

MMM New Zealand News

Issue 4 2022



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**Stir up ONE ANOTHER to love
and good works Hebrews 10:24**

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Front Cover: Capernway Bible School project

LETTER FROM THE

Director December 2022

A great story came out from a recent project. Two guys who have attended the same church for two years, who had the same name, actually met and had a great yarn on the MMM project at their church! They have gone on to have regular meet ups. It seems serving with one another is a great way to get to know one another.

Recently Ave and I had the privilege of preaching at a church that MMM will soon be going to do a project at. It was wonderful to share with them about the ministry of MMM and the blessing of working and serving together, the value that is gained from hospitality and eating a meal together, the opportunity to hear the stories of our new friends, and be encouraged and built up in our faith together. They were excited about the MMM team coming!

It was pleasing to hear the church member, wrapping up at the end of the service, say that it is wonderful there is going to be a renovation of



their building, which is used by the community, but God is interested in the renovation of our hearts. Amen!

Our building and service is a means to an end and that end is - the Gospel of Jesus Christ is presented and impacting hearts and that God is glorified through us.

We will not take these buildings to heaven with us but we can take those around us. "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" John 13:35

Howard Robinson
MMM New Zealand
Director



WHAT NEXT? A BUILDING APPRENTICESHIP WITH MMM!

MMM is developing an apprenticeship internship: a one year course to volunteer with MMM and work with local builders, developing character and encouraging the Christian community.

**Call Howard on 021 910 172
for more information.**



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

Orama, Great Barrier Island

A MUM AND DAUGHTER MMM EXPERIENCE

Over a year ago, my daughter Darnica (now 14) and I had filled in the paperwork and were waiting to get tickets booked for the October school holidays MMM Camp Orama painting project, but this wasn't to be as, once again, Covid restrictions put this project on hold. A year later MMM emailed to say the Camp Orama project was back on for this year's October holidays and asked if we were still keen? Of course we were! So we booked to go for a week and were looking forward to visiting and volunteering on this island we had never been to. Some of us flew there, and some were brave and took the 4 1/2 hour voyage on the ferry.

The task for the two weeks was to prep and paint the exterior of the cabins. There were also some minor repairs to do on some rotten boards.

Additionally, there was an old woolshed that the Orama staff wanted to convert into an art studio/creative space. With some new second hand windows already installed, Marty and Martyn were assigned to that job, along with the help of other staff and volunteers. This job was challenging in that the frames and trusses weren't straight. Ply was to be used to clad the outside and also used on the interior walls. With some clever thinking and workmanship the guys did an amazing job and the old woolshed was starting to look like new!

The rest of us had the job of scraping, sanding, filling and painting the exterior of the cabins on the hillside. First of all, we had to clear all the plants growing up against the walls, water blast, find and erect some scaffold.

With eight of us and one of the staff members on the job, we all got stuck in and transformed the little green cabins on the hillside to dark grey cabins with white trim. The weather was quite terrible to say the least! However, this did not dampen our spirits or hinder our work too much. When it was rainy we worked under the verandah, when there was strong winds, we wore more layers. When it rained constantly (one afternoon), we went and found another inside job to do. We continued whatever the weather and made great progress.

I am told that the weather improved a lot for the second week so the project was almost completed in the two weeks with only the railings to finish.

But it doesn't finish there! I would like to tell you about Camp Orama and being part of the community there. Camp Orama, which is near the Northern tip of the Island, is isolated, off the grid, quiet and peaceful and has its own beautiful bay and jetty. Orama is at Karaka Bay and surrounded by hills covered with bush.

On our first afternoon at camp, the tide was in, the waters were blue and calm, and a pod of dolphins came through the bay. My

daughter and I felt blessed to witness this. Later, we went out kayaking and were blown away by the number of stingrays we paddled past!! Another day, as the tide came in, we were delighted to see an octopus just below the jetty. Visits to the jetty on breaks quickly became our routine, anticipating what we may see next under the water!

Even though the area is isolated, there was no lack of happy community within the camp. The staff and other volunteers were so friendly, inclusive and spiritually encouraging. They included us in their daily devotions at morning tea time, they also had a worship night, and an island dinner night where any others from the island were invited to dinner. All the while they fed our group, all staff/volunteers and other campers who were booked in for the week. Their love, hospitality and heart for God were truly encouraging.

Not only that, but being with other MMM volunteers was great too. As many of us had never met, we were able to enjoy getting to know each other and make new friends. This was a positive aspect of going on the project.

My daughter and I had a really awesome week away and will always remember this experience with great fondness. We can't wait for our next MMM project!

