

# MMM New Zealand NEWS

Issue 4 2011



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Cover: James Kennedy & Brendon Wheeler  
working at Lomani Au Children's Home, Fiji

# Letter from the Director

December 2011

The World Cup and the elections have been and gone - the outcome of the Rugby was to the satisfaction (and relief!) of the majority (if not all) of NZ'ers. The election result may not have pleased everyone, but time will tell how well the politicians are able to deliver on the promises they have made.

One thing we can rely on - and that is for God to keep his promises, particularly His promise to answer prayer, maybe not always when and how we might expect, but in His way and time. We are pleased to be able to report on Peter and Vivienne Fitzgerald's journey to MMM, which was a direct result of our commitment to prayer and fasting during April.

This was the first time we had held a full month of prayer and fasting in which we asked all MMM Supporters, Staff, Associates and Volunteers to pray for specific MMM staffing and infrastructure needs. We were thrilled at the way people got behind this initiative and requests poured in for additional copies of our 'Prayer Force'.

Since April, we have seen God answer many of these prayers, so we have decided to hold our second month of prayer and fasting in April 2012. Our hope is to get as many people, prayer groups and churches as possible involved in this initiative, we are therefore asking for your input into how we might do this. This is also a wonderful opportunity to spread the word about MMM - so please let us have your thoughts and ideas. (You can email them to: [bruce@mmm.org.nz](mailto:bruce@mmm.org.nz))

As the year draws to a close we can again look back with thankfulness on all that MMM has been able to achieve for God's glory, the many projects both here in NZ and in Fiji that we have had the privilege of being involved with - and which have brought encouragement to so many. We are again grateful for the many team members who have shared in our ministry. We have much ahead of us for next year, so please can we encourage you to consider your involvement in the coming year, together we can do great things for God.

#### Join the team!

Blessings  
Bruce Alchin



## MMM New Zealand

- **Practical Ministry**
- **People Ministry**
- **Spiritual Ministry**
- **International Ministry**

#### Vision Statement

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

#### Mission Statement

MMM exists to enhance the spread of the gospel of Jesus Christ through the ministry of both people and facilities to serve Christian work and workers in God's global kingdom.

**Anyone with a willing heart to serve the Lord**

**Jesus Christ can be involved**

## MMM Supporters - Tauranga



Every Thursday a group of up to 100 people (mostly from the surrounding community) meet at the Greerton Bible Church for 'Mainly Craft'. The MMM Supporters - Tauranga group, always have their crafts, jams, pickles etc available for purchasing by this group. Gladys Mulholland, Catherine Blom and others who run the stall are often asked about MMM and so MMM staff member Jenny Halse was invited to speak at their meeting on 29th September. Jenny shared about the work of MMM and gave a Power Point presentation showing many of the recent projects both here in NZ and in Fiji. The Mainly Craft people had brought produce for an auction that morning; fresh fruit, vegetables, flowers, plants, cakes etc. Over \$600-00 was raised and given to the work of MMM - what a wonderful gesture!

# MMM EVENTS

Peter and Vivienne Fitzgerald first became aware of MMM in 2002 when the South Island MMM Mobile Team came to help extend their home church (Rosedale Bible Chapel), in Invercargill. Peter spent quite a lot of time working with the team and really felt that one day he would like to perhaps join up with MMM - maybe when he retired!

In recent years Peter's interest in MMM has continued and he has often helped out for a few days on MMM projects, mainly those in the lower part of the South Island as he found it difficult to get much time off work due to the demands on his skills as an industrial electrician. Recently MMM recognised Peter's interest and invited him and Viv to become Associates – a role they gladly accepted.

April this year was set aside as a month of Prayer and Fasting for specific needs for MMM and on the second day of the month, the Prayer Force requested prayer to motivate Christian trades people – builders, carpenters, plumbers, electricians to be willing to join MMM. When the Fitzgerald's read that prayer request, Peter didn't see the word 'Electrician' – but his own name – 'Peter'! He believed this was a clear call from God telling him not to wait until he retired – but to join MMM now!

One of the concerns Peter had, as did MMM, was how much electrical work would he be expected to do – MMM also wondered how Peter would handle the wide variety of work that MMM gets involved with, building, painting and the many other requests. How thankful we all were when Peter made it very clear that he was willing to do whatever tasks came his way as he was very keen to have a change from all the electrical work he has done for the past 30 plus years! He had been preparing for this change for a while and had been building up his stock of woodworking tools.

