



MMMTEAM News

AUSTRALIA

Celebrating a Life

On Saturday November 15th I was at my local cricket club chatting with some members, when I received a call from Leigh Minehan. I have to admit that whenever I receive a call from Leigh, no matter what the purpose of the call I'm encouraged. Leigh was calling to advise me of the passing of George Prolongeau. He served with MMM through the 1980's and 90's and was an inspiration to many as they served alongside him. Always an encourager, either through words or deeds George would stay on the Whittlesea base throughout the week and return back to his home in Ballarat on weekends.

I never had the pleasure of meeting George, but I had certainly heard the name in MMM circles. As we chatted that Saturday, Leigh briefly shared some experiences and background of George and his involvement with MMM. I began to realise what an impact this man had in the life of MMM Australia. George was 103 when he died, and by all accounts he lived a fruitful life and was active in his community until a relatively short time before His passing.



After chatting with Leigh for 10 or 15 minutes I was again truly encouraged, not so much by Leigh but by the wonderful stories shared about the life of George and his commitment and passion for the work of MMM. As I stood in the cricket

pavilion contemplating what had been shared, my reflection turned to one image, a man crossing the finish line strongly as he finished his race.

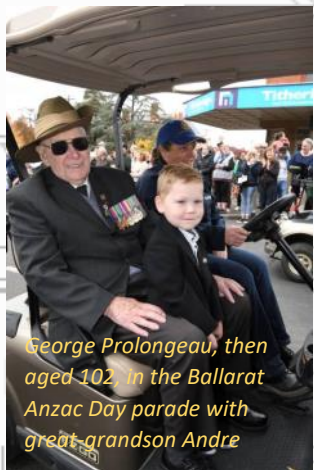
The following Monday morning I contacted former MMM Secretary Geoff Hanson to make sure he knew of George's passing, we chatted about George and I found out more about this amazing man. He truly had a life worth celebrating! Those who served with him will know his love of poetry and passion for writing the odd poem or two. A committed volunteer, who served in the army during WWII in Papua New Guinea – he commented on his service *"I always did what was asked of me and have some great memories as a result. You have to respect what took place."*

We pay respect and honour to this amazing man who finished his race, and has undoubtedly heard first hand those beautiful words *"Well done good and faithful servant, enter into your rest"*. George is survived by his beloved wife Joyce (Joy), their two children Merlene and Albert, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. We've included one of George's poems here from the MMM creative fellowship day in August 2009.

Vale George Prolongeau



Corporal George Prolongeau with Reverend Keith Lanyon, a former army chaplain in 2018.



George Prolongeau, then aged 102, in the Ballarat Anzac Day parade with great-grandson Andre

The year 1975 stands out in Godly history
The Holy Spirit empowering men of God
David, Gordon, John, Murray and others too
Objective talent – displayed in humility
Followed by men and women quite a few
Not limited by time or distance – but
Determined tools in the Master's hand
God's people greatly enriched and helped
Serving those who serve in every land
Whittlesea, Hong Kong, Africa!
Noble words indeed

Not to mention names of multi personnel
Momentum gathered – responsibilities galore
Challenge of fire, finance, fellowship, future
Experiencing God's blessings more and more
A "monty" fellowship - embracing creativity
Sharing, caring, building an information store
Progressive zeal and enthusiasm displayed
And to God's people in general, I implore
Be part of this practical ministry
Be creative – your skills and talents display
Enjoy fellowship – the morning tea devotion
And the Lord to bless you every day.
Let's be determined, fruitful, progressive
No better motive could there be
Especially under the Victorian leadership
Of Erin and Anne Marie

PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES



For specific information regarding any of these project opportunities please contact the Region Manager responsible for the project.