- Raewyn Emmett



Raewyn and Darnica



Blessing from behind the scenes

Many people bless MMM from behind the scenes. One such lady is Cherry McKinnon. She keeps herself busy knitting soft toys which she then sells and once some money accumulates she sends it on to MMM. The work of MMM impressed Cherry when her sister was serving in Fiji many years ago at the Gospel High School and MMM sent a team to work on the buildings. Cherry was inspired! She saw this as something she would like to support. Many years later she is still knitting and supporting MMM. Thanks Cherry - your willing work is much appreciated!



Build up ONE ANOTHER Romans 14:19

A BUSINESS THAT BLESSES

It has been fantastic to have some of the guys from White Wood Homes Ltd serving on MMM projects in recent months. We asked Malachi and Hannah to share a bit about themselves and why they are keen to have their staff serve on MMM projects.



We are Malachi and Hannah Farrant, our business is White Wood Homes Ltd., and our office is in Cambridge; we focus on providing services throughout the Waikato where we have current projects in the Hamilton, Raglan and Te Awamutu area. We specialise in building new homes and completing alterations and extensions.

I first heard about MMM when they lined the interior of the Bridges Church a handful of years back. Our team built the main structure of the Bridges Church in Cambridge and I was quite interested in the group after seeing how they helped out. There was some time before I touched base with MMM but when I did, it didn't take long to realise what a great bunch they are, and they have a great operation going on.

We enjoy MMM because it is a way we can give back to others; a way this business can bless people, which is why we first set the business up in 2010. The team enjoy serving on MMM projects. They get the vision we have and get satisfaction in helping others too. The group that is the Project Recipient usually put on awesome smokos for the crew during the day as a perk. Our team get to meet new people and make new connections.



The projects we undertake with MMM can be quite different from what we usually do on a day-to-day basis. Having a change from the daily regime every so often is quite nice. Teaching the younger apprentices that it's not just about us but serving others is important. There are some overseas trips coming up that the crew is keen for which will be an awesome time for them to connect more out of the workplace and serve others.

I would recommend other businesses sending staff to serve with MMM for sure. If you have a heart for helping others I would say most definitely. And if you don't, give it a shot. I'm sure you'll enjoy it, even if it's on the odd occasion. You will meet new people and your skills can be used to help on a range of things. I think it's important for everyone to play their part.

The MMM Team and other volunteers at MMM are all a top bunch and are very accommodating.

Thanks Malachi and Hannah. Your generosity is much appreciated!

OUR ADVENTURES WITH MMM

Robyn and Marty had heard of MMM in Australia and following a Google search found MMM New Zealand. They already felt led to downsize into a caravan and now have been serving on MMM projects for nearly two years. What's that been like? Read on to find out.

Adventure is truly the correct word. Living the caravan life was always going to be different from living in our home and going to work each day. However, we didn't realise just how different and how much we were going to enjoy it and be changed by it.

We have met an amazing variety of new people, many we now class as good friends and we have been to many places we didn't even know existed. We've woken on farms, in church carparks, looking out over the picturesque Waikato River, tucked away up driveways with the beauty of nature and birds singing around us. We've seen some totally incredible sunsets. We've even flown to Great Barrier Island. Life is good with MMM.

Projects: We've painted churches, inside and out, along with Christian camps, ministry spaces, a community hall used by a church and cabins on an island.

We've renovated an old barn into a usable stable for a ministry to the vulnerable, turned a hundred year old wool shed into an art



studio, demolished a kitchen in a Bible School and been part of restoring it to working order. There's even been a project on a tiny house for a pastor and his family. Such a variety!

We've been to Thames, Ngaruawahia, Te Awamutu, Pirongia, Cambridge, Tauwhare, Hamilton, Katikati, Karapiro, Great Barrier Island, Kaipaki, Tauranga and I'm sure a few other places I can't remember - and that's just for projects.

On weekends we have taken the time to travel to other areas close to the projects and been able to discover more of our own country too.

If you ever get the chance to attend an MMM Coffee and Dessert evening, be sure to look out for Ave's blueberry sauce!

As we've travelled, we've seen God's faithfulness in protection, provision and guidance. We've felt Him with us and have known that it is God who has brought us to MMM and that He will continue to guide us as we walk forward with Him in our journey. Can we recommend serving with MMM? We sure can!

Serve ONE ANOTHER Gal 5:13

- Robyn McKone

MMM TEAM AT SABETO CHRISTIAN CAMP IN FIJI



Lindsay and Judith Middleton have just had their first MMM Fiji experience. What was that like? What did they do? Would they recommend the experience? Read on to find out! (Lindsay and Judith are pictured above taking a break on the floor they tiled.)

