clive and Esther Dennis, Arthur and Anne Davis, Bart and Muriel Gilmore, Gerard and Femmy Van Leeuwen - just some of those people who have such a deep faith and were 'safe' people our kids grew up

around. We would be heading off to an MMM project on a Monday morning, probably frazzled from packing the truck up or maybe just skimmed through another COF (warrant) going down the road thinking, "Are we mad? Who else leaves all their security of home, wages, etc, and does free labour for ministries?" Then Bart and Muriel would pass us in their bus and say, "Let's stop for an ice cream in the next town!" We'd feel so, so happy to see them! Alan and I love to build our team into family and I've learnt through MMM training on giftings that one of mine is that I love it when people get along well together and work as a team. Sharing meals and most importantly doing our daily devotions are a real strength of MMM in team building I think. With Alan the builder and me loving to organise meals and put the jug on, I think we make a good team. I hope we can have many more experiences like those we have been so privileged to be involved in. We are so grateful to Howard and Ave for believing in us and trusting us with so much responsibility of leading teams over the years when often we feel so much like we just bumble along half the time on a wing and a prayer!

- Rosina Mitchell



(The photo is from a project last year, when it did indeed snow, but hey, don't let the snow put you off! This year Alan and Rosina are coming to the North Island to assist with some projects here.)



Full-Time Volunteers: Roy and Rachael Hogan, Wayne MacCarthy and Leif Pedersen.

PROJECT REPORTS

This photo is from the farewell thanksgiving lunch from the Hamilton Samoan AOG. MMM has been serving there over recent months assisting them with a church extension. The farewell lunch and gift baskets were much appreciated!

Kauaeranga Valley Christian Camp, Thames



In July we were able to enjoy the crisp, scenic mornings of Kauaeranga Valley with a quick 'tiling the campers showers' job which turned into completely rebuilding them. The underlying partitions were not sound and needed replacing, which put the other potential jobs on the back burner.

We made the most of camp activities with the team getting the chance to do 'axe throwing' amongst other things. Plenty of team bonding on this job! *Team Leader - Hogan family, Terry and Rhonda Meads, Ben Taula, Malcolm McAllister, Gordon Harkness, David King and Robert Atkins*

Other Projects

Recently MMM has also been supporting the Samoan AOG in finishing their church extension, in Hamilton.

To read about the ministry and MMM project for "Unashamed" leader Luke Collis, Elsthorpe, see page 3.

Last magazine we reported on work done for the Carrolls', Student Life workers in Auckland. We have returned to their home to upgrade a second bathroom.

Totara Springs Christian Centre, Matamata



Marty and I spent a week at Totara Springs Christian Centre helping them with their maintenance. Marty, as a mechanic, spent the week servicing vehicles and a variety of small engines, lawnmowers, linemarkers, leaf blowers, sweepers, etc. He also spent time rebuilding a car trailer.

I replaced a couple of electrical distribution boards and did a variety of electrical maintenance jobs.

My daughter is doing an internship with the ministry team at the camp, so I enjoyed spending some time with her. *Team Leader - Leif Pedersen, Marty and Robyn McKone*

Kaipaki Hall, Cambridge



Kaipaki Church has been growing steadily over the last couple of years and has outgrown their little Chapel. They are now meeting at Kaipaki Community Hall for their Sunday morning service. Our job was to create a storage room for the church. We dismantled an old kitchen, built a new wall, installed a new door and painted. We were pleased to have young Taylor Firth on the job and see his enthusiasm and passion for MMM. *Team Leader - Leif Pedersen, Taylor Firth and Robyn and Marty McKone (Left-right).*

Tauwhare Gospel Chapel, Tauwhare

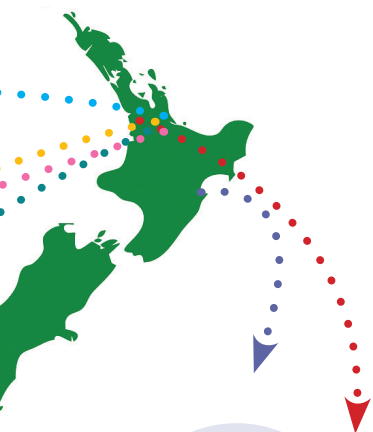


We had a great time at Tauwhare Gospel Chapel, near Hamilton.

They are having an increase in the number of kids and young people coming to the chapel. Our job was to convert a tin shed into a room that could be used for kids and youth work. We installed new aluminium joinery, insulation, new concrete floor, gutters, stormwater, drains, pavement and painted inside and out. We had some of the locals helping us every day and enjoyed some good fellowship with them.

One of the locals would sing worship songs and hymns while he was working, and he would bring out his guitar at our devotion times. This helped make it a very special time. *Team Leader - Leif Pedersen, James Pask, Wayne MacCarthy, Graham Stokes, Ben Wooding*

Serving those who serve...



SEE THE
BACK PAGE FOR
PROJECTS YOU CAN
SERVE ON.

MMM AGM



Clockwise; Doug Carson (Board Chairman) and Betty Brown. Doug, Robyn and Marty McKone. Doug, David and June Gennard and Howard Robinson. Doug and Wayne MacCarthy.

You know that saying, "Been there done that got the T-shirt"? Well, at MMM's recent AGM (Acknowledging God's Manna) there were some 'badge' presentations. Yup, they got their badge! It was wonderful to inaugurate some new Associates. The term Associate is our acknowledgement of ready, faithful service of our volunteers and their commitment to keep serving. At the AGM Doug Carson presented Betty Brown with her MMM badge. Betty has been serving almost two years as our Accounts Officer. Robyn and Marty McKone and David and June Gennard were also welcomed as Associates. David and June serve at the MMM office and Marty and Robyn have been on many projects. Wayne MacCarthy received his badge as a Full-Time Team Member. It was great to have about 30 people attend the AGM.



