

MMM News

Australia 2023 Volume 5



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Front page

Flying along the coastline over
East Arnhem Land heading toward
Elcho Island away from Manigrida

MMM Banking details

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

THANKS from the HEART

Thank-you everyone who contributed and prayed for the Thailand vehicle replacement. Because of your generosity and faithfulness and God's blessing on the sale of the old vehicle we were able to buy a brand new vehicle instead of a second hand one. Pedro has been driving the new vehicle for a few weeks now and he is still smiling.



OLD



NEW





FROM THE CEO'S DESK



Getting Around the Regions

It has been a wonderful time as CEO getting to meet more of our wonderful crew. This includes Region Managers, Committee Members and Volunteers alike. I started in NSW then QLD, then on to Tassie. A great report at each stop, pressure is on WA (the only Australian base not yet visited). That leaves South Australia, we may not have a base there presently but we do have MMMers and an upcoming dinner in October that I'm looking forward to already. Of course I have to mention Victoria the only state that I have worked on a project in. The support we have in our national office and across Victoria and South Australia is enormous. Thank-you everyone.

I've also been blessed to visit the NT where myself and Ian Graham were guests at "The Australian Bible Translation National Gathering" in Darwin. We had the opportunity to speak with many of the delegates over the two days spent and had a stand on the afternoon of our second day. Ian prepared a great visual presentation that ran as we talked to the delegates. The translators are an amazing witness of Christian dedication to the Lord's work, many of whom have spent decades in the process of training, aligning with

an Aboriginal community, learning a language, learning the culture, impacting the community and capturing a language that would otherwise be lost or not developed into a written language. They provide both written and audio versions of the Bible and all this is often done whilst living in quite compromised circumstances. Our motto 'serving those who serve' certainly springs to mind when you get firsthand insight into the work of Christian translators. MMM will have several opportunities in the next few years to make a real impact in this space. Please pray that we will have the capacity to meet these emerging opportunities.

From Darwin we were driven to Jabiru and from there we flew to Maningrida, a closed Aboriginal community. Both our Build-a-Bond and Top End Safari teams will visit Maningrida this year to build a new translation centre and do some repair works to the church house. The proposed transition centre is indicated by the red rectangle shown on the front page. This is a big project for MMM that warrants significant prayer support. We are in the thick of planning this and other Top End projects. If you haven't put up your hand for the

Top End Safari but were thinking of doing so now is the last call to get on board.

After our short stay in Maningrida we were flown to Galiwinku on Elcho Island, another closed Aboriginal community. We attended a local church service and later a local footy match. There is a great need for our assistance here but we need Godly guidance on how to make this work. The NT presents a lot of opportunity to serve. It would be great for MMM to have a local presence as we had in the past. It may look different this time but it would be great to have someone on the ground who could

gather a willing team and to have somewhere to work from. Please keep this in your prayers.

James Lacey
Chief Executive Officer



PROJECTS HAPPENINGS



News and images on recent projects & project teams from across the nation.

Attunga Ministries

Attunga ministries is a camp site which runs group camps large and small as well as running two internship courses per year. Camp sites are expensive to maintain particularly when improvements are being made. MMM allows this to happen in a more affordable way.



For MMM workers it is wonderful to feel the genuine love of those

who work at the camp. It is a true Christian witness to us all. We find the work rewarding because we can see the results of our labour being used for God's work. They truly appreciate us coming and the work that we do. The interns (students from around the world) have commented how seeing us there doing volunteer work, working harmoniously together helping each other as a team for God's work is a wonderful witness to them.



Apart from actual work there are many discussions between MMMers and staff and interns which are very rewarding for all. An example – this last year one of the girls at the site was sick and one of our group gave her a handmade get well card, she felt so blessed that we (MMM) were thinking of her and praying for her. They all knew we were one big family with them.



Greg and Robyn Goodbye

As Greg and Robyn Jackson (NSW Region Managers) head off into the sunset (actually just around the corner, sort of) we extend our thanks and have a look at a past job and current work. Attunga is a camp site the NSW team has been supporting for some time and Greg and Robyn can tell some great stories of the relationships that they have built from the times spent working on site. It's these interactions that tell a special part of the MMM story. MMM changes more than just the building fabric, we actually bring a broader and more fundamental change. Sometimes this can be a simple encouragement to a struggling congregation and sometimes it's the catalyst to new life for a community. A new or refreshed building can encourage but more often it's the prayer and the chats, the witness of how we work together that inspires. Greg and Robyn have brought this heart along with their teams to the work they have done.



A classic example of the change we bring can be seen in the before and after photos of the work just completed at Bundara Anglican Church. Imagine the relief of having this work done when you've known you can't do it in your own strength. MMM certainly provides a Godly answer to what can seem an untenable situation.



