



NEWSLETTER OF LIBERTY TRUST

Liberty Letter



July 1999

Number 34

TRUSTEES

Kelvin Deal
Chartered Accountant

Kevin Wilson
Environmental Engineer

Elaine Bateson
Company Director

Jonathan Segedin
Master Builder

Colleen Medwin
Teacher

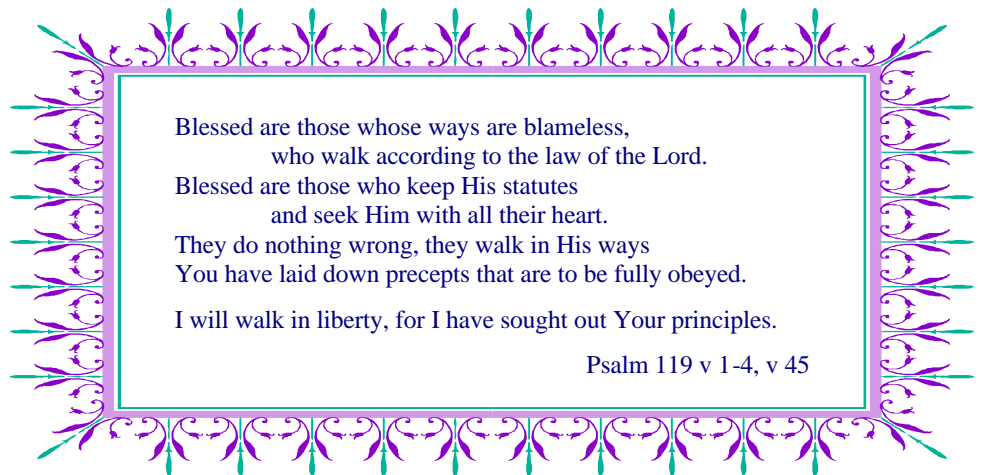
Mark Langridge
I.T. Manager

Treasurer:
Martin Tyrrell
Chartered Accountant

Loan Officer:
John Anderson
Business Manager

Budget Advisor:
Robert Cleland
Dairy Farmer

Administration:
Tricia McDonald
Kathleen Deal



Kevin Wilson, Kelvin Deal, Elaine Bateson, Colleen Medwin, Mark Langridge, Jonathan Segedin

To commemorate God's faithfulness over this decade the Trustees have made donations to Titoki Healing Centre, to Habitat for Humanity, and to Bethel House (a men's rehabilitation home).

"Give and it shall be given to you "
Luke 6 v 38

Don't give to receive,
Give to give!

Tenth Birthday Celebration!

It is a time to Praise God, for His principles work! In 1988 Bible scholars, accountants and computer people who love God spent a year checking the financial figures, statistics, and viability of scriptures such as "Lend to one another, without interest". At the time, interest rates were about 18% and up to 22%.

Their careful preparations were so accurate that the computer model has matched the actual results.

To date, 58 mortgages have been given to people from Timaru to Kataia, and 24 of these have been fully repaid. This means these families no longer have to pay mortgage or rent, and are free to use their income as God directs them. Their donations have totalled \$247,179 into the Storehouse, and have been lent again to others. We have supported them, and they now support others. Men and women with the call of God on their lives are more free to pursue this call.

"To a stranger you may charge interest, but to your brother you shall not charge interest, that the Lord your God may bless you." Deut 23:20.

Giving Greater Freedom to Live and to Give



A little over ten years ago a wonderful adventure began and a Vision was born. "Liberty Trust" - born in a prayer closet and out of a desire to change the financial circumstances of multitudes of people. It was established in the conviction that the Economic Principles clearly outlined in the Bible were still 100% relevant today and if applied diligently would have the same powerful effect in our generation as applied in any other.

We wanted to demonstrate a Kingdom of God alternative to a World Financial System that was inherently driven by greed and thus inevitably produced 'haves' and 'have nots'. The result - increasing personal, community and national indebtedness.

Today, ten years later, this dream is still very much alive. Liberty Trust is still doing exactly what it was established to do. One family after another, mortgage by mortgage we are breaking the evil power of usury (interest) and standing against debt.

When Kelvin asked me in those early days to state in one sentence what Liberty Trust was seeking to do, my response was: "We want to give people Greater Freedom to Live and to Give". Today I see no reason to change that statement.

I want to commend everyone who has participated in making this vision a Reality. Firstly to Kelvin and the Trustees. Well done! Your sacrificial giving of time, skills and resources has been awesome.

To the contributors I want to give my heartfelt thanks. You are the great heroes of this milestone reached. Your giving is the seed that is producing a huge harvest of blessing to families and thus the Kingdom of God.

Be assured of this - The Best is yet to come. I would in faith suggest to you that the adventure has just begun. A generation of young Christian men and women will rise in the days ahead and not ever need to experience the evil of interest-bearing mortgages.

I have a dream.

God Bless you all and once again. Thank You!

Ps. Bruce McDonald

Liberty Trust was formed jointly by the Whakatane Baptist and Christian Fellowship churches, to whom we report. Founding pastors, Bruce McDonald and Frank Darcy write:



Frank Darcy Writes:

When several people shared the concept and vision of Liberty Trust with me over ten years ago, it affirmed what God had been speaking to me for some time.

