

# NEW ZEALAND TEAM REPORT

APRIL 2008

## WORK TEAMS

### WORK PROGRAM

#### North Island

Ongoing at the MMM Centre, Pirongia – new staff house

20 April > 9 May  
Ruapehu Christian Camp, Taumarunui - rebuilding toilet block

5 > 23 May - River of Life Church, Whangaparaoa - internal alterations

5 May > 6 June  
Donald & Gwen Stevenson, Hastings - building pastor's house

#### South Island

14 > 30 April - Methven Elim Church - alterations

5 > 16 May - Rangiora Baptist Church - maintenance

19 May onwards - painting & installing new bathroom at YWAM, Oxford



The **Brooklands Cooperating Parish** in New Plymouth, took the MMM team into their hearts and homes when the team went to paint the church hall in March. Although many of the congregation are elderly they helped as they could and supplied good fellowship along with the lunches and morning teas etc.

Bruce Alchin, MMM NZ Director was at the **Capernwray Bible School** teaching the students about MMM and noticed they were making a start on a large new building. It turned out that they were struggling to find helpers and so MMM offered to give a hand. Most of the MMM staff worked there to help construct a new admin block.

MMM Team at Brooklands Cooperating Church: 2nd from left: Rod Heape, 4th & 5th from left: Fraser Barrett, David Halse. 2nd from right Ian Cross

Also during March the team helped paint the **Taumarunui Anglican Church**. Again an elderly congregation but lots of good fellowship and meals together.

Then it was up to Auckland to the **East City Wesleyan Church**. MMM helped the church with a major project of changing a



commercial building into a church complex. Rose-Mary Hunt an MMM Australian Associate worked with the team for a week on this project.

*Jenny Halse on behalf of the North Island Team*

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Above: Ian Cross painting the Taumarunui Anglican Church.

Left: MMM Team working at the Capernwray Bible School.

## NEW MMM STAFF HOUSE



More progress has been made on the new staff house at the MMM Centre. Many helpers have made time to come and give a hand. Top left shows the roof going on. That day Bill Todd helped out by handing the roofing iron to those on the roof. The photo shows: Haapi Wilson, and David Halse with David's brother-in-law Warren White, a carpenter. Looks like Warren was praising the Lord for the last sheet going up. Now the windows are all in and the photo on the right shows Graeme and Dorothy Buchanan who came from Rotorua to do the plumbing work. The house has not held up the regular work program. MMM has continued to assist other projects continually this year.

## OPEN DAY

About 130 people attended the Open Day at the MMM Centre, Pirongia on Sunday 30th March. It was a great day with many new contacts having been made.



Left: Rex Thompson and Doug Carson cooking the BBQ.

Above: Some of the crowd waiting for the BBQ.



Left: Michelle Pene holding a birthday cake for Rod Heape as he blew out the candles at Open Day. Rod was celebrating his 60th birthday, he is holding Grace Pene.

## South Island

When we arrived back from Hong Kong we decided to stay close to Alan's folks as his mother is very sick. So we went to nearby Weston, just out of Oamaru, to the Presbyterian Church where we did quite a lot of work last year building new offices, hall and toilet facilities. The next priority for them was getting the steps done leading up to the offices, which will be a main entrance for visiting the pastor and secretary. So Bart Gilmore and Alan and another helper Warren, got in and got the job started. They also needed to fix some of the piles in the old hall which were sinking. Even our girls donned their old clothes and went under the building to dig holes for the new piles, which was very helpful, due to their small size!

The project there took almost two weeks before it was time to move on to Methven Elim Church where we are working now. This church bought a large building in the main street and are converting the top floor into a church. Below this is a movie theatre, restaurant and heliskiing business which they rent to them to help provide some income. The top floor is huge and used to be a nightclub. It has been empty for a while and members of the church had been very busy before we arrived removing all the ceiling tiles which needed lots of cleaning, lifting all the lino off the floors, taking out the old Batts and basically preparing it for its new life and us coming. It is huge and just looked like an overwhelming task. But in the two weeks since we arrived it has been transformed. You can now see where the crèche is, the Sunday school room and the main auditorium. Walls are up, gibbed and stopped and almost ready for sanding. Its been a great effort from Alan, Bart, Clive Dennis and volunteers from the church. This week we have Neville and Pauline Stewart joining on the job so that's great. The pastor and his wife, Mark and Lydia Taylor have been really hospitable and made us feel very welcome. Alan spoke at the church service about his work with MMM to about 60 people. The girls and I are in Oamaru spending some more time with Alan's mother during the school holidays. Alan thinks we will be in Methven for another two weeks and then move on to Rangiora to the Baptist Church.

*Alan & Rosina Mitchell*