BUNDARA AFTER

Paul Barnham who once before stood in the breach has again put up his hand as Interim Region Manager. We thank Paul and the Committee for stepping up at this time. Our prayers though are not only in support of them but also for some new blood in the NSW ranks. Specifically, we are still looking for the next Regional Managers and new volunteers.

For those wondering, the Wyee MMM base remains accessible to MMMers. A local Pastor and his family are renting the property until we can find our new Region Managers. The office and the self-contained unit are for the exclusive use of MMM as are the caravan spots and associated sheds. God bless MMM NSW.



BUNDARA WORK TEAM

MMM Projects Office

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

TOPEND SAFARI - COMING SOON

2023 Top End Safari

Last call for Team members

Join the Safari team and enjoy a great life experience.

Running late May through to early August

Six projects from Darwin to Katherine and into Arnhem Land

If you don't have 10 plus weeks join the Build-a-Bond team for two weeks running mid to late May in Maningrida

If you're interested

Contact projects@mmm.org.au

Sponsor the Top End Safari

The Top End Safari is one of the largest undertakings that MMM makes each year. Those who put their hands up give over two months of their time and thousands of dollars in costs to travel and support themselves. Not all of us can go but we can support them with our prayers and if you'd like to you can financially support them too. So the crew doesn't carry the burden of every cost it would be great to cover the following items-

Team shirt, First aid kit, A celebratory team dinner,

When the team hits the remote communities they won't have the usual provision of morning teas and lunches by the locals so money for morning teas and lunch over two jobs, and a take away meal at the start of each job for the evening toolbox meeting

How to give:

Direct Deposit: BSB 033-349 Acct. No: 541089 Acct. Name MMM Australia

Reference: Your surname & Safari

Credit Card: via our Website www.mmm.org.au Click on Donations Specify: Safari

By Cheque made out to MMM Australia (include a note for TopEnd Safari)

POSTED TO 5/621 WHITEHORSE ROAD, MITCHAM, VIC 3114



Announcement –

New Board Members MMM Australia

We are pleased to announce the appointment of two new Directors on the MMM Australia Board. After much prayer and consideration, the Board has appointed Steve Jackson and Andrew Cross to fill the current vacancies left by the departure of Matthew Smith and Craig Goldsmith late last year. This is a direct answer to prayer as we have sought to find suitable people with the required skills and experience and calling from God to serve in this way.

Steve Jackson – Steve is the National HSE Manager for Goodman Fielder



with BSc (OHS). He attends the Resound Church where he plays an active

part in the men's ministry. He enjoys playing basketball as well as coaching his son's team. Steve will bring his experience from many years working in senior management roles together with his desire to serve God in Christian service. Steve lives in Melbourne's eastern suburbs.

Andrew Cross – Andrew is the head



of Practice Management for Herbert Smith Freehills, an international law firm. He

holds an accounting degree and is a certified practicing accountant (CPA). Andrew has previous Board experience at Whitley College where he chaired the Audit and Risk Committee. Andrew lives with his wife Catherine and son Caleb in Melbourne's eastern suburbs.

Terry and Joy Hutchinson

Good friends Terry and Joy Hutchinson are now together in Heaven with their Lord and Saviour, who they loved and served together.



Terry passed away after a significant battle with health on January 4 this year 2023. Joy passed away unexpectedly on January 31, 2023, just weeks later. Many friends and families joined together to celebrate their lives at two memorial services held in Warragul, Victoria, where they lived.

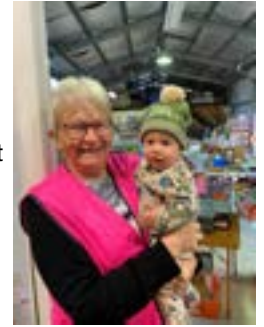
Their involvement in MMM goes back to the very beginning of this ministry. Terry was an engineer and prominent in the transport industry. Joy was very much part of their business. They both served freely and willingly in the life and ministry of MMM, always available to help and advise MMM folk with vehicle repairs, towing arrangements for



caravans and mobile homes. On many occasions, Terry would travel to country Victoria and South Australia, bring semi trailer loads of donated hay and grain for the MMM farm in Whittlesea. Terry also transported building materials and was instrumental in the building and development of MMM headquarters.

Terry and Joy had an effective ministry in music, Terry conducting and Joy on the piano, which blessed MMM. They were legendary as a couple and a

great help and support to the MMM ministry over their life time. They made significant contribution to other ministries as well as their local church.



They will be sadly missed.

We rejoice they are finally 'Home' together with their Lord.

Wanted - Media Volunteer

PR

Social media

Printed media

Creating meaningful messaging in today's world is challenging. Each generation has different expectations and responds and reacts to different media types, use different platforms and interact at different rates. MMM needs to appeal to a broad range of people, young and old, skilled and unskilled, prayer warriors, doers, those who need help, those that want to help, the arty, the organised and many more.

