

MMM New Zealand News

Issue 3 2024



Building...
Empowering People



Year Anniversary

30 year
MMM New Zealand
Anniversary Conference

18-20 | OCT
2024

Totara Springs Christian Centre
\$100 with camper \$120 without

Conference speaker-
Campbell Forlong

Register Now! www.mmm.org.nz

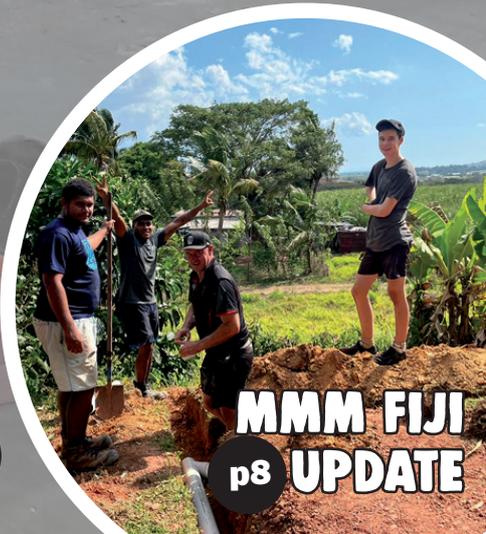


*Faithful & Faith-filled:
a 30 year stocktake*



HIS-STORY

p3



**MMM FIJI
p8 UPDATE**

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: 030442 0148838 00
Westpac

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: terrence@mmm.org.au
Web: www.mmminternational.net

Printed by: Rosetown Print, Te Awamutu

Front Cover: First MMM donated vehicle, and other photos from through the years.

LETTER FROM THE

Director Sept 2024



Thirty years ago those who began the ministry of Mobile Mission Maintenance in New Zealand weren't thinking that 30 years in the future there would be a conference being held to celebrate God's faithfulness to them and the work of MMM New Zealand. They were just excited to be part of God's story, seeing Mobile Mission Maintenance begin to serve the Christian community of New Zealand to see the gospel advance in our nation and beyond.

Now here we are in 2024 and we are encouraged to be part of what God is doing through MMM New Zealand right now, with everyone playing their different part. It is relatively easy to record the practical impact that has been a joy to participate in, with over 1000 projects and nearly 400,000 hours of voluntary service. But there are also many stories of the spiritual impact in the lives of the volunteers and of those that we have served and there will be so much more impact that has flowed from ministries having the right facilities to do their work that we will never know about.

There are so many wonderful people involved in the ministry. God has used all sorts of people, with all sorts of skills, and all sorts of personalities to bring life to MMM. We have experienced and are continuing to experience God's faithfulness to the ministry. We get to tell of God's wonderful deeds just as David could say in Psalm 9:1, "I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds."

It is wonderful that MMM Fiji has also been a blessing to ministries for so many years and this is set to continue. We are excited that the MMM Fiji Board have made the decision to purchase the lease and assets of Oasis Farm, which has been a ministry of Island Encounters, to use as the MMM Centre for operations in Fiji. So again we get to give thanks to the Lord for all his wonderful deeds.

You can get to do that with us at the MMM Conference. Did you know that those involved in the Te Arorangi Bible School in Pirongia, where the MMM Centre is now located, helped inspire MMM to begin in Australia 50 years ago. Come and join us at Conference to find out how, to share of God's wonderful deeds and be a part of the beginning of the next 30 years. If you have a skill or an inclination to serve, then use it to 'serve those who serve' the Lord, as the many have done before you.

"Great days ahead" (as Terry Phillips, former MMM International Alliance Board member, would always say).

Howard Robinson
MMM New Zealand
Director

MMM is still seeking a Property Manager and Hospitality Host for the MMM Centre in Pirongia.

Contact the MMM office for details



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:

- 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

MMM New Zealand: His-Story

1980

MMM began in Australia in 1975. Since 1980, teams from Australia came to New Zealand and were supported by local volunteers. In 1986, a meeting was held in Rotorua to see if there was enough interest to begin MMM NZ; however, there was not.



1994

In 1993, Charles and Ruth Sundgren heeded the call to establish MMM in New Zealand. In 1994, they attended an Orientation programme in Australia. On their return, a committee was established to inaugurate MMM New Zealand.