This began a process that has continued through to where Peter and Viv have now purchased a caravan and are planning to become MMM Mobile Team Leaders in the South Island commencing early in 2012. This was also a challenge for Viv to see how she could cope with the mobile life, so after trying a weekend away in a caravan and then a few more days, Viv thankfully discovered she really enjoyed the lifestyle! Together they have declared they are – 'Team Fitzgerald' and they are looking forward to serving with MMM.

## “TEAM FITZGERALD”



## GARAGE SALE

MMM thanks all those people who gave materials and helped with the Garage Sale held in November at the MMM Centre, Pirongia. It was a fine day and a good number of people came along, just over \$1000-00 was raised. This will go towards the overseas work of MMM.



## NEW VAN

Whenever MMM receives a gift from a recipient organisation, a portion of that gift is set aside for vehicle costs. So thanks to the many generous recipients and a large gift from a Waikato Trust, MMM has been able to replace the older 1990 van with this 2010 model. The team is enjoying the air conditioning and radio etc.

Pictured above: David Halse, Ian Cross and Rod Heape



## MMM CONFERENCE

Circle your 2012 diary NOW and begin planning!

**Commencing Friday night  
and finishing Sunday afternoon**

**Bridge Valley Adventure Centre, Wakefield,  
in sunny Nelson**

**Make a holiday of it and see the beautiful,  
hospitable South Island**

Further details next year

# Work Reports

## New Zealand

Full-time staff members on the Work Team: Ian Cross, David Halse, Rod Heape.



**Seated above: Jon Cianci, Bill & Pam Todd, Jim Peden, David Halse, Dione Howard, Glenys & Gordon Harkness and Ian Cross. Standing: Rod Heape, Josh Robbins and Rose-Mary Hunt at the Rotorua Elim Church**

### North Island:

Rotorua Elim is a vibrant contemporary church with a wide range of amazing people from many cultures and age groups. They have outgrown the rental premises they had been using and so earlier this year a large commercial building was purchased right in the centre of town. MMM was called on to help with the renovations. David, Ian and Rod were assisted by MMM Associates Gordon and Glenys Harkness, Rose-Mary Hunt, Jim Peden and Bill Todd. A huge amount of work was done both upstairs and down. The work team was there for 3 weeks in September and returned for a further week later in October when other work was held up because of weather conditions.



**Above and Below: Rotorua Elim Church**



Ian, Rod and Bill spent a few days in August on maintenance work of the shower and bathroom for the Pema family in Hamilton. Chunni Pema is the NZ Director for One Mission (formerly OMS).



During late September and early October the Work Team was in Kaitiāia helping paint the interior of the Baptist Church manse. David (pictured above), Ian and Rod were joined by MMM Associates John and Sherril Baty and Rose-Mary Hunt. The job went so well they had time to paint the exterior window frames as well.



**John and Sherril Baty**

### Building GOD'S Kingdom in Kaitiāia.

On Saturday 24 September my wife Sherril was at the Bunning's warehouse, Te Awamutu checking out what seedlings they had and she saw David and Jenny Halse who were buying a new letter box for MMM. "What project have you been on and what's next?" Sherril asked. "We have been down in Rotorua helping convert a central city retail shop into the Elim Church and we are going to Kaitiāia on Monday to paint the inside of the Baptist Manse - are you coming?" David answered. Sherril was born in Kaitiāia and we had lived there for two years and built a house in Church Rd in 1968 while working for Telecom. Sherril also has a sister in Kerikeri, so we thought why not - our motor home was ready to go.

Monday, I packed the painting gear, Sherril had a dentist appointment and then we were heading north. First stop was at Papakura to have lunch with my 91yr old Mum who had my sister staying from Australia. At 2pm we were on our way north again. We stopped overnight at Wellsford, arriving at the Kaitiāia Baptist church at 1pm the next day. A group of people at the Baptist Church were serving a 'soup and bun' meal for the community. We parked the motor home and connected the power up, changed our clothes and walked across the road to the project at the manse and checked out what was happening.

The manse was built in the 1960's; the interior was wallpapered and the joinery had wooden window frames. A family were still living in the house so we worked around them: Mum and Dad, 15yr daughter, 12yr old son

and a very delightful 4yr who made a big hit with team member Rod Heape. The family lived in the lounge and kitchen while we gave the four bedrooms, shower and toilet a makeover. David Halse had all the repair jobs to sort out: the shower wall needed plastering, holes in the wall in one of the bedrooms and the laundry tub unit that had turned to Weetbix because of a leak. No problem, the tub unit was replaced with one David had brought up from the MMM Centre which someone had donated. With a modification here and there, it fitted like new.