VC-18-835	VIC	Belgrave Heights Convention Centre A-Frame Hut 4 — Assemble and erect Build-A-Bond A-Frame hut.	See Geoff Jarvis for details.
Mid-Feb, 2021			
NW-20-1056	NSW	Young Life Australia Armidale —Repairs and maintenance + Interior painting. Cleaning brickwork, some plumbing. (a big list of jobs)	Contact Bruce Collard for info.
Mar 22, 2021			
QD-20-1046	QLD	Agnes Water Baptist Church Interior Painting — New building painting to help with costs. Work under direction of local painter	Contact John Cooper for info.
Date TBA			
VC-19-943	VIC	Horsham Presbyterian Church Exterior Repair+Paint - Replacing and painting several sections of weatherboards (at height) on the Church.	Part of Western Vic Safari team.
Date TBA			
NW-20-1050	NSW	Coffs Harbour Wesleyan Methodist Church — Maintenance and painting. Replacement of exiting lights with LED lights.	Contact Ian Dawson for details.
Mar 8, 2021			
VC-19-866	VIC	Kaniva Presbyterian Church Maintenance — Completion of project work of interior plaster work + painting	Contact Geoff Jarvis for details.
Date TBA			
NW	NSW	Newcastle Presbyterian Church — Paint church hall and treat rising damp issues if possible. Some working at height required.	Contact Barry Campbell for info.
Jun 28, 2021			
QD-19-927	QLD	West Bundaberg Baptist Church Toilet Build — Conversion of existing storeroom to unisex ambulant toilet.	Contact John Cooper for details
Date TBA			
TS-20-1053	TAS	Citylight Church Kingston Toilet Build — Preparations only for concrete driveway.	Contact Shane or Ruth Goelst for info.
Mid-Jan, 2021			
QD-20-1060	QLD	Dirranbandi Retreat & Caravan Park Renovations — Completion of foyer and bathroom including painting.	Contact John Cooper for full details
Date TBA			
QD-20-987	QLD	Gin Gin Baptist Church Exterior Paint — Paint exterior brickwork (Besser bricks). Repairs & paint of ageing louvers, door frames, & windows	Contact John Cooper for QLD Safari details
Dates TBA			
TS-20-1048	TAS	Somerset Baptist Church Fencing + Painting — (2 sites) Erect approx 70m of fencing at Manse. Painting of Church façade and lower units	Contact Shane or Ruth for info.
Mid Feb, 2021			
TS-20-1061	TAS	Camp Clayton Turners Beach Bunks + Stairs — Rebuild or modify existing bunk beds and stairs to comply with new regulations.—Ongoing	Contact Shane if you want to be involved.
On-Going			
QD-20-1041	QLD	Life Christian Church Roma Paint - Interior painting of new church building. Includes lots of cutting in and spray painting	Contact John Cooper for QLD Safari details
Dates TBA			
QD-19-926	QLD	Yandina Baptist Church Paint — Exterior painting to main church building and small hall (including the roof of the main building).	Contact John Cooper for QLD Safari details
Dates TBA			

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Phone: 03 9837 2700; Email: projects@mmm.org.au



In a year that has been 'one for the ages' we look for stability and comfort in a world that seems to suffer so much turmoil and distress. The joy of Christmas with its spirit of giving is born out of a God that gave the greatest gift of all to mankind, redemption through his Son.

From everyone at MMM Australia we would like to wish you and your family a very blessed and wonderful Christmas. We pray for rest and relaxation for you over this Christmas & New Year period. We hope you enjoy time with loved ones and that the joy of giving far exceeds the joy of receiving in your life this Christmas.

Ring Out, Wild Bells

by [Alfred, Lord Tennyson](#)

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die...

Ring out false pride in place and blood,
The civic slander and the spite;
Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common love of good.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.



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when
you
Choose
joy
You feel good
& when you feel
good, YOU do good
& when YOU do good
it Reminds others
of what joy feels like
& it just
might inspire
them to do
the same.



A Productive Time

These last months have been very productive for MMM NSW.

A team travelled to Lightning Ridge in October and had a particularly fulfilling task. We were to paint and renovate the Anglican Manse, and we were told to choose the colours as well! Ros McNeice rose to the occasion and designed a fresh contemporary look for the whole house. The young family with 4 little kids, were thrilled with the result. It was so much fun to decorate each room and add some finishing touches. The highlight was the lovely shiny new kitchen to replace the old wooden and dated one. Phil McNeice's leadership was invaluable.

We were very Covid safe and had a lovely time with the church members. Then we finished off the year with our annual fortnight working at the Katoomba Christian Convention Centre. This was also ably led by Peter Groves. The tasks were constantly changing but Peter kept us all working smoothly and competently. We did a huge amount of painting around the Plaza area and it all looks very smart and fresh. Our carpenters built benches and table tops from scratch and mended many very old and worn window frames. The ladies sewed a bunch of curtains and covered 10 chairs, all of which looked very professional when completed.

