

# MMM News

## Australia

2023 Volume 7



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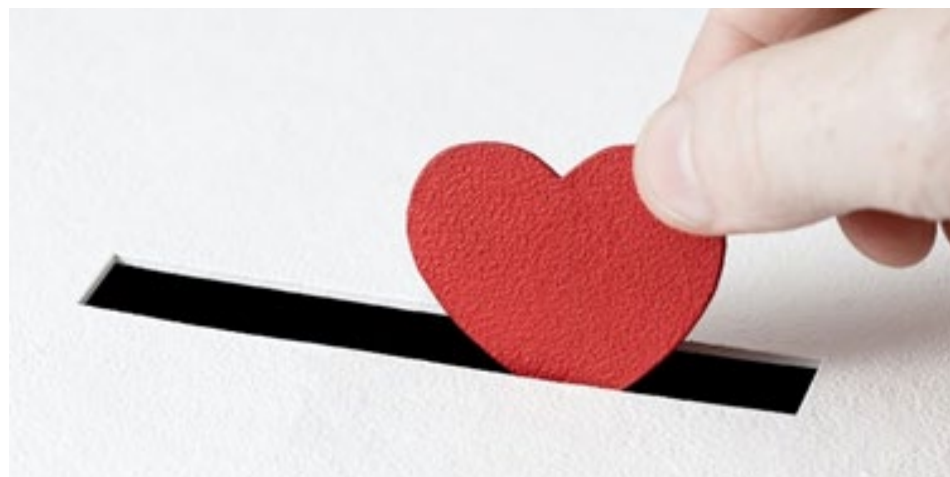
### Front page

Barry Campbell with his grandson  
Reece (Year 11). Reece joined  
the MMM crew one morning  
to learn some valuable skills  
and enjoy the comradery

### MMM Banking details

Bank: Westpac  
Account Name: MMM Australia  
BSB: 033-349  
Acct No: 541089

# MMM FUNDRAISER



## DEFIBRILLATOR FUNDRAISER

By James Lacey

Eighteen years ago my dad called me, he was feeling unwell and asked if I could pick him up and take him to the doctors. I drove him to the doctors where his condition deteriorated quickly upon arrival. He went straight into a consulting room and lay down. It was just me and him. Moments later he suffered a major heart attack. I ran to reception and within seconds every doctor in the practice was in the room working on him. The Paramedics were called, they were close by and arrived a couple of minutes later. I know he received all the help he could but we lost him that day. He was 70 years old.

That experience made me aware of many things one of which was heart health and what to do in an emergency. Dad was a strong Christian, his belief in God and the outworking of his faith was a very important witness to me and many others.

Survival from a heart attack is very dependent on the treatment you receive in those first few minutes. In fact, in Australia the chances of survival are a lot less than in the USA because in the USA schools train all students in CPR. As an organisation with an older demographic and the knowledge that having the right equipment available could make the difference between life and death we need to consider this a priority. Often our teams are in remote areas without medical facilities available. We pray and believe for safety and health onsite and have an amazing God given track record in this space. This shouldn't stop us from doing everything we can to be best equipped. It may be that we save someone that is not a part of our crew, but close by.

Please consider giving to this appeal. To date we have received enough to buy two defibrillators as we seek to raise our target of \$20,000.

Donate via our website [www.mmm.org.au](http://www.mmm.org.au)

Direct Deposit to MMM Australia  
BSB 033-349 Acct No. 541089  
OR contact us at 5/621 Whitehorse Rd, Mitcham VIC 3152  
PH. (03) 9837 2700  
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# FROM THE CEO'S DESK



## Change

I believe God is talking to me about change. Not just in my personal realm but for MMM. I heard someone say recently "don't expect things to change if you don't change anything". Well that seems like reasonable logic. If you want to get fit but don't change anything you are doing, then it won't happen. That started me thinking about what does change look like in a biblical context; after all our reasoning is not as high as God's reasoning. If ever there was a signal for change though it was Jesus. And if ever there was a person who brought real change to our own lives, it is Jesus, not just for now, but forever. Christianity has brought change, good change to the world. The great commission is about bringing that change to the world.

