



# LIBERTY Matters

NEWSLETTER OF LIBERTY TRUST

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Hello everybody. Welcome to our Spring edition of Liberty Matters. For those involved in the Christchurch earthquakes our hearts are with you. We know of one Liberty family whose house is to be demolished, and don't yet know whether their land is condemned also. We are praying for you all. A big welcome to new supporters from Kawerau, Whangarei, Gisborne, Ttirangi, Winton, Pukekohe, Papakura, Wellington, Waitakere, Titahi Bay, Henderson & Ohope.

A very big thankyou to those who have been praying for us. Many of you received an urgent email request from us last week for prayer regarding a judicial meeting with opposing solicitors. That meeting has now been postponed until 27 Sept, so please keep praying. (More on this below.) If you haven't given us your email address please consider doing so. The cost and volunteer time enveloping two thousand newsletters each time is considerable.

Meanwhile ... we have lots to celebrate ...

Please come to our

## 21st Birthday Celebration!

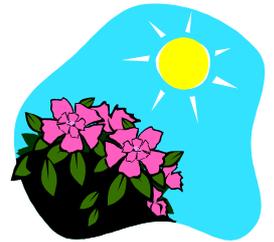
Saturday 30 October Liberty Life Centre, Whakatane.

1pm \$10 lunch (optional)

2pm Guest speaker Ps Bruce McDonald

Coffee & birthday cake to follow.

Please come, we'd love to meet you all.



It is God who makes us to do all that we do.  
2 Cor 3:5



Ps Bruce McDonald  
Speaker

## Give Us Today Our Daily Bread *Matt 6:11*

*Lots of people ask the question "How did Liberty Trust begin?" The answer is quite simple - in the prayer closet! Actually in two, as two ordinary Christians prayed about the financial needs of their friends and their own households.*

*For me, the journey to what we now call Liberty Trust started as I began earnestly to pray the above line in the Lords Prayer. ...*

Pastor Bruce McDonald could be called the visionary of Liberty Trust. Bruce is also husband of Maude, father of four great kids & Senior Pastor of Auckland Christian Fellowship "The Life Church" and is coming to teach & encourage us on 30 October—do your best to come and join us!

## Testimony just in from Christchurch ...

I can't recall precisely why I did it but 11 years ago, joining Liberty Trust seemed a sound move. Now recently married, Suzie and I are reaping a blessing only God could have inspired.

The blessing from Liberty has been an adhesive for our marriage...it is a financial commitment and bond that was the only way our move into our own house was possible. Now you wouldn't believe what happened recently...two months into our new home the Christchurch earthquake struck our hearts and our home!

I would actually like another house. This one seems too damaged, roof creaked many times, cracks in every room, lake formed under house, foundation/ piles cracked....even if liveable, the resale is worse now. The EQC assessor is due within 2 weeks but ABSOLUTELY God is in control.

Rob and Susie Aston

16 Sept 2010



Ed – Please pray for Rob & Susie and all others affected by the Canterbury quake. Rest assured that all Liberty & Ark homes are fully insured.



Kelvin Deal  
Chairman

## Let's Celebrate! *It's our Birthday! We've turned 21, lent \$20 million & set hundreds free!*

We are going to have a celebration at one of our supporting churches— Liberty Life Centre on Wairaka Road, Whakatane. At 1pm on Saturday 30 October will be a \$10 lunch for those who can make it. Please call or email us to order lunch tickets. Or come at 2pm to hear Pastor Bruce McDonald, one of the founders of Liberty Trust. This will be followed by birthday cake and afternoon tea where we look forward to meeting and talking with you. Please come and bring your friends to hear how God has worked miracles through Liberty Trust over our 21 years and be inspired how the best is yet to come. Take a day trip or stay the weekend—billets can be arranged. We would love to meet you all.

In 1987 people were asking God for a way to relieve the heavy burden debt and interest placed upon New Zealand. God gave instructions which led to 122 households and churches in July 1989 to pool their resources, \$20 per week, to put into practice what God had been telling us in His Spirit and had declared in His Word. From these beginnings a storehouse of \$7 million is now being lent and re-lent without interest to bring liberty to God's people.

## Charities Update

In the last two newsletters we have advised of the Charities Commission decision to de-register us, and our subsequent appeal to the High Court, and asked for prayer. Last week some of our email recipients replied: "What's going on – we didn't know!"

Well, very briefly, it is now 12 months since we received the first enquiry letter from the Charities Commission. On 15 April, C.C. ruled that our primary purpose is to run a secular self-help community and that we don't qualify as a charity under The Charities Act 2005. They dismissed the considerable evidence that our primary purpose is to teach & enable the public to follow the Bible's financial principles—which lead to liberty. In fact they stated that teaching Bible financial principles is not "Advancement of Religion", but merely "conducive to religion" therefore not charitable. They based this upon a 1934 case in Australia where a Catholic Newspaper claimed to be charitable. The judges in that case were split 3 for – 3 against. However the C.C. neglected to mention that it was a split decision. As things now stand, the many Bible Colleges in New Zealand who are charitable could be the next to be ruled 'non-charitable'. At the urging of several Christian leaders who are appalled at the secularising direction the C.C. is heading, we are appealing the CC's deregistration decision. The leaders are saying, "if Liberty Trust can be judged as non-charitable, who will be next?"

Immediately after the CC announced their decision the IRD announced they would begin an audit of Liberty Trust so we have been working on that front too. They seem to be primarily interested in whether contributors should receive donation rebates. They immediately stopped all pending requests based on Liberty Trust receipts, except those through accountants. We met with the IRD in Manukau in July and provided all the documentation they asked for. On 20 August they advised that they would place their audit on hold until the High Court decision is announced. I don't expect that until next year due to the high number of appeals pending as a result of decisions by the CC. So far it has deregistered 1,224 organisations, 978 of which have been struck off this year. Another 1,406 applications for registration have been declined. It is now locked in multiple High Court legal battles defending its decisions. Two have now gone on to the Court of Appeal. For this reason the counsel for the CC may try to prevent us from presenting affidavits from highly qualified Christian leaders who testify that we are 'Advancing Religion' and bring a public benefit. We have had many wonderful offers of affidavits however decided to restrict these to a minimum to have the greatest chance of getting them heard in court. The judicial conference regarding our affidavits has now been adjourned until 27 September while the Crown Law office decide whether to oppose these or not. Please pray that these will not be opposed and that leave will be granted to present them in the High Court. You can follow the progress on our website at [www.libertytrust.org.nz/news.htm](http://www.libertytrust.org.nz/news.htm) and on facebook.

Liberty Trust and Ark Recourses Ltd continue to set new records this year despite the enormous workload we have been under over the last 12 months relating to the above. Throughout it God has been consistently telling us: "Stand and see the salvation of God" and "The battle is the Lord's." Thank you for your prayer, support, encouragement & understanding through this time. - Kelvin

We seek to teach & demonstrate the Bible's financial principles in order to provide liberty & advance the Kingdom of God.

Our financial accounts for the year ended 31 March have been audited and are available for your interest. Donations from contributors rose 20% to \$882,000 and our expenses were \$72,000. Our biggest expenses were wages \$23,000, advertising \$12,000 legal fees \$12,000 & grants given \$10,000. The net surplus of \$823,000 was principally invested in Ark Resources Ltd who provided \$2.4 million new interest free mortgages—another record. For copies please contact us or go to [www.libertytrust.org.nz/financials.htm](http://www.libertytrust.org.nz/financials.htm).

Don't forget:  
Come to our Birthday  
30 October  
Liberty Centre, Whakatane

