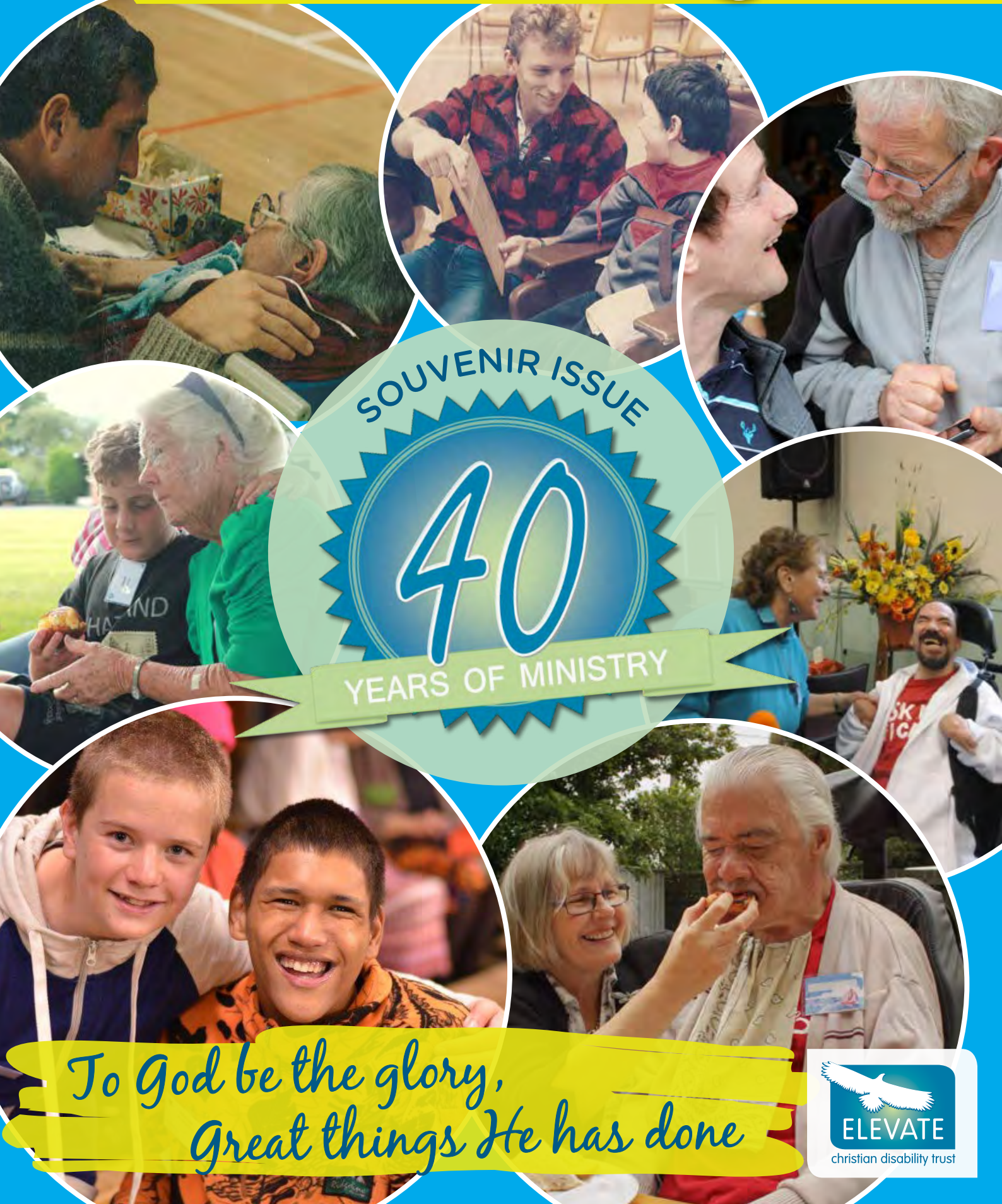


The encourager

THE MAGAZINE OF ELEVATE CHRISTIAN DISABILITY TRUST

Issue no 152, Aug 2016



SOUVENIR ISSUE

40

YEARS OF MINISTRY

To God be the glory,
Great things He has done



Man looks on the outward appearance 1 Samuel 16:7

"Meditate on the Glory of God"

A DEVOTION

BY MARGARET THOMSON - FOUNDATION MEMBER

"The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the work of His hands." Psalm 19:1

This is a true revelation of God's glory that displays His power, creativity, artistry, mercy, and wisdom, among other things. Meditating regularly on the words and works of God takes us a long way toward being engulfed in His glory. The universe is a revelation of God's creation. The verbs "declare" and "proclaim" express the continuous revelation of the heavens.