Scriptures such as "there was not a needy one among them". Thoughts like "Christians are to be good stewards of God's resources". Sermons that advised Christians to get out of debt. Clear Scriptures about lending to brothers without interest, debt putting us in a master/ slave relationship, and the hallmark of God's Kingdom being freedom. How could I help others if I myself were a slave to debt?

In Liberty Trust I found the answer I had been looking for. It is now evident from many testimonies, including our own, that God has used Liberty Trust to release many from debt.

I thank God for those who have had the courage and persistence to implement and continue the original vision.

The vision to help others has its rewards. As we have contributed to Liberty Trust, we ourselves were blessed when we received a ballot. "Give and it shall be given to you" this promise came true for us.

I have been disappointed in some Christians who have not been able to understand the concepts of Liberty Trust because they have been used to seeing profit as the chief motivation for investment. But Liberty Trust holds to service to God and others as the chief motivation. The Kingdom of God principles are working to confound the worldly-wise.

As we look to the future, I believe God will continue to set many more people free through Liberty Trust.

Yours in Christ
Rev. Frank Darcy

Whakatane Christian Fellowship: A Church with a Vision

We want to tell you of one church that has really caught God's vision of the storehouse.

So far twenty-nine individuals and families from the church have received interest-free mortgages since we began in 1989. Twelve have already been repaid, releasing them from mortgage or rent, as evidenced by the increase in the church's collection plate. Their testimonies ensure that the number joining will continue to increase.

Ten years ago this church, Whakatane Christian Fellowship, sponsored 3 missionaries, and 3 of its ministries (Bethel House for men, church land, and music equipment). Four of these have received their loans and one is fully repaid. Need we add, this was Bruce McDonald's church where it all began.

To complete the picture, another 38 from this church still await their ballots. Also, of those who have received, seventeen have moved away where they will be teaching God's principles of finance in other parts of God's Kingdom.

This is written to encourage you. Liberty Trust can make a difference to your church too.



- * *Individuals blessed!*
- * *Church giving increased!*
- * *Children & Missionaries sponsored!*
- * *Encouraging Testimonies!*
- * *God's word fulfilled!*

Blessings of Obedience for Flaxmere!

A group of eight families and singles from Flaxmere Christian Fellowship joined Liberty Trust in 1992 with their Pastor Nigel Woodley as co-ordinator.

Four have received their interest-free loans. Three are now fully repaid. Imagine having so many of your church free from paying to the bank and able to release finance in the way God directs!



Sister Successes!

We congratulate Liberty Trust Auckland on their fifth Birthday, and their first mortgage fully repaid!

Also congratulations to Liberty Trust Tauranga on their first ballot!

The three Liberty Trusts meet for discussion and fellowship. Membership is not territorial, but based on relationship.



Liberty Trust – Worldwide

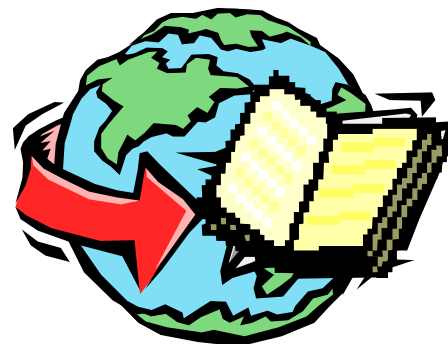
John Bartley in Kent England (remember John, our former Trustee?), is sending us Emails he has received from around the world from people interested in Liberty Trust. These people have read about us in Tom Sine's latest book, called "Mustard Seed versus McWorld". Tom is a futurist, and a Christian. He analysis patterns and trends, and assesses possibilities.

In his world-wide travels he has not only observed alarming developments, he has come across numerous examples of radical imaginative discipleship which cut across the frenetic pace of change in the world which is becoming dominated by Nike, Microsoft, McDonald's, etc and the music and movie industries. One seed of hope he writes about is Liberty Trust taken from John's article in NZ Baptist, titled "Interest Free = Set Free!".

Tom's book is not only to inform about social change which our churches cannot afford to ignore. It also provides tools, ideas, and resources for churches and individual Christians who want to dance to the Lord's tune, not to the world's.

"While we may feel out of control, our God isn't", Tom observes, "At the core of our being we are people of a wild outrageous hope. We believe that the God who began this entire venture has given us radical and imaginative tools to reinvent Christian life and mission for the new Millenium " (and we do too!).

Kelvin and Kathleen were blessed to attend Tom's seminar in Auckland last month.



Thanks Alan

Alan Cairns our treasurer, with his wife Jenny and their children are leaving us to take up a position in Papua New Guinea with Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu. We thank him for his assistance to Liberty Trust and we pray God's blessing on their time ahead.



Welcome Martin

Martin Tyrrell CA, has offered to be Liberty Trust's treasurer. Martin is very well qualified for the position, and we are delighted to welcome him to the team. Martin is married to Jenny and they have 5 adult children. He has worked with Kelvin for several years.



Poverty is inherited
– you get it from your
children!