We first heard about MMM while talking to a long-time friend who mentioned that he was going to Fiji with MMM. We were pleased and excited but also a bit unsure to hear there was room not just for Lindsay but for both of us. We didn't know if we had skills that would be useful.

We live in Palmerston North and have four adult children who have now all left home. Lindsay and I are at retirement age and wondering what we'll do in the years ahead while we still have plenty of energy. Both originally teachers, Lindsay is now doing maintenance work at our church and I'm part-time receptionist and administrator there. Lindsay has many home maintenance skills, which he hoped to use in Fiji, but I have very few and went hoping there would be something I could do.

We were part of an MMM team going to Sabeto Christian Camp. The team consisted of three builders and two young women who added fun and laughter to the whole project. We also had three young Fijian guys who wanted to learn some skills. Roy Hogan oversaw the project, along with his wife Rachael and their lovely children.

The main job was to replace the corrugated iron roof on both the dining hall and the bunk block. Other jobs included painting and tiling the kitchen and store rooms. We were very pleased to find that there was plenty of work we could do. Lindsay painted the bargeboards in the dining hall and was shown how to do the tiling in the kitchen. Judith painted many metres of board for building new shelves, bent hundreds of metal brackets for the new guttering and was shown how to do the grouting.

We loved the ethos of MMM. Roy was able to enable everyone who volunteered. We both felt that we used what skills we had and were extended to learn more. Morning devotions and praying together was a special time, as was visiting a local Fijian church on Sunday morning. I don't think we've ever worked with such a focused group of people, living in close quarters, doing everything together, helping each other, working hard, but with such enthusiasm and encouragement with a single goal. It was time taken out of ordinary life to achieve something amazing!

The week prior to our arrival, the Covid testing rules in Fiji were lifted, which freed up our first morning, and enabled us to use that time to help a local pastor build his house. He works full time on a mission farm and was building the house in his spare time. As a team, we were able to install the plywood floor, and louvre

windows, plug up the nail holes in the second-hand corrugated iron cladding the walls, and build and install one of the exterior doors. This small house, 4.8m x 4.8m, is for him and his wife, his father and his two young daughters. We understand that it will be quite a privilege for him to have his own home. In a very real way, it made us realise how privileged we are in New Zealand, and how easily we come to regard it as a right and a reasonable expectation - a very humbling experience on our first morning in Fiji.



L-R Back: Ella Marchand, Wade Linnell, Meli Lutunasiga, Judith and Lindsay Middleton, Meliki Talolo, Ken Whyte
Front: Roy Hogan and Andy Ayers.

Every day was very hot but it made no difference – we just kept going regardless. Looking back, I can't say that there was anything negative about the whole time we were there.

We appreciated accommodation with insect screens and ceiling fans, including in the bedrooms. We enjoyed fresh pineapple, mango, pawpaw and fresh coconut milk when one of the young Fijian men shimmied up a tree and dropped a few down.

I feel our time away has made me rethink the importance of our dependence on God rather than on the 'things' of the world. We prayed before we went that God would use us and our prayer was answered clearly. We feel our time and effort was a valued part of the team effort. Serving with MMM appeals to us because we feel we can do what we can do to enable others to do what they can do. Anyone with similar willingness and enthusiasm will be made good use of! We recommend it!

-Lindsay & Judith Middleton

Interested?

Some churches are making their own groups and going to serve MMM Fiji - AWESOME!

If being on a Fiji team interests you

Contact the MMM office, so we can keep you posted on what's available

Show hospitality to ONE ANOTHER | Peter 4:9



Full-Time Volunteers on projects in New Zealand: Wayne MacCarthy, Robyn and Marty McKone and Leif Pedersen

PROJECT REPORTS

The MMM team and the White Wood Homes team ready to serve together at Capernwray

Capernwray Bible School

The following report is from a Project Recipient:

Capernwray NZ is an interdenominational Bible School located near Cambridge. We offer a range of academic and outdoor courses as well as conferences, functions and events. These are designed to teach, train and equip those who want to grow and discover personally the life that comes from a relationship with Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, and what this means practically in the context of work, church, community and mission.

