Liberty Trust was formed jointly by the Whakatane Baptist and Christian Fellowship churches, to whom we report.

To celebrate our 10th birthday in July 1999 founding pastors, Bruce McDonald and Frank Darcy wrote:

## 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 <u>no</u> 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 – <u>The Best is yet to come</u>. 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



## 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