We finish the year with a casual Christmas BBQ on Dec 12th. Praise God for all HE has enabled us to achieve, even in a world wide pandemic.



MMM New South Wales - Greg & Robyn Jackson.

Post: PO Box 90, Wyee, NSW 2259 Mobile: 0428 775 057; Email: mmmnswh@mmm.org.au



WA Homebase gets a little attention

With Covid 19 placing restrictions on the type of work that organisations could do during different lockdown stages, MMMWA had a little free time to undertake some maintenance around the region centre. There were gardens to weed and seeds to plant, walls to paint and doors to repair. The workshop also got a clean out and the tools given a clean and sharpen.

Outside, the Providence Christian College had discarded a water tank so Rod decided it was a good idea to catch some more rain off the roof of the shed, so spent a day concreting a pad for the stand and plumbing in the fittings.

Another venture was to begin the ground work for the installation of an outdoor above ground pool which Trevor and Karen had purchased. This should make the summer a little more enjoyable for the grandchildren when they visit. You can see the next generation of MMM Volunteers on the Mini Loader/Dingo, they all are so enthusiastic and want to help in any way they can. In fact, this little project became a real family affair.



Rod has also completed some work with his local church, the Wattle Grove Baptist Church, who have faithfully supported Rod in the ministry for many years and who are willing to promote the activities of MMM to others in their community.

As the year begins to become hectic for most of our Volunteers with Christmas celebrations and special church services, the WA Regional Committee would

like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their service to the ministry of MMM Australia. Many have held us up in prayer, attended fundraising activities, worked on a project, spread the news of MMM and invited others to serve or just popped in to have a cup of tea and fellowship. May you all have a blessed and joyous season ahead.

Because of our wonderful MMM WA family the ministry continues to grow, we look forward to a different 2021, yet more of "serving those who serve" supporting other ministries in growing the Kingdom.

Christmas New Year Doings

MMM WA will take a little time to rest over the coming break, but it will not be too long, as we will be completing preparations for work projects in the early part of January, we are looking at scheduling our annual Celebration Dinner in Feb/Mar and making contact with some Christian Organisations that have indicated that they would like to talk about the ministry of MMM.



Good Foundations



Garage Sale and Project News

After two postponements due to Covid 19 lockdown, the long awaited Mango Hill Garage Sale finally took place in early October. Because of the volume of items to be sorted, the preparation was spread over four days in readiness for opening to the public on Friday 9th and Saturday 10th. It was encouraging to see a number of new volunteers join the regulars in the set up. The response from buyers was overwhelming with more than 600 people coming through the gates and over \$15,000 being raised. Some new avenues of advertising were introduced and this resulted in many first time visitors. Covid restrictions were enforced with an extensive Covid Safe Plan in place. The State Committee would like to recognise again the enormous effort of our wonderful volunteers, especially this year with the larger amount of items to be processed.



Stafford Heights Project

During October, John worked on the renovations of the rental house at Stafford Heights Baptist Church. He was assisted by Carole (*maintenance manager*) and Lyle (church member). They replaced walls, fixed plumbing issues, painted upstairs and downstairs and completed and painted outside extensions. The house needed to be upgraded as it is used to house newly arrived refugees and struggling families.



This church has been a great supporter of MMM over many years, providing their facilities for our Annual Dinners and their food truck for our Garage Sales as well as giving financial support to team members.



Exciting News

Our Queensland managers have been approached by a young couple, Tricia and Josh Baade who have heard God's calling to begin full time work with MMM in Queensland. They have met with our managers to discuss how they can be involved and the path forward from here. State committee members met with them socially and are looking forward to working with them in the New Year. We will have more of their story in 2021.

CELEBRATE JESUS, LET US CELEBRATE.

As another year, and oh what a year, passes, we need no other reminder of God's love, than the birth of Jesus. At this time, after so many months, let us just focus on him. In Victoria and South Australia, we have been so very blessed. Perhaps a strange thing to say, after a year of turmoil through the world. However, our God has been at work. In South Australia, people like Terry and Jill, Trevor and Barb, have kept the candle burning for MMM, by attending some projects, with one currently underway. Thank-you so very much S.A. for getting involved and getting the work done, whilst we could not, in Victoria.

Victoria, throughout the year, has achieved some good finishes too. A major work at Morwell Church of Christ, in February, a delayed start at Dandenong Baptist church, with an amazing finish, country volunteers up at Granite Baptist church, and a great finish by the Melbourne lock-downs at Koondrook-Barham Baptist church. They were so happy to get on the job.