On Wednesday night the team were invited to a pot luck tea at church member, Jill Gorman's place on the road to the Kaitaia airport. What a great meal and a time of sharing about how we became involved with MMM and what MMM does in NZ and around the world. The next night Rose-Mary Hunt, Sherril and I were invited back for tea and the topic of conversation was family. We had a great evening finding we had a lot in common.

By Friday all the painting had been finished in the bedrooms and service rooms and the cleaning and preparing of the kitchen, dining room and lounge was under way with some more minor repairs being done. After lunch it was time for us to start to pack up and head for Kerikeri. The weekend weather was showery and windy but this did not stop the team enjoying some sightseeing. On Sunday the team shared about MMM in the church service.

The second week went well allowing time to paint the outside of the windows. We had left after the first week and the rest of the team headed for home the following Friday morning via Rawene, the Kauri forest and Dargaville.

Working on MMM projects is great, meeting other people and seeing this beautiful country, while building and maintaining God's Kingdom.

*John and Sherril Baty, Te Awamutu*

Te Whanau Putahi was started as a ministry over 10 years ago, with the focus on reaching out to and serving the Fairfield/Enderley community in Hamilton. This work was planted through the Hamilton Central Baptist Church and now runs autonomously and non-denominationally. The church runs many community programs from what used to be a scout hall. A childcare centre is run there every week day but new government regulations have meant there was a need to upgrade the facilities. On Sunday's after church a community meal is served to up to 100 people from a very basic kitchen. Since first making contact with MMM in January 2009 the church has been fund raising to extend the kitchen and build a new area for the child care centre. A building contractor was employed for the project and MMM worked with him and church volunteers over several weeks during October and November.

While waiting for the trusses and windows to be made for the Te Whanau Putahi project, the Work Team spent a few days back at Sonshine Ranch helping them to complete their project which was reported on in the last MMM NZ News. They then moved on to Family Ministries in Matamata where they worked on several maintenance projects in the accommodation units, again while waiting for the windows/joinery for Te Whanau Putahi. This was a great blessing to Family Ministries as

when the team arrived they found one of the bathroom floors was completely rotten so this repair took priority! MMM has been waiting for some time for clear weather to be forecast for three or four days to enable a team to repair the roof at the Whitianga Baptist Church. Thanks to MMM Associate Ernie Pene for going with Ian Cross to do this project in mid November. In late November the team went and helped the Hamilton Bible Church to paint the exterior of their church and youth hall, see picture on right. The team had a great time of fellowship with all the church members, both young and old who worked alongside them on the job.



**Te Whanau Putahi, Hamilton**



**Family Ministries, Matamata**



**Above: Ernie Pene working on the roof of the Whitianga Baptist Church  
Photo Left and Below: The Team at the Hamilton Bible Church**



**South Island:**

Bart and Muriel Gilmore, David and Joy Kennedy, Stan and Gail Schroder and Stan Zwies worked at Camp Columba, Pukerau, Gore for three weeks during September. See picture to the right. Peter Fitzgerald was there for three days and volunteers; Neil Kirk, John Powley and Eric Shaw also helped out. The men built a set of 20 steps, slid it down a steep bank and bolted it into place. A small deck was built at the top of the stairs which formed part of the confidence course. Other jobs included; building and installing acoustic panels in the main camp hall, relined shower areas, renewed surrounds and sills to some windows, glued new tiles above benches in the camp kitchen, removed old carpet and replaced with carpet tiles in four small bedrooms etc. Camp Manager, Bruce O'Brien was very appreciative of the work done and put on a great dinner for the Work Team. He said "The team was a huge blessing to us all. I don't think I have laughed so much in quite some time. Lots of great memories and friendships formed. To tell the truth I think Bart, Stan and Stan should develop a travelling road show! Many children have accepted Jesus into their hearts at recent camps and you and many others have played a part in the life changing decisions of these children."