So why should MMM be thinking about change. God hasn't changed, but our world has. When MMM started, life in Australia looked quite different. Back then, in the mid 70's, three times your annual salary would buy you your first home, now it's well over ten times. The mobile phone wasn't a thing nor was the internet, personal computers, artificial intelligence, credit cards, streaming music and

movies, playing online games, social media, pod casts and the like. Interestingly many of these changes have affected how we communicate as a society and how we spend our spare time. Another big player in cultural change is the increased financial pressures of our expected life styles. In the nuclear family both parents are a lot more likely to work to make ends meet. This change alone has substantially stifled our availability and ability to serve. Depending on your age you may or may not have been affected or taken up some of these changes. So we now have a society scattered across these myriad changes, with the younger generations fully absorbing with seeming ease all the new technologies whilst the older generations are choosing what they can manage or are taking on the those they must to stay connected.

So how does MMM respond to all these changes. In essence what we do doesn't need to change but how we communicate who we are and what we do does. If, as per the opening quote, we don't change anything our potential audience of volunteers, donors, clients and others will continue to move away from us.

So what do we need to do/change. As an organization we need to build an expertise across a whole range of areas that we really don't operate in at a convincing level currently. We will need to build our story in a number of different medias that can be disseminated out to millions instead of 10's or 100's. This expertise will need to be sort and hopefully over time we will build this expertise internally. Our challenge is that the rate of change is rapid and so we will need to remain

'Mobile'. Hmmm, that's interesting, the first 'M' in MMM stands for 'Mobile'. I didn't see that coming but I know someone who did.

### James Lacey

Chief Executive Officer



ROBY FAMILY ENTERTAINING THE LOCALS IN MANINGRIDA

## MMM Going the Extra Mile Grant

Earlier in the year MMM made application to the Collier Charitable Fund asking for a grant to update our two oldest vehicles. Our application was successful and we have been notified we will receive the majority of the amount asked for. This is great news and a wonderful blessing in support of our work.

## Christmas Thank-you

To all of our staff, volunteers and associates, to the board and our supporters, I'd like to say a big thank-you for a wonderful year that has seen a strong performance in our mission of 'serving those who serve'. There are many who have been blessed and strengthened to continue and expand their work because of this. God bless your Christmas celebrations. Praying health and safety for you all. Amen



# UNDER CONSTRUCTION

## LONGREACH BAPTIST CHURCH

by Anne Cooper

### Intro

Sometimes a job comes along that encapsulates beautifully God at work. I believe this is one of those jobs. The MMM Queensland crew spent substantial time in Longreach this year supporting the work of the local church with which John and Anne Cooper have had a long association. The work done was significant as is the impact of the church in its local far flung community. Please read on and make sure you get to the end for some big news.

### The Connection

John was saved at Longreach Baptist Church. He joined an MMM team that went to Honiara in the Solomon Islands to build an SU bookshop in 1994 as they needed a plumber so the LBC pastor asked him to go. That was John's first connection with MMM which happened at the time he made a commitment to the Lord. Anne joined Longreach Baptist in the first year of it starting when she moved off the land into town due to drought, she had been saved only a few years earlier in Winton and was looking for a church to join.

Both John and Anne became part of the church ministry and leadership and were there until being called into full time work with MMM in 2005 and moved to Mango Hill. LBC have supported the Coopers financially and in prayer since leaving and have kept a strong connection to the family.

### What was done

The MMM team joined together with a local builder with the renovations of the Longreach Baptist Church. A Pastor's office and a reception was installed in the building. We installed a large kitchen at the end of the old hall, with a servery into the hall. This can now be used for church functions and catering purposes. The hall was also renovated with new windows and sliding glass doors leading out into the children's play area.