COFFEE AND DESSERT EVENING, HASTINGS

Back in mid June we held the Hastings Coffee and Dessert night. It was a great time of meeting with folk from around the area. With an upcoming project near Hastings and the lovely Daphne and Alistair Nugent starting a Prayer Fellowship in their home, we decided an evening together would be a great idea. The evening included a project report from Roy Hogan, the classic MMM nail race and Rachael shared their testimony. We also caught up on MMM Fiji, Farmers Fellowship and encouraged locals to support the Hastings Prayer Fellowship. This Prayer Fellowship meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at Alistair and Daphne's phone 027 200 6093 for directions.

Foodbank, Hamilton



On behalf of the Trustees and Manager of the Hamilton Combined Christian Foodbank I thank you for repairing the exterior cladding on part of the Foodbank building. Leif, Marty, Peter and Graham did a sterling job, completed within a week, in spite of the weather being unfavourable on some days. I am pleased to report that except for some minor cladding deterioration on one other wall, the building is now in very good condition, thanks to MMM. Management can now concentrate on fulfilling the mission of the Foodbank of "Providing Food for those in Need" without being concerned with maintenance issues. *Team Leader - Leif Pedersen, Marty and Robyn McKone, and Graham Stokes*

STAY CONNECTED

Want to stay in the loop? Be up to date? Do you think the quarterly magazines are not keeping you informed on what's happening in MMM? Well, good news! For more info, send Dave an email at projects@mmm.org.nz and you can receive project updates! For more general news, email howard@mmm.org.nz and receive the "Waz up in MMM" email, or follow us on Facebook or Instagram!



THANKS FARMERS FOR DONATING ME AND MY FRIENDS TO FARMERS' FELLOWSHIP, WE LOVE THE GRAZING TOO. IT'S GREAT TO KNOW I'M SUPPORTING MMM FIJI AND MMM ZAMBIA!

MMM's Farmers' Fellowship, donate and raise stock for MMM which supports MMM's overseas work. If you have grazing or would like to donate, contact Maurice Turner 027 498 4993 or Doug Carson 027 455 0100

Upcoming Projects in NZ

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
|  <p>NORTH ISLAND PROJECTS</p> | <p>1ST SEPT - 1ST OCT</p> <p>ST LUKES, WAIKANAĒ</p> <p>Elizabeth St, Waikanae</p> <p>A kitchen and bathroom renovation.</p>  | <p>27TH SEPT - 8TH OCT</p> <p>SCOTT & LORI SILSBEE (PASTORS)</p> <p>Rukuhia, Hamilton</p> <p>Assist with renovations to a relocated house, change windows and doors, internal remodelling.</p> | <p>COMING UP...</p> <p>KERIKERI BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <p>41 Hobson Avenue, Kerikeri (Limited space)</p> <p>Church toilet renovation including building disabled persons' toilet.</p> <p>NOTE - MORNING AND AFTERNOON TEAS AND LUNCH PROVIDED ON MOST PROJECTS.</p> |
| <p>11 OCT - 22ND OCT</p> <p>ORAMA OASIS CAMP</p> <p>Great Barrier Island</p> <p>Paint the main building and accommodation.</p> <p>TEAM NUMBERS CLOSED PLENTY OF VOLUNTEERS</p>  | <p>22ND NOV - 10TH DEC</p> <p>CAMBRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <p>58 Queen Street, Cambridge 3434</p> <p>Replace flooring in church, repair weatherboards, gib replacement and painting.</p> | <p>NOV - DEC</p> <p>MAF (MISSION AVIATION FELLOWSHIP)</p> <p>7 De Havilland Way, Tauranga Airport, Mount Maungaunui</p> <p>Renovation of offices and accommodation.</p> | <p>1ST - 19TH NOVEMBER 2021</p> <p>CAPERNWYR BIBLE SCHOOL</p> <p>3553 Cambridge Rd Cambridge 3495</p> <p>Phase one of kitchen renovation.</p> |
| <p>PLEASE NOTE: DATES ARE UNCERTAIN DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS. PLEASE SEE THE WEBSITE FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION.</p> | | | |
| <p>SOUTH ISLAND PROJECTS</p>  <p>OCTOBER</p> <p>CORRINS</p> <p>Blenheim</p> <p>Building and maintenance to the home of missionaries.</p> | <p>4 OCT - 5TH NOV</p> <p>RUTLAND STREET, CHURCH</p> <p>5 Gosset Street, St Albans, Christchurch</p> <p>Help painting the new church extension</p> | <p>18TH OCT - 5TH NOV</p> <p>TASMAN BIBLE CHURCH</p> <p>6 Williams Road, RD1, Upper Moutere 7173</p> <p>External painting and repairs to ceiling.</p>  | <p>NOVEMBER</p> <p>HEBRON</p> <p>76 McGrath road, RD1, Waikouaiti</p> <p>Help with modifying internal doors and fixing door furniture.</p> |



Any servant-hearted tradesmen or handymen (or women) who want to support Christian ministry so they have the right facilities, can do so by volunteering for MMM because MMM builds renovates and maintains property used in Christian outreach.



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 DAVE: 021 272 1562

projects@mmm.org.nz

HELPERS WELCOME, CARAVAN PARKING

AVAILABLE ON MOST PROJECTS