**Above: David Kennedy and Bart Gilmore at Camp Iona**  
**Below: Standing - Warren Gray, Bart & Muriel Gilmore. Seated - Joy and David Kennedy, Stan Zwies, Celia & Brian Sholl, Neville & Pauline Stewart.**



For 3 weeks in October a team of Associates worked at Camp Iona in Herbert, North Otago. Bart and Muriel, David and Joy were joined on this project by: Brian and Celia Sholl, Stan Zwies and also Neville and Pauline Stewart joined them for one week. They extended the bathroom and toilet on the camp manager's house and painted the exterior as well as an accommodation hut. While the men worked hard, Muriel and Joy kept everyone well fed with food supplied by the camp committee.



**Stan and Bart at En Hakkore**

Most of the group then moved on to En Hakkore, a retreat centre near Ranfurly. It was great to have Alan and Rosina Mitchell (ex MMM staff), Peter Fitzgerald and Stephen Aldridge for part of the time too. A huge number of jobs got done to change an old school block into a home for the owners of En Hakkore and for guests and conference speakers. The hospitality was great with fresh eggs and milk daily!

## Situations Vacant

**Are you passionate about serving God?**

**Are you passionate about construction work?**

**Are you passionate about building God's Kingdom?**

## Director

The Director of MMM NZ is responsible for leadership of the team. They require administration and financial management skills, strategic planning, and some understanding of the building industry. The suitable person also needs to have good communication skills. Housing located at the MMM Centre may be available for use by the Director.

## Project Co-ordinators

**for MMM Fiji**

Both the above roles may suit a couple where the spouse also has experience in administration work. MMM has a 2bdr unit at Sabeto Camp near Nadi. The Project Co-ordinators work with short term work teams from NZ as well as working with locals on various projects.

## Builders, Painters, Electricians etc

An ability to lead teams is an advantage. All the above are "faith support" roles and the applicant would need to show a clear calling to these positions. The commendation of their church would also be a requirement.

Any enquiries should be directed to  
**MMM Board Chairman, Cameron Bennett,**  
 c/- MMM New Zealand, 1 Kane Street, Pirongia 3802  
 phone 07 871 9161 email: mmmnz@mmm.org.nz

It was great to be able to head back to Fiji for six weeks during October/ November. We had an awesome time at Fiji Bible College (Ambassadors for Christ) with the Nelson team building a new admin office. We are certainly hoping they are keen to come again next year! There are inevitable challenges with most projects, but the team-work, laughter, and the multi-cultural experiences (especially those Aussies and Americans) make it all worthwhile. See you all next year!

From Lautoka, we headed across to Suva, and became flatmates with Jim Cooney (Director of Gospel School for Deaf) for a couple of weeks, while working on (and living in) the Head Teacher's House at Samabula. This was a new challenge (no, not flating with Jim) to jack up the house and renew the foundation poles. Assisted by some friends from Lami, and some of the deaf students, we completed the project, and lay a concrete basement floor. Pictures on right. Now that Jim is "on-the-level" again, he is keen for MMM to assist again next year with an extension to the building, to accommodate some of the deaf students attending the school. We had a delightful evening at the hostel for the deaf and were blessed by their fellowship.



It has been encouraging to see many of the projects assisted during the year – eg: Agape Trust - Momi, Fiji Bible College - Lautoka, Lomani au Children's Home - Savusavu, Ministry for the Deaf - Suva - a huge thank you to those who have been a part of encouraging and serving these ministries. There are still ministries who are looking for our assistance – including the Chinese Fellowship in Nadi, Olosara Christian Camp and further work at the Momi project. There is also an opportunity to become involved in some vocational training at the Bible College in Lautoka. So, we look forward to working with more of you, to bless and be an encouragement to these ministries next year. Pam and Bill Todd.



**Lomani Au Team: Brendon & Lorraine Wheeler, James Kennedy, Lynne Kennedy, Peter Scott, Keith Taylor, Robert Kennedy, Colleen Jones (in front), Frank Luita (Fiji), Bruce Jones (Queensland, Aust) & local boys.**

## Lomani Au Children's Home, Savusavu

In September, a team of 10 of us headed off to Fiji to build staff quarters and a dormitory for Lomani Au Children's Home in Savusavu. This is going to be the first orphanage to be established on Vanua Levu, the second largest island in Fiji. Most of our team were complete novices, to both the building trade and to MMM. We had three who owned a vineyard, a nurseryman, a railway worker, a banker/apprentice builder and me, previously a social worker and now a stay at home mum to five. Our Team leader Peter Scott had his work cut out, but together with Frankie, a local tradesman, we successfully laid the foundations, built the trusses, and started building up the walls. What a privilege to be able to work with such a great group of people towards such a rewarding goal. We had so many laughs learning new skills in the rain, working in the dark and mixing concrete by hand because the concrete mixer didn't show up. Most of us stayed in a nearby village with Frankie and his family. We were so grateful to experience local hospitality and village life. This place is beautiful - truly paradise - we snorkelled in the lagoon after work some nights. I have been so blessed - when can I go again?