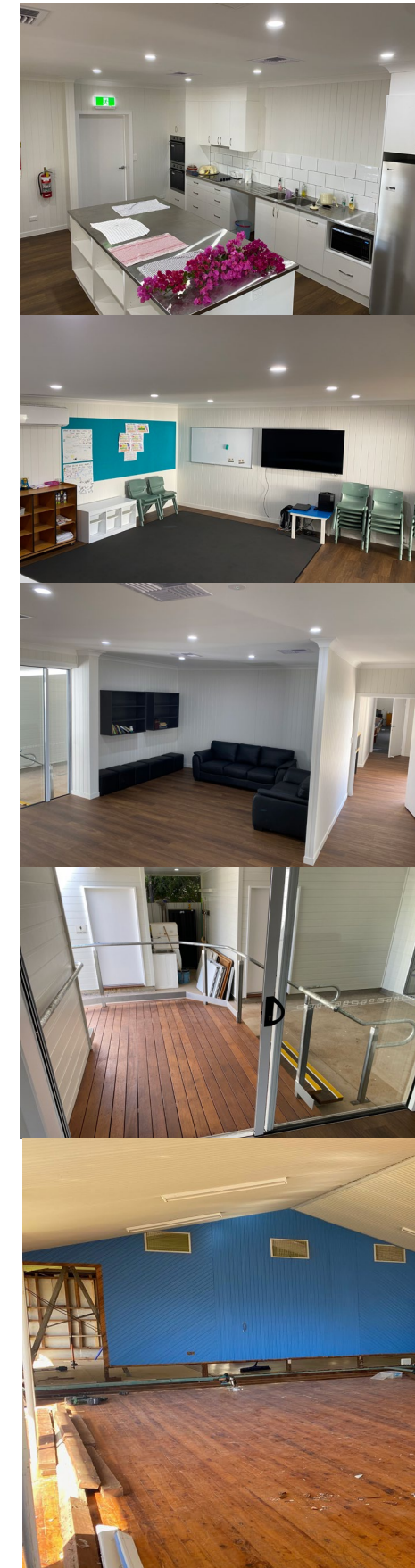
A large room was constructed on the rear of the building with a kitchenette and bedroom attached. This room is already being used for counselling, ministry and meetings. It has also been built to comfortably accommodate ministry teams when needed. There were new women's toilets installed with a laundry attached. Also in the building there is an area set aside for young adults and Sunday school. The building has been repainted inside and out. The upgraded building has presented a great opportunity for the church to better serve community groups and create more opportunity for outreach.



# UNDER CONSTRUCTION

### The big picture

This month our daughter, Katie, who works in ministry in Springfield, Kentucky bought a team out to Longreach to partner with LBC. This has been a full circle moment both for us and LBC. She grew up in the faith in LBC until she was 17 when we moved to Brisbane to go full time with MMM. In 2000 we had two American missionaries come through LBC and stay in our home for 3 months and they became like family. One of those missionaries is now an Associate Pastor at the Church Katie now works on staff at and 23 years later they have bought a team back to Longreach to partner in ministry. The team were able to run a youth night in the new hall. They ministered with LBC to the Young Adults group with a weekend conference out on one of the properties outside of Longreach. The young adults came from as far as Townsville and Charleville for the weekend. They had the opportunities to go into schools with Chappy's both out west and in Brisbane. The team was hosted by us at the MMM QLD centre while in Brisbane and we travelled out to Longreach with the team to provide catering and help needed for the time in Longreach.



MMM Projects Office

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**LONGREACH  
BAPTIST CHURCH .....  
Continued**

## A word from the Pastor

Over the last few years God has laid on the heart of LBC that we should be supporting and encouraging His work across the West. As part of this discernment process, we sensed our facility needed to be used more than just on a Sunday, that it was to be a home and a point of connection and support for people right across the West. The verse He gave to us was Matthew 13:32b "... becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." By faith, we stepped into this vision and have seen God continue to guide and provide as we move forward. One of the most significant ways God has done this is through MMM.