We have been blessed by the team from MMM and White Wood Homes as they



have rebuilt our school kitchen. Due to the age of the building nearly everything needed replacing so new piles, flooring, walls, ceilings, wiring and fire alarms were required. The expertise that the team brought was something that we just didn't have to do such a large task. Not only did

the team bring their expertise, they brought their godly character. We were in the process of coming out of two and half years without students and they came with good humour, encouragement and servant hearts which was such an encouragement for the staff team here. The project was much bigger and more expensive than I anticipated, and the input from MMM made what was impossible, possible. The kitchen will be a blessing and support the work of Capernwray for many more years.

Peter Bichan
Director, Capernwray NZ

Encourage ONE ANOTHER | Thess 5:11

Mission Aviation Fellowship



The following report is from the Project Recipient, Mark Fox from MAF:

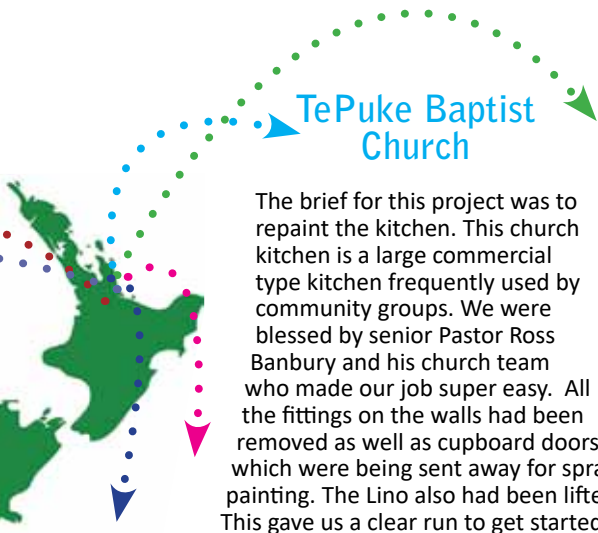
As in the days of "barn raisings" when one farmer's barn was built on one day by the whole community, so the MMM teams moved the renovation of the Kendon-Strong Mission Aviation Fellowship Centre along at a cracking pace to completion. The Centre is situated at the Tauranga Airport and consists of a four-plane hangar, offices and an apartment for overseas staff on leave in NZ. Office space was doubled, and a new board room, storeroom, kitchenette and hangar toilet established. These are now fit for purpose as the Tauranga Centre has become the focus for MAF New Zealand activity. Staff have gradually been relocating here. We can now begin to fulfil our vision of training pilots and engineers for service overseas as well as our normal function of recruiting and financing staff to serve overseas.

MMM joined forces with a local builder, the Curate Care team from Curate Church, several volunteer friends of MAF along with our NZ MAF office staff. We are especially grateful to MMM given that ours has been one of the larger of MMM projects undertaken. For it to take only three months is truly miraculous.

Thank you to MMM for their partnership. We couldn't have done it without you. -Mark Fox MAF

- This project had many helpers from August to November: Frank Wood, Peter Scott, Brian Archer, Murray and Anne Packer, Mike Taylor, Malcom Ragg and Anne Ragg, Simon Baldwin, Peter Wilson, Colin Stokes, Stuart Foote, Bruce Holmes, Howard Robinson, Ruth and Eric Jack, Robert Atkins.





TePuke Baptist Church

The brief for this project was to repaint the kitchen. This church kitchen is a large commercial type kitchen frequently used by community groups. We were blessed by senior Pastor Ross Banbury and his church team who made our job super easy. All the fittings on the walls had been removed as well as cupboard doors which were being sent away for spray painting. The Lino also had been lifted. This gave us a clear run to get started.

The challenge for us was the high ceiling requiring the use of high gloss paint to meet commercial standards, lots climbing up and down scaffolding, and moving around the island and bench. We were blessed with amazing hospitality, dinners included.



On the team were Team Leader Ken Ogden, wife Eileen, Stephen Douglas, Robert Atkins who travelled daily from his home in Tauranga, Ruth and Eric Jack, and others from the church. Wilson the dog thought he was supervising the whole crew!

It was pleasure for Ken to go back to the Church for the kitchen reopening and dedication and to see everything complete with all fittings, doors and new flooring in place.

Team Leader - Ken and Eileen Ogden

St Pauls Katikati

This was a great project in lots of ways: firstly being in the great little town of Katikati with its history, services and people of course.



It was a blessing to arrive and find everything organised by Teri, a lovely lady from the Katikati Presbyterian Church: scaffolding was up, paint etc all supplied and ready to go to give the outside of the building a face lift. Just needed was the manpower, and my goodness, the manpower arrived every day, morning till late afternoon I couldn't count the number of the Church people who turned up and got working. Teri had rostered them in for every day. One day all up I think we had 14 people all told working on the project. The weather stayed reasonably good and everyone happily worked around

the showers and wind, and the job was done in half the time expected - one and a half weeks. So the three week project expectation turned into an amazing effort by all MMM workers and volunteers. I can't not mention the food. Once again thanks to incredible organising by Teri, amazing morning and afternoon teas and lunches were prepared and dished up by



wonderful willing workers.