To achieve this, we need a coordinated approach to all our media, have a solid understanding of who we are talking to and the message we want to convey.

MMM is calling for a volunteer who has expertise in this area and a heart for the mission. The role requires someone who can work independently but take direction. Has experience with different social media platforms, can manage website content, has an eye for graphic design and is cognisant with delivering a coordinated message.

If you are interested or would like further info please contact MMM via E: admin@mmm.org.au



Servants provides accommodation to people that have been marginalised from society due to mental illness or histories of trauma, drug and alcohol use or domestic violence. Located in Kew, Melbourne, we have a vacancy in April for onsite management in one of our large houses accommodating 24 people. We have full time staff that provide maintenance and tenancy support. The primary role of the managers is to be a stable and reassuring presence in the house to assist in creating a safe community where people feel respected and valued.

We offer accommodation in a separate apartment with free rent and utilities in exchange for regular housekeeping duties. Extra salary is negotiable depending if skills and experience align with available positions. The opportunity would suit people with compassion, big hearts and common sense. An active retired or semi-retired couple or people working from home would be ideal. We would consider a short-term placement if this suited. Please contact Amanda on ceo@servants.org.au for further information



PRAYER POINTS

Pray for new volunteers needed throughout the mission for projects and other activities. Pray God would stir the hearts of those He is calling to come and serve Him through the work being done at MMM.

Pray for all our National Office Staff and volunteers as they work behind the scenes in the administration tasks of MMM. Pray for God's blessing and protection on them. Pray for energy and joy in the work they do, we are so grateful for them!

Pray for the continued planning of our 2023 Top End Safari. Pray for the decisions being made around projects.

Pray God will continue to provide the finances, tools, and equipment necessary to fulfil His plan and purpose this year.

Pray for all our National Office Staff and volunteers as they work behind the scenes in the administration tasks of MMM. Pray for God's blessing and protection on them. Pray for energy and joy in the work they do, we are so grateful for them!

Pray for the whole MMM team for space and time to really sit and hear God's voice and we would hear for specific direction on where He is sending us, what work He is calling us to do and that we would see spiritual breakthrough both in our personal lives and in the organisation both in Australia and internationally

PRAYER CORNER



MMM Victoria Annual Fundraising Dinner
3 course dinner
Silent Auction, Guest Speaker & Music
Cost \$ 40.00 per person

Saturday 22 April 2023
5:45 PM - 9:30 PM

Canterbury Gardens Community Church
281 Colchester Rd, Kilsyth South

Bookings via trybooking.com Event: 'MMM Dinner 2023'
or call Jane : 0432 253 588



MMM PRAYER NEWS

Welcome to a brand new year! With the worst of the pandemic and all the lockdowns behind us, we are finally moving into a fresh new season and I'm so excited for us all to be moving forward into the things God has for us this year. I'm fresh back from maternity leave and my baby girl Daphne is already 10 months old! She is such a joy to my husband Aaron and I. You may remember the testimony I shared in our first Team News magazine last year, of the 12 year journey it took us to have Daphne and what a miracle she is. An absolute answer to many, many prayers.

We named Daphne after her great grandmother. Many of you may be familiar with the plant named Daphne. It is a laurel bush that grows the most fragrant of flowers. In the ancient Greek Olympic games, a laurel wreath was placed on the head of the victor. The name Daphne is symbolic of this victory. She is a victory God has given us, for which we are incredibly grateful for.

Here is a little photo update for you, isn't she just the sweetest!



Another victory we are seeing here at MMM that we are so excited for, is seeing our ministry in South Australia come back to life! For a season we didn't have a presence in South Australia and it's something that's

been strongly on our hearts, to see MMM Australia serving there again. Those of you who receive our monthly PrayerForce newsletter will have seen regular prayer points popping up over the last couple of years asking for prayer for South Australia. We started with a couple of projects which has turned into more projects. In September last year we held a Fundraising Dinner in SA and we now have regular volunteers participating in the work God has called us to do there. It is a tremendous answer to the many prayers we have prayed for some time and an area God is giving us victory.

Here is a photo from the dinner.



When it comes to the work of the Lord, it always starts with prayer first. Prayer 'plows the ground' so to speak. It doesn't usually happen overnight. But as we persist in prayer, as the Holy Spirit leads us, we start to have victory and we start to see doors open.

I would just like to share a few scriptures to encourage you:

In 1 Corinthians 15:57 it says "But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

And Luke 11:9-10 states "And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened."

Psalm 20:6 says "Now this I know: The Lord gives victory to his anointed. He answers him from his heavenly sanctuary with the victorious power of his right hand."

And in Hebrews 11:6 it says "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."



Blessings,

Robyn Fedrick

National Prayer Coordinator