Even before MMM arrived physically, it was an encouragement to talk with them about what God is doing out here. The time and effort they have put into renovating our facility

were matched by their support and encouragement of all the ministry God is doing out here. The whole team has been such a blessing to us, and to have them leave feels like we are losing part of our family.

Needless to say, the work they have done on our facility has already generated multiple new connections into our community, it

will enable us to partner better with other organisations like Outback Futures and will support broader ministry to the West. We have been so blessed by MMM, and we pray that God will continue to use them across our state, our nation and the world.

Steven Ballin

Pastor - Longreach Baptist Church

## The Team

John and Anne Cooper

Josh and Trish Baade

Graham and Joyce Kapinga

Alan and Ros Grieve

Don and Bonnie McCaslin

Peter and Jenny Trebbin

Peter and Kerri Baade

Mike and Cathy Rossiter



## The Big News!

Change happens, and sometimes it doesn't look like what you want it to, but then you have to trust that God has everything in hand. That said, the big news is that John and Anne have announced their plans to retire as the State Managers of Queensland. This will happen next year probably around midyear. Yes, it is big news. It will take a while for this to sink in for us all and when the time is right we will honour their time with MMM. We will say thanks regularly, over the coming months. Let's pray for John and Anne, as they transition into the next chapter and praise God for the great list of accomplishments achieved through their sacrifice and obedience over many years of dedicated service. God bless John and Anne.



# PEOPLE NEWS



## VALE – Dudley Bakes

Dudley Bakes passed away in September at the age of 97 after more than 30 years of being a part of the MMM team from hard working volunteer, to unofficial Tasmanian manager to faithful prayer warrior and generous supporter.



When Dudley's wife, Margaret, passed away, broken-hearted Dudley at age 68 threw his energies into the work of MMM. He was free to go anywhere and do anything – a situation that, with MMM, he embraced with gusto. He went to New Guinea for 2 months and then a further 12 months mostly building houses for missions. Dudley went off to Central Asia for 6 months to work on refurbishing a hospital and orphanage complex. He spent 3 months in Taiwan refurbishing an outreach ship. He joined work parties across Australia and travelled all over Tasmania working on church projects and in various communities. He was forced to give up his building work at the age of 81 when his back gave out.

Dudley loved his work with MMM, especially the friendships with other workers. While he insisted that he never was the Tasmanian manager (he was never officially appointed), he effectively had the position for years. In more recent times, when his body would no longer allow him to climb up ladders and run across roofs, he supported the work of MMM by faithfully attending prayer meetings, being an ambassador for the work of MMM and upholding all of us in prayer. We felt honoured when he was able to join a team for morning tea on a project in his area and we loved to visit with him for another cup of tea and an encouraging chat. We thank God for Dudley, for the wonderful example he was of a servant of the Most High.

## A graphic featuring the words "GARAGE SALE" in large, bold, multi-colored letters. Each letter is attached to a string, and below each letter is a corresponding colored tag with the letter spelled out in white. The tags are red, yellow, green, and orange.

## MMM QLD CENTRE - MANGO HILL

## WANTED QUALITY GOODS TO SELL

Contact MMM QLD at [mmmqlld@mmm.org.au](mailto:mmmqld@mmm.org.au) or 0407 696 298 to donate your items for the next Garage Sale to be held later in 2023.



FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY  
START COLLECTING YOUR CONTAINERS AND  
RETURN TO ANY CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE  
RETURN CENTRE AND QUOTE

**MMM AUSTRALIA (WA)**  
**SCHEME ID C10420441**

- COLLECT AS AN INDIVIDUAL OR CHURCH
  - ON A REGULAR BASIS OR ONE OFF
  - AT A FUNCTION OR SPECIAL EVENT

If you need any assistance call the MMM WA Centre for more details Karen Mob 0419 197 695 or Trevor Mob 0488 399 238





# MMM PRAYER NEWS



It tells us in Nehemiah 4:7-9 *"But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the people of Ashdod heard that the repairs to Jerusalem's walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed, they were very angry. They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it. But we prayed to our God and posted*

*a guard day and night to meet this threat."*

They faced very real threats from their enemies and their first step was to pray to God, then they took action to meet the threat by posting guards. Praying then taking action go hand in hand.

In John 15:5 Jesus tells us *"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing"*

We cannot do anything without Jesus. In fact, as I'm sure you already know, if we don't remain in Jesus, we will wither and be thrown away, picked up, thrown

into the fire and burned (verse 6), it's pretty serious stuff. The good news is in verse 7, it tells us that as we remain in Jesus and His words remain in us, we can ask whatever we wish and it will be done.

James 2:14-17 says:

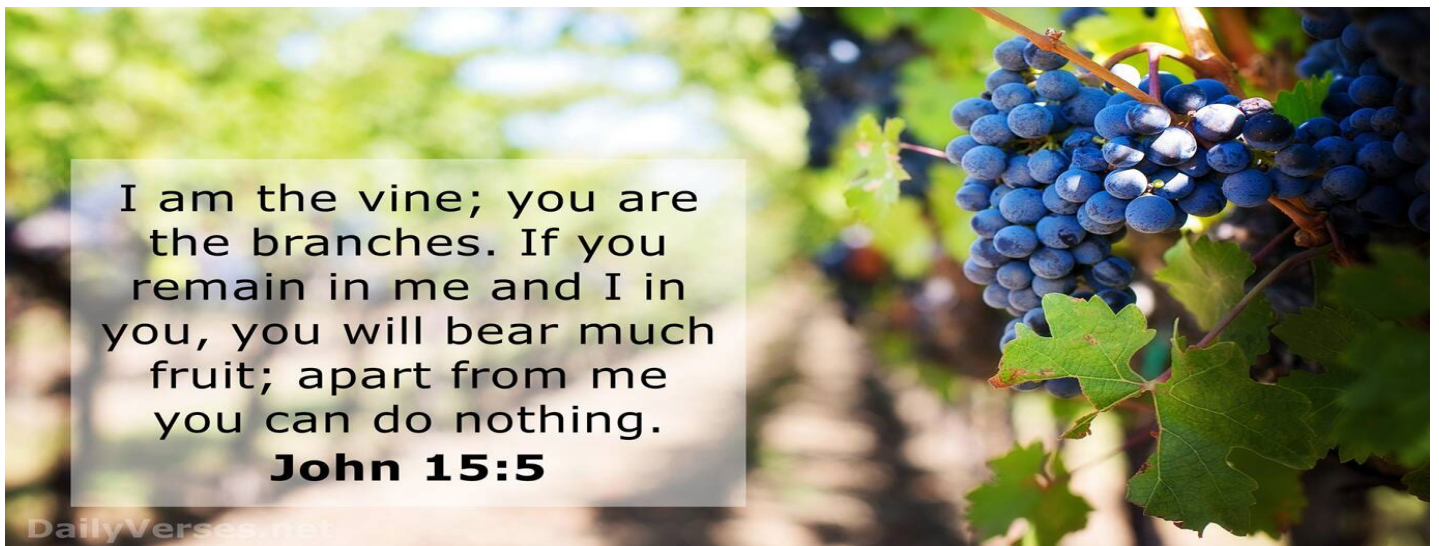
*14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? 15 Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. 16 If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? 17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*

MMM gives us a wonderful way to take action on our faith in doing practical works. I encourage you to remain in Jesus, read His words, pray and keep taking action.

Blessings,

**Robyn Fedrick**

National Prayer Coordinator



**MMM Prayer Network**

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