I really want to thank all the Volunteers for a job well done this year. IT has been a tough one, but we got there. Next year? Who knows what that will bring, but we all know that God has it sorted.

Here are some pictures of the past months projects. God bless all. Happy Christmas and a great New Year to you all.

Keeping our eyes on Jesus,

Geoff Jarvis



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Granite





Big Job, Little Job

A team of sixteen volunteers spent four days completing our project at Eastside Bible Chapel in Devonport. This involved replacing many metres of weatherboards, painting, painting and more painting, both inside and outside. Almost 400 hours went into this project and the church was delighted with what was done.

A team of two volunteers spent a day at Perth Baptist Church fixing guttering and holes where birds were nesting. Sixteen hours later, the project was complete and the church was delighted with what was done.

A team of nine volunteers worked on a week-long project at Gateway Baptist Church in Launceston. A boom lift and a scissor lift were hired to get them where they needed to go to replace guttering and roofing iron. Around 300 hours were spent on this project and the church was delighted with what was done.

A team of nine volunteers spent half an afternoon at Koorong Bookstore in Launceston. They cleaned windows and tiles, book shelves and toilets. They filled a trailer with rubbish. Twenty-five hours was all it took and Koorong was delighted with what was done.

Big jobs and little jobs but all important jobs to those that we help.



Gateway Baptist



Eastside Bible Chapel



Celebration Afternoon

On a beautiful, sunny afternoon in late November, we met together at the centre, from around the state, to celebrate and give thanks to God for the work that has been accomplished in Tasmania, not just this year but over the last three years. We were encouraged by speakers from organisations and churches that we've assisted in that time. We were blessed to hear about the difference that we've made and how that in turn has enabled others to share the love of God. We were reminded of God's faithfulness to us as time and again,

He has answered our prayers for protection, weather conditions, workers, finances and more. We enjoyed fellowship with old friends and made new friends as we met the newest volunteers and the faithful supporters who don't go out on a worksite but sit at home and pray. We missed many who were unable to come due to other commitments and illness. We are so grateful to God for all that He has done and all that He is continuing to do through MMM Tasmania.



Reflections on the year past

We've had quite an eventful year through 2019/20 with a significant amount of project work, several visiting project teams and lots of hard work for Pedro working in poor and disadvantaged communities.

During the year there were two projects we helped as a co-ordinator and twenty-six projects where we assisted and completed significant work. Unfortunately, we needed to postpone one project due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

We worked with poor and outcast families in the Chiang Rai region including replacing a defective water pump for a HIV affected family, and constructed an all-weather path up to the home of another HIV family.

We did several projects helping missionary families in Thailand including YWAM South East Asia Director Greg Hutchins and the missionary family of Colleen Dachaboon. Both small projects but much needed.

We helped with a few projects for Shoulder to Shoulder including the construction of a hot house for growing hydroponic vegetables and the installation of a new water tower to provide water for both houses. Repairs also on plumbing and external concrete areas and some weather protection for the girl's accommodation.

In November 2019 we hosted the first (*hopefully of many*) **Missions Awareness Tours** from Australia with eight participants plus Tour host Terrence Baxter. Everyone had a fantastic time as we visited mission agencies and centers to see firsthand what MMM has been involved with, they experienced our culture, our food, and our people, as well as some sightseeing. The best part of the MAT was a four-day project for a local Lahu Church where we transformed the exterior of their Church, Sunday School, and Pastors residence with new paint along with a couple of small maintenance jobs. It has really blessed this small church and allowed them to continue their support of the Church into Myanmar.



Lahu Church—Chiang Rai

We finalized the purchase of the MMM property purchase, something that was started over 18 months earlier and for which we had lots of prayer. Pray for the development of this base to serve the Thai community for many years to come. We are so thankful to everyone supporting us from Australia and hope many are able to visit on a Missions Awareness Tour soon.