I love looking at the sky and being engulfed by the mass area of creation which reflects God's glory. This area is forever changing at different times of the day and night. The sun makes different reflections on the clouds through each day. At night, the sky becomes a reflection of the awesome glory of His glorious love. Words can't describe how God displays His presence in creation of the sky!

I am always seeking to understand and delight in the glory of who God is, the character of His holiness and mercy, and His strength seen in His love for the plans and purposes for His people.

When I see the work of the Lord in and through my brothers and sisters in Christ, I see a manifestation of His glory. God is a relational being who is seeking to form His beloved ones into a people of God together.

Glory to God is expressed beautifully by John in Revelation 21:23 - *"The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp."* What a miraculous place heaven will be, illuminated by God's glory! ■



Join us for a Night of Celebration!

Saturday 3rd September 7-9 pm | Venue: City Impact Church – Mt Wellington

Doors will be open from 6pm. Please arrive early.
Please bring a plate of finger food to share for supper.

385 Mt Wellington Highway, (Entrance via Apex Centre) Mt Wellington, Auckland
The accessible entrances are through the undercover parking.

We have decided that the Centre in Onehunga will now be closed on the 3rd September but you are welcome to arrange to visit us anytime during Drop in Centre hours.

ance but God looks on the heart
16:7

NATIONAL CAMP

21ST – 24TH OCTOBER 2016 | TOTARA SPRINGS, MATAMATA

Unchanging Love Eternal Faithful Mighty Saviour
G O O IS...



REGISTER NOW.

As this is our 35th National Camp you will want to ensure you get your forms in as soon as possible.

PRICING: \$180 adult (\$170 early bird)
\$120 11-14 years old
\$85 for 4-10 years old

THEME: "GOD IS"

Every year we have campers and helpers who require assistance to cover the cost of camp. So would you consider sponsoring someone to attend camp?

Contact the camp registrar for further details at
elevatedtcamp@gmail.com
Richard Goh - Phone 09-444-3062
118B Sunset Rd, Unsworth Heights,
Auckland 0632.

INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER:

Becke Medina is our guest speaker from the USA! Having led a team in Africa for 10 months and directed the children and youth programmes at her church, Becke lives a life not limited by her birth defect. Her confidence to step into whatever God leads her to, comes from knowing who God is and that she is His. Becke says "Because of who I know He is, I know who I am."

One person said,

"Amazing, beautiful, gentle, grunty! This place and these people are incredible! I must come back again." We encourage folk to come again as well as new people.

Helpers Seminar



Register on 09 636 4763 or info@elevatedtc.org.nz

HELPERS SEMINARS IN AUCKLAND & HAMILTON

Our helper's seminars are an opportunity to hear personal experiences of disability and some practical ways to assist people. Here are two comments;

"Thanks everyone for a practical, inspiring and faith-filled day". "Overall it was practical, educational and a learning pathway"

AUCKLAND
8th October

173 Mt Smart Road, Onehunga
9:15am – 3pm
Cost: \$10
(Bring your lunch with you)

HAMILTON
8th October

Details coming soon



Though the outward man perish the inward man is renewed day by day

2 Cor 4:16



52 photos tell the story of a

These 52 photos tell some of the story of the amazing 40 years



A Key Meeting!

Margie Willers, a very mature Christian of many years, met Di Willis at a paraplegic event and they became friends. Margie prayed for Di, and when she became a born-again Christian the Lord showed her through Bev Everton

there should be a Christian ministry for people with disabilities and others. One day after quite a period Di felt to ring Bev (a tetraplegic) who had been in hospital for two years and had just come home. Di asked if she could bring people with disabilities to Bev's home. Bev, who had found it difficult to face people, said OK. Margie was totally behind it, so informal meetings were started. Then Margie went to Kathryn Kuhlman meetings in the USA to be healed. She wasn't, and came back home devastated, but went to Faith Bible College where God healed her inwardly and gave her a vision re ministry to people with disabilities. She shared it with Di who was very excited by the idea.