Bill and Pam were very good project leaders. It was lovely to spend time with them and other friends we had made from the Katikati Baptist where we had our first MMM Project experience a couple of years ago.



It is always great to see the finished project and Katikati Presbyterian was smiling when we left her. The wonderful people we met, new friends as always, were very happy and had treated us like family.

Some of us attended the Church Service on the Sunday and were delighted to be blessed by a young man of 20 giving an amazing message - awesome. We also learned that when MMM had done a Project, building the new Chapel there many years ago, the congregation had written prayers on paper and these had been placed in around the wall insulation and remain there to this day - Praise God they might be hidden away beneath the wall lining, but God is still at work honoring and answering those prayers.

This project was a great example of MMM's Core Value "Teamwork". The church really got behind the project with 14 volunteers on the project on one day. That's what we love to see - an MMM team becoming a catalyst to the church. Also the Team Leaders were Bill and Pam Todd who live in the town but attend a different church - again an example of MMM's Core Value, "Teamwork".

Teamwork - MMM is committed to bringing people together in faith, love and unity. We encourage everyone to practice radical stewardship of their God-given talents to achieve Kingdom purposes. Serving together bears testimony to the power and demonstration of the gospel's transforming affect in fulfilment of God's desire for his people.

14th Avenue Gospel Centre



A small team spent a few days replacing timber under a stage where the plumbing to the baptistry had been leaking. (Photo left.) Many thanks to *Team Leader - James Pask, Ken and Eileen Ogden and Mike Taylor*

At the MMM Centre, a carport has been built on the back of the shed for the MMM Camper to be parked in when not in use. Don't forget the MMM camper is available for use on projects! *Team Leader - Leif Pedersen, Marty and Robyn McKone, and the wonderful team from White Wood Homes of Jonah, Mason and Chad*

MMM New Zealand



Upcoming Projects in NZ

 <p>NORTH ISLAND PROJECTS</p>	<p>Fellowship and food are a high priority at MMM; every day there is a devotion and prayer time!</p>	<p>21 Nov - 9 Dec Kaipara Bible Chapel</p> <p>1065 Kaipara Coast Highway, Kaukapakapa</p> <p>Kaipara Bible Chapel is a friendly Christian community that welcomes others. MMM welcomes you to come help with a deck construction, fence installation and room reno.</p>	
	<p>5 - 09 Dec MMM Centre</p> <p>1 Kane Street, Pirongia 3802</p> <p>Finishing the MMM camper carport and maintenance projects</p>		<p>12 - 16 Dec Norm and Liz Silcock</p> <p>Cambridge</p> <p>Here's a great opportunity to support Norm & Liz who provide support to others. MMM's project is to build a small deck on their property.</p>
<p>18 Jan - Feb 3 Hope Rising Farm</p> <p>122A Te Puroa Road, Ngruawahia</p> <p>Hope Rising Farm provides an empowering journey for vulnerable youth and women. MMM will be renovating a half round barn.</p>		<p>7 - 17 Feb Hamilton Combined Churches Foodbank</p> <p>100 Morrinsville Road, Hamilton</p> <p>Hamilton Combined Churches Foodbank provide for families in need. MMM will be extending their deck and covered area.</p>	
<p>SOUTH ISLAND PROJECTS</p> 	<p>March/April Woodend Christian Camp</p> <p>124 Woodend Beach Road RD1 kaiapoi 7691</p> <p>Come serve the camp with painting.</p>	<p>CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE PROJECTS!</p> <p>Many thanks to all those who served on MMM projects.</p> <p>To serve one another, we need one another!</p> <p>Thank you for being on the team!</p>	

Conference 2023



WOODEND CHRISTIAN CAMP

Christchurch \$130 28 - 30 April

TRANSFORM Together

Conference is a wonderful time of community, learning from God's word together, fellowship and fun!
Cost \$130 includes accommodation and meals. Scan the QR code to register or go to www.mmm.org.nz and click the link.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE? CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE WWW.MMM.ORG.NZ

Volunteers are welcome on projects. Just call Dave first to check the project is on schedule! Thanks!



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HELPERS WELCOME, CARAVAN PARKING AVAILABLE ON MOST PROJECTS