Blessings

Palita & Pedro



MMM Thailand - Chiang Rai Province, Northern Thailand Email: palita@mmm.org.au



Prayer and Praise

Area	Prayer or Praise Point
QLD	Prayer: For Tricia and Josh Baade as they prepare for fulltime service with MMM.
NSW	Prayer for the resolution of technical problems which are hampering our work
TAS	We praise God for His faithfulness especially in providing us with beautiful weather for our end of year celebrations
QLD	Praise: For the completion of several projects this year in spite of the Covid restrictions. Thank God for John's safety
VIC/SA	Pray for the ongoing finances for Vic/SA region manager Geoff Jarvis. Pray for God's provision for every need.
SA	Praise God for the contribution and project efforts of the South Australian team this year. God is doing a great work
NSW	Prayer for more people to come to our monthly prayer meetings.
WA	Pray for new volunteers to work alongside Rod Heape. Pray for full time volunteers so projects can be scheduled
QLD	Praise: For the safe conduct of the October Garage Sale and the pleasing result.
TAS	We praise God that long-time MMMer, Jack Vanderwal, is recovery extremely quickly from a stroke.
NSW	Prayer for Asher as he grapples with the issues arising from wanting to go to school again and praise that he wants
NT	Pray for the planning of the Northern Safari in 2021. All NT work was postponed in 2020 because of Covid-19 and we
NT	Pray for volunteers (including team leaders) to commit to the 2021 Northern Safari.
Vic/SA	Pray for new team leaders who can take on projects to relieve Geoff of some workload.
All States	Pray: For volunteers to come forward to assist with the 2021 projects



Christmas Lunch at the MMM Mango Hill Centre

Associates, team and friends are invited to attend this event on Friday the 18th December starting at midday.

As in past years, please bring a salad to share. Dessert and drinks will be provided. (Please note change re drinks from previous October- November Newsletter).

RSVP 15th December to Anne - anne@mmm.org.au

Please note:

**The Mango Hill Centre will be closed from
21st December to 25th January.**

Make a Donation

Direct Deposit

Bank: Westpac

Acc Name: MMM Australia

BSB: 033-349 **Acc No.:** 541089

Description: <Your Name> Donation

Cheque : To MMM Australia

Mail to: 5/621 Whitehorse Rd
Mitcham VIC 3132

Credit Card via our website www.mmm.org.au

Special Thanks

TeamNews is a genuine team effort with contributions from all regions and our national office staff. But you wouldn't see anything without the efforts of Jason Blockey who works in the background on every issue doing the layout and compiling all the articles.

Thanks for all your efforts Jason.
Thanks to Jean for your patience and support also while Jason works at home on each edition.

Unsung hero's... serving others!

Thank you!



MMM Associates—Jason and Jean Blockey



Thank You.. !



As we come to the end of quite the unusual year, let's take a moment to reflect on all God has done for us. He has carried us through an incredibly difficult year and enabled us to keep things ticking over by working from home and meeting via Zoom. He is so incredibly kind and gracious, so wonderfully loving and cares for all our needs. This past year we have so many answered prayers and praise points they wouldn't come close to fitting on this page. Some of our answered prayers include financial provision via donations and grants, new volunteers, new team leaders, new doors opening for the work in South Australia, a consulting engineer for our projects (pro-bono!), a new leader for Build-A-Bond and so much more. God is so good!

I sincerely thank everyone that has been involved in our prayer network this year. I praise God for each one of you and am so grateful for your partnership in this vital prayer ministry. Thank-you to each one of you who have lead our monthly prayer groups across the nation and to those who attended. The contribution of your time and prayers is invaluable. Thank-you for your generosity in contributing to the costs of PrayerForce which enables us to continue to provide it free. Thank-you for your faithfulness to attend prayer meetings online, even when it may have been un-

comfortable at first. Thank-you! A special thank-you to our Board and CEO who faithfully pray and seek God as the answer to our needs. Prayer is truly a formidable weapon and changes things that man cannot.

Thank-you for being faithful. We are looking forward to great things that God has for MMM Australia in 2021 and going forward. It's a fresh new year and a new season. I pray that God would refresh and rejuvenate you over the Christmas period as you take time to rest and focus on the celebration of God sending us a Saviour. May God's blessings be with you and your family this Christmas season.

Together in our precious Saviour Jesus Christ,
Robyn Fedrick
National Prayer Coordinator



*I Said a Christmas Prayer for You
because the season's near.
I didn't ask for riches
but for gifts so much more dear.
I asked for joyful gatherings
with your family all around,
And for carols to inspire you
with their old familiar sound.
I asked for quiet moments
in your heart on Christmas morn,
For a special time to celebrate
the Savior who was born...*