Soon they felt the **next step** was to form a group which they called "Christian Fellowship for Disabled" (CFFD) and the first official meetings were held at Di and husband Hugh's home, 87 Deep Creek Rd in Sept **1976**. A logical first step to publicise what they were doing was to put



out a newsletter, and Margie typed this out with a mouthpiece firmly held in her teeth on a double sided foolscap sheet of paper. Fifty copies were run off, and this was what led to the start of our magazine "The Encourager", as it is now called.



The numbers attending quickly grew as they shared at these meetings, and when in **1978** 82 crammed into the Willis's home, including 15 in wheelchairs and 25 others with disabilities, a move to a hall became imperative. Initially meetings were held at the CCS, and then the Royal NZ Foundation for the Blind. The next step was to form CFFD as an incorporated society,

The programmes for these meetings were very varied. A young man also with cerebral palsy, Grant Allely, put together a very gripping account of being rushed off to the dentist without anyone telling him where he was being taken. This was read out, and was later converted to a drama and enacted at other meetings.



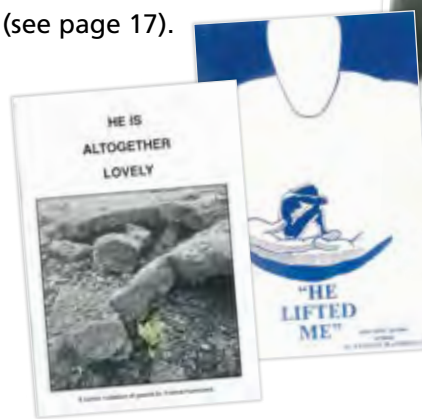
an amazing 40 years

Another step to move the ministry on seemed to be running a camp, and the Church Army were approached in **1979** about their buildings at Huia.



They readily agreed, but stated that we would have to pay fees for at least 26 people even if we had far fewer campers. How we agonised as to whether we could attract that number, but we went ahead with much prayer, and ended up with 28!

poems with great spiritual depth from a doctor with myasthenia gravis – Yvonne Hammond (see page 17).



Poetry Books

We were very moved at the depth of feelings and the relationship with the Lord that came through a collection of poems we received from Bev Henry, a young disabled lady who had suffered greatly with cerebral palsy. Some three years later in 1983 we made our first venture into the publishing field by printing 500 of Bev's poems in a book we titled, "I Hammered on the Gates of Heaven". This was very well received, and all the copies were sold. Some years later we put out two books featuring



The IYDP. 1981 was featured world-wide as the International Year for Disabled People (IYDP). This was the springboard for getting our fledgling ministry well known, and also for it reaching round N.Z. The first service we ever took was in 1980 at Pakuranga AOG. Early in 1981, Margie, who was used to speaking for 30 minutes, was given an eight minute slot at the historic St Mary's church in Parnell, along with a Braille reading from David Senior. Soon Invitations came in from other churches and groups. Before the end of the year we had taken 25 services. In most of these Margie gave her testimony, and in two others she prepared an in-depth message, and her speaking ministry was well and truly launched. Our policy was to bring different people with disabilities to take part in the services, and often the faltering contribution of a nervous person struggling to cope with speech was the most moving part of the service. Our aim was to get the churches to be inclusive.





"I praise you because I am feeble"

Psalm



Activities. The first of several boat trips proved to be very successful, with all returning safely except for one glass eye which startled the clean-up crew hours afterwards when it was found rolling around the boat. It was eventually returned to the rightful owner. Other activities organised were an IYDP concert, the screening of a "Joni" film, joining the memorable March for Jesus in Queen St, a gospel concert to which 350 came, and a group of 16 travelling to Kawerau where they were hosted by a church fellowship there.