Lorraine Wheeler, Tauranga.



## MMM ADVENTURE

Last year a group went to the Fiji Bible College with MMM and so when the opportunity came up this year again a few of us wanted to repeat the experience. The 30th Sept saw Ross, Roger and I join Pam and Bill Todd on the plane to Nadi, Fiji.

On arrival we joined up with the others who were already at the college from Australia. Annette and Neil and co. were not part of MMM, but had been going every year to the Bible College to work and be part of the ministry there for many years. The men reviewed the project....a roof on the admin building extension. Thank goodness we had Bill who as an experienced builder, who could work out how to marry up the new roof with its angles to the existing building! Each morning saw them out making astounding progress. Working in 30 plus degrees heat is not easy so they would come in on their breaks to replenish the water supplies and eat platefuls of food prepared by the women on the team. The support work by the women was essential but unglamorous, we cooked, cleaned and washed the clothes and cooked again!



We had the opportunity to go with Annette as she went to various women's groups to share crafts and encouragement. That was an eye opener too; the women are so poor that a few lengths of material or embroidery threads and needles were like gold and much appreciated. The \$2 shop hobby glasses were well appreciated too.

The 2 weeks went by remarkably fast and all too soon we were at the end of our time and looking towards home. The roof was almost finished (the rain had prevented its total completion) and the day out being tourists we had planned was also cancelled due to the downpour of tropical rain. That was a shame as we had all fancied a day snorkeling in the Yasawas! Perhaps we will return yet again and enjoy the camaraderie, hard work and fun times. Anne Marie Giles, Nelson.



# Upcoming Projects in NZ

ORGANISATION	LOCATION	DATES	PROJECT
<b>North Island</b>			
Chapman College	39 Bial Street, Rotorua	12 > 22 December 16 > 27 January 2012	Conversion of workshop area into school staffroom. Build staircase.
Wycliffe Bible Translators	MissionNZ Centre, 20 Amersham Way, Manukau City	16 > 27 January 2012	Plastering & painting office walls
Tertiary Students Christian Fellowship/Scripture Union	9A Oxford Terrace, Wellington	30 January > 10 February 2012	Renovations to toilet/shower area
Drury Church	13 Sutton Road, Drury, Auckland	February 2012	Build lobby/entrance between two relocated houses, also ramps and steps
Gideon's Heights	237 Warner Road, Oropi, Tauranga	February 2012	Build a prayer chapel for training centre
Mairangi Bay Community Church	49 Maxwelton Drive, Mairangi Bay, North Shore, Auckland	March 2012	Assist with church upgrade and extension
Dave White	3 Oak View Place, Newstead, Hamilton	2012	Alterations and extensions to Youth for Christ worker's home

**HELPERS ARE WELCOME FOR ALL THESE PROJECTS, TRADESPEOPLE OR 'JACK' & 'JILLS' OF ALL TRADES'**

Ph David Halse and confirm that projects are on schedule  
 MMM New Zealand 1 Kane St, Pirongia 3802  
**Ph/Fax** 07 871 9161 027 454 2659 **Email** mmmnz@mmm.org.nz  
**Web site** www.mmm.org.nz (refer: Work Projects - Current Work Program)

# Upcoming Projects Overseas



**There are several projects in Fiji waiting for teams of volunteers - will you go? Dates are flexible!**

**Agape Trust**, Momi – plaster/paint/electrical  
 March 2012

**Lami Gospel Community Church** - The roof is on, some walls are up and the floor has been poured, still more finishing work to be done



**South Pacific Evangelical Fellowship, Golden Sands Christian Camp**, Sigatoka - Building cabins, bunks, fencing, plumbing

**Chinese Evangelical Fellowship**, Nadi - Building partitions, build cupboards and window covers



**HIS International Mission**, Lautoka - building multi-purpose facility for Bible training camps & seminars

*Cost for Fiji trips: approx \$1500-00 for 2 weeks includes air fares, accommodation & excursion*



**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FIJI PROJECTS CONTACT:**

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