1995

Peter and Kay Brown and family arrived in Tauranga from MMM Australia to share in the work. In July, MMM was offered the Te Aorangi Bible School property in Pirongia to lease for \$10 a year, if requested. September MMM moved in.
New Zealand Projects;
30 ministries serve, 7,200 hours



1996

MMM became a registered Charitable Trust. The first MMM full-time project team members joined; John and Sherill Baty. The first MMM Newsletter was sent out from Pirongia.



1997

The first team, from Te Awamutu Bible Chapel, of 33 people, went to serve in Fiji at the Gospel School for the Deaf. With many more teams following over the years.



1999

More team members join MMM full-time. David and Jenny Halse (15 years); Colin and Barbara Robinson (6 years); and Howard and Ave Robinson (25+ years). The Robinson couples established the first MMM Mobile Team.
New Zealand and overseas projects;
22 ministries served, 7,002 hours



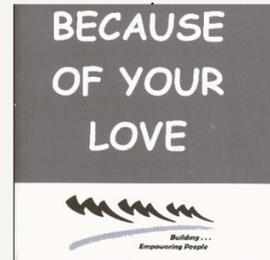
2000

A new workshop was built at MMM Centre and office area upgraded. Bruce Alchin is appointed as the first NZ Director. 2003 MMM's name changes from Mobile Mission Maintenance to MMM International (NZ). New Zealand and overseas projects; 23 ministries served, 7,376 hours



2004

MMM celebrates 10 years and holds its second conference. Warren and Jenny Seabourne become the first Full-Time couple to serve in Fiji. MMM produces a book to celebrate the first 10 years. Howard and Ave become MMM Hong Kong Directors.



2007

MMM gets its first website. Farmers Fellowship begins, raising stock for MMM's overseas work. MMM build house number 2 on the property. A team go to Vladivostok, Russia to serve "Living Hope". New Zealand and overseas projects; 48 ministries served, 15,507 hours



2009

MMM changes its name to MMM New Zealand. MMM prints its own eight page colour magazine! Maurice Turner takes over the Farmers Fellowship leadership. Bill and Pam Todd take up leadership of MMM Fiji. MMM assists Hard Hats for Christ on a project in Mexico.



2012

House number 1 is renovated. Howard Robinson is appointed as Director. MMM is donated a campervan. MMM joins Facebook. 2014 the website is redeveloped. New Zealand and overseas projects; 48 ministries served, 15,620 hours



2018

Thanks to many faithful supporters MMM purchases the property from Stewards Trust for one 850K dollars. A Thanksgiving Service is held. New Zealand and overseas projects; 36 ministries served, 16,906 hours



2020

Covid interrupts the project schedule. A project at Pirongia begins to rebuild the old MMM shed. Gas replaces the old Marshall water heater. Conference is postponed. New Zealand projects only; 32 ministries served, 11,944 hours



MMM 30 year history

2023

MMM has its first building apprentice interns that serve on MMM projects, work for a builder and include blocks of Biblical Studies. A MMM Conference is held in Christchurch. New Zealand and overseas projects; 45 ministries served, 21,089



2024

Steven Senn is appointed to the role of Director and Jeanette Russell as Administrator. 30 Anniversary Conference is held at Totara Springs, Matamata!



JEANETTE RUSSELL *New Administrator*



From 2011 to 2024, Jeanette worked with CCSM (Chinese Church Support Ministries), serving as administrator and staff writer. She is passionate about seeing believers equipped for growth, outreach and ministry and loves to see Bibles and resources placed in the hands of believers - particularly in restricted countries.

She has taken part in three short-term mission trips into China (Tibet and Xinjiang) with another mission organisation.

In addition to graphic design and writing, Jeanette has a background in broadcast media, marketing and photography, and has experience in database design and small business. She grew up and shepherded on her family's hill-country farm at Te Akau, and is

at home backing trailers, working dogs and swinging a hammer.

After more than a decade with CCSM, Jeanette was aiming for a career move that would furnish her for retirement. Yet not one ... but three ...separate individuals approached her encouraging her to apply for a certain job advertised in the MMM magazine. With the verse, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" [Proverbs 3:6] resonating in her ears, she decided to respond to the ad.

Jeanette says that while the decision to apply for the MMM admin position and 'live by faith' has been a journey in itself, she is thrilled to have been accepted and is excited to be serving with MMM.

Welcome to Jeanette. This is a hugely important role and it's wonderful to have you on the team. Please pray for Jeanette and Steven Senn (appointed as Director) as they build a support team for their roles.

PRAYER PACKERS *Behind the Scenes*

At the MMM Centre, we have wonderful people from the local church communities who faithfully support the ministry by regularly coming to help out with regular mailouts of the *Prayer Force* and quarterly *MMM News Magazine*.

One such group are seniors (all in their 80s) from Te Awamutu Baptist Church who for the past eight years have once a month come to the MMM centre to help mainly with Prayer Force mailout. Due to ill health and aging these folk have now stepped down from the role. MMM would like to publicly acknowledge their commitment to MMM and to say, "Thank you" for your "behind the

scenes" faithfulness.

So a huge "Thank you" to Phil and Sylvia Runciman, Anne Hedges, and until she relocated further South, Helen Anderson. It is with

sad hearts we share the news that Sylvia recently passed away. We are thankful for her faithful service over many years.

- June Gennard former Prayer Coordinator





Photo on right - Titoki Healing Centre project

PROJECT REPORTS

NORTH ISLAND Hope Rising, Ngaruawahia

In the last three months the team have been busy again. There's never a dull moment with MMM. It's so great travelling around to different areas, meeting new and amazing people and seeing how God is moving.

Over the last couple of years we have helped on a number of projects at Hope Rising Farm in Ngaruawahia. This time the team built two new offices from the piles up, with a huge deck between, stairs at one end and a ramp at the other. It was a big job, done in two stages with many willing helpers. We even had MMM's new Director and Administrator on the tools. From a muddy, slippery slope to beautiful, warm offices - what an achievement! Project Coordinator Team Leader- *Leif Pedersen, Bruce Clow, Luke Greenwood, Elliott Marshall, Luka Marshall, Marty and Robyn McKone, Jeanette Russell, Steven Senn, Mike Taylor, Noah Van De Laak*



MacCarthys' home, Te Awamutu

After the wet, cold and muddy project, the team moved indoors to work for one of our own in Te Awamutu. Wayne has been a full time volunteer for MMM for three years but

sadly, damaged his back in December 2023. He has been unable to work since then. As a team we went in and prepared and painted bedrooms, laundry, hallway, entranceway, bathrooms and ceilings. Oh, and Wayne is also a chef, and was able to manage some very yummy meals. Bonus! Team Leader - *Leif Pedersen, David King, Marty and Robyn McKone, Mike Taylor, Noah Van De Laak*

Ngatiawa Retreat, Waikanae

The project was to build 8.5m wheelchair access ramps along a deck that connected the dining room and hall which were at different heights. They were given an old aluminium ramp which, after a bit of welding, they were able to use it between the wood and concrete. It was a small team; two Chris' Chris and Chris (Pynenburg and Brown) and Stephen Douglas, but by working together and enjoying great hospitality they completed the project. Thanks to "Chris P" for being a willing volunteer Team Leader.



Keswick Christian Camp, Rotorua

From Te Awamutu, the Waikato Team ventured out to Rotorua where they worked at Keswick Christian Camp, right next to the lake. What a beautiful spot! They had some super cold frosty mornings but the clear sunny days certainly made up for it. We all camped on this job, three caravans and one in a cabin.

There were a few jobs to do; stripping the ceilings out of two cabins, insulating with Pink Batts, putting the new ceilings in, undercoating and painting. There was also new boards around the bottom of a house, so gas doesn't build up. A deck needed to be cleaned down and re-fibre glassed and a hallway pulled up and levelled.

On this job the team had some fun evenings of card playing. The camp provided the team with a nice warm room to use - also a good place for filling hotties. Team Leader - *Mike Taylor, Robyn and Marty McKone, Dave King and a new volunteer from Wellington, Stuart Haselden*



Titoki Healing Centre, Whakatane

The next project was just outside of Whakatane at Titoki Healing Centre. These guys are renowned for their hospitality - yummy meals, willingness to pray for their guests and just their love for people. The team also had a spot of cards here ... a recurring theme!



This job involved demolishing an old kitchen and replacing it with a much better secondhand one that had been donated, renovating a couple of decks and stairs that were way past their use by date. Team Leader - *Mike Taylor, Stuart Haselden, Marty and Robyn McKone, Terry Meads*

Mt Wellington Community Church



The history of a leaking roof had left its mark on the ceiling of the Mt Wellington Community Church. The roof had been repaired but, from inside, the history of leaks was clear to see with damage to wall framing and the Gib. One piece of Gib, about 2m x 0.4, fell from 5.5m to the floor-

fortunately, after a morning service! Our team repaired the water damage, refixed pinex tiles, primed and painted, making it look like new. *Team Leader - Malcolm McAllister, Gary Carruthers, Glenn Munn, Ken Ogden, Allan Oliver, Howard Robinson*

Christian Youth Camp, Ngaruawahia



After Titoki, the Waikato based team moved back to Ngaruawahia, just down the road from Hope Rising Farm to the Christian Youth Camp (CYC).

The job involved the preparation of heaps of holes (fortunately a post hole digger was used)

for concrete and post foundations. This was so various buildings could be moved on for accommodation for staff and guests, and a toilet block. Fences were built around the tiny homes and the team installed new cladding inside and outside the hot pool. More yummy food was had here. *Team leader - Leif Pedersen, Anita Pedersen, Stuart Haselden, Elliot and Luca Marshall. Marty and Robyn McKone, Mike Taylor, Noah Van De Laak*

*Heartfelt thanks to our amazing volunteers!
See you at Conference!*

MMM FIJI *Thankful to God*

The dry season in Fiji is all about helping ministries in Fiji to be prepared for the next cyclone season. We continue to be amazed and thankful for God providing the right people and skills at the right time to make this happen.

Rutland Street Church in Christchurch brought a team of 15 for three weeks in August to Sabeto Christian Camp, completing projects we had started in May. In the build up to the team coming, Roy asked the team leader, "You don't happen to know an arborist do you?" Well, ask and you shall receive! They did have an arborist in the church who was able to join the team with his young family and worked, not only at Sabeto Christian Camp but also Oasis Farm and the Kennedy Centre. Over 15 trees that were a risk to buildings in cyclone season and/or from termite damage were removed or pruned - a valuable contribution to each ministry. The arborist was even able to safely remove an obsolete



flying fox cable, which was quite a feat.

The team re-roofed the Camp Manager's leaky house, which will make a huge difference to the family living there. Another project was changing timber window frames that had been damaged by termites with aluminium and louvres, then placing mosquito screens and steel cyclone cages over the top. Other general maintenance jobs were carried out too.

We are encouraged to see the way God provides finances for these projects, even when the ministries don't have all the required funds. It's also exciting to see more and more volunteers returning to serve with MMM Fiji for the second or third time since we have been here. If you want to find out why they love it so much, get in touch with us about bringing or joining a team. - *Roy & Rachael Hogan*



DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR CONFERENCE

Introducing our conference speaker - Campbell Forlong

Hi, my name is Campbell Forlong. For years I was a community worker and pastor who loved to run long mountain trails, get stuck into DIY projects, and go on adventures with my family. A few years back I recall telling my wife Lorraine, 'I have loved my life, have no regrets, but if I had life over again I'd have loved to have been a builder.' Fast forward a few years and I find myself living in Raglan, running long mountain trails on my days off, and building. Yes, I am now a builder, and I didn't have to live

life over again. I still love adventures with my family, and try to live a life of love in response to Jesus' amazing love for me. Each day as I head out the door to work, and put on my builder's apron, I look forward to loving the people of my community by fixing something broken, creating something new, or renovating something old. Some days I get the feeling I'm still pastoring, but just with a new set of tools.

Go to www.mmm.org.nz to register or scan the QR code



Upcoming Projects in NZ



Sep/Oct

Orama Oasis

Great Barrier Island

Building maintenance and painting



Oct

MMM NZ Centre

Pirongia

Exterior painting of houses

More projects yet to be scheduled. Check the website for updates!

MMM FIJI UPDATE!

At a recent MMM (Fiji) Trustees meeting and following much discussion, a motion was proposed that MMM (Fiji), with the support of MMM NZ proceeds with the acquisition of the lease and assets of Oasis Farm, Sabeto'

With the full support of the Fiji Board we are now about to embark on a bold venture and seek to establish a permanent centre for MMM in Fiji. This will not be without challenges as one of the first tasks will be to renew the lease on the farm as it is not Freehold land but owned by local Fijians through the iTaukei Land Trust Board.

Currently the 14 acre property comprising a farm manager's house, a 16 bed guesthouse, poultry shed and various farm buildings is zoned as 'Agricultural'. However, we will be exploring whether we might be better to seek a re-zoning to 'Civic' or 'Religious Use,' which may assist with the construction of housing and buildings suited to the work of MMM. The current farm manager's home is needing to be completely rebuilt due to a serious termite infestation!

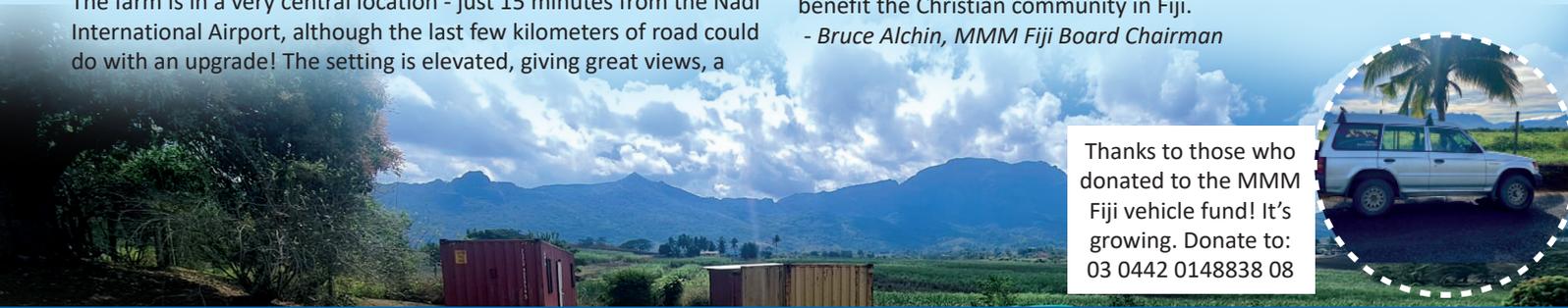
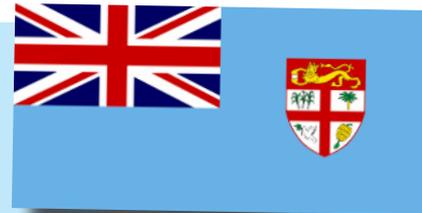
The farm is in a very central location - just 15 minutes from the Nadi International Airport, although the last few kilometers of road could do with an upgrade! The setting is elevated, giving great views, a

cooling breeze and is unlikely to be affected by flooding. The farm also has its own good quality water supply, along with great eggs from the poultry sheds, honey from the beehives, plus roast lamb which could also be on the menu from the flock of sheep grazing in the paddocks.

While there is more land available than what is actually needed for an MMM Centre, the space gives MMM (Fiji) the option of looking at providing enhancements to its work, including the possibility of establishing a Vocational Training Centre. In the words of one of the Trustees when he saw the farm for the first time - he exclaimed, "The property had huge POTENTIAL!"

We are grateful that MMM NZ currently has the funds available through bequests and gifts to purchase the lease and assets from Island Encounters. Future development and building additional accommodation, however, will rely on the generosity of God's people. We trust you will become as excited as we are to see MMM (Fiji) develop as we seek to further grow the mission's ability to benefit the Christian community in Fiji.

- Bruce Alchin, MMM Fiji Board Chairman



Thanks to those who donated to the MMM Fiji vehicle fund! It's growing. Donate to: 03 0442 0148838 08

REGISTER NOW FOR CONFERENCE!

30 Anniversary Conference
18-20 October

Totara Springs Christian Centre,
Matamata



Come to Conference, get into God's Word, enjoy some fun, some memories, find out more about MMM, catch up with 'old friends', make some new ones!

To register for conference, scan this QR code or go to; www.mmm.org.nz.



Scan me!

VOLUNTEERS WELCOME ON PROJECTS

CALL MIKE FIRST TO CHECK THE PROJECT IS ON SCHEDULE: 021 272 1562
projects@mmm.org.nz
CARAVAN PARKING AVAILABLE ON MOST PROJECTS
LUNCH MORNING AND AFTERNOON TEA PROVIDED



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