Margie at Westlake. Margie coped well as she preached to small groups, but when the opportunity came to speak to 600 boys at a Westlake Boys High school assembly she was incredibly nervous about what their reaction would be. She need not have worried. Within seconds the hall quietened down, the boys listened intently, but didn't laugh at Margie's very amusing jokes until the last one. We realised later that this was because they were fearful of offending her and were not prepared to take the risk. One senior student later commented that for him it was the best address they had had all year from a visiting speaker.



An Incorporated Society. On 20th February 1979, 25 people who had agreed to be the Foundation Members gathered to sign the document making our new group an Incorporated Society. Among other things this opened up the way to receive grants from organisations. The photo shows one of the first committees with David Senior, Don Miller, Di and Hugh Willis, Margie Willers, Ian Chalmers and Lynley Nelson.



First Camp at Totara Springs. We stepped out in faith in 1982 by making a booking for Totara Springs camp which then could hold 230, and were surprised and delighted when 161 came. It just flowed with the love of the Lord. Calls for helpers met an instant response, helpers just naturally looked for those who needed help, and the climax of the camp came when we held our first baptism service, which quickly became a regular event at camp.



Some of our
Branches & Ministries
through the years



Go into the streets and lanes and bring

Luke 1

Taking a tour around

NZ. Brian Muirhead in Feb **1984** offered to help a Crossroads group of disabled people from Australia touring around NZ. "Well, why shouldn't I lead one myself with our folk", he thought afterwards, and later that year he led a very successful five day Northland CFFD tour that included a boat trip in the Bay of Islands and a visit to Cape Reinga.



and in foul

disabilities were not forgotten, with the Trust called to organise this, a large area being set aside for disabled, and counselling was given by others including those with disabilities. Signing was provided for with the intrepid interpreter giving her all for the deaf contingent, in fine weather and in foul.

The Formation of the Trust. In **1985** a postal ballot was held whether the CFFD incorporated society should be wound up and replaced by a trust. Votes were counted at the meeting and resulted in an overwhelming 24-7 decision in favour of the trust we called Christian Ministries with Disabled Trust.



Don Miller had just a stump for each foot, and a single finger on one hand, but despite these huge handicaps quickly stamped his mark on the fellowship through his highly alert mind, his wisdom and counsel as a trustee, his command of accounting practices, and his fine singing that thrilled and

inspired. Sadly, after an all too brief four years, Don was tragically killed in **1987** in a tractor accident, but his voice lived on as CFFD put together a tape of songs he recorded shortly before his death.



Invited to the USA. In **1988** Di, Hugh and Margie received an invitation from Joni Eareckson Tada to go to the USA to attend the first ever "**Congress for the Church and Disability**". This was an eye-opener on the extent of disability ministry in the USA, and they had quality talks with Joni and a huge range of other very interesting people in ministry. The idea of Joni coming to NZ was forefront in our minds, but Joni's Board was adamant - it was a no-no. They felt there were so many needs for her in the USA alone, but on the last day they changed their stance, and within a matter of months a NZ visit was arranged.

The Luis

Palau

Crusade

was held in Auckland in **1987**, and drew large crowds. Those with



In fine weather

in the poor, the disabled and the blind

4:21



Joni Eareckson Tada, her husband Ken and assistant Judy Butler visited NZ for 2 ½ weeks In **1989** giving concerts (or rather “Evenings with Joni”) in Auckland (twice), Whangarei, Hamilton, Wellington and Christchurch, and also a ministers’ seminar.. Joni did not spare herself. Everything she did she did wholeheartedly, even making time at the end of the evenings after being in the hall for six hours (including rehearsals), to make time for all who wanted to speak to her. She encouraged, uplifted and was determined to give everyone quality time.

.....

We have to move. As the numbers coming to the Centre grew it became obvious as four years passed we would have to move. Space was so limited that counselling could only take place in an outside garage that was exposed to the road. Having a place that we actually owned would be a real bonus. We did not have the money to make such a purchase, but God told Di He would provide a building. We asked agents to show us over likely places, and looked at many before we were taken to one owned by YWAM. This property in Onehunga seemed so ideal, it had everything that each trustees had written down on a list as to what we needed, but strangely YWAM said it was not for sale. Then a friend rang and said God had told her to pay for a building. One day many months later Hugh suggested we ring YWAM again. When we did they said they had decided just an hour earlier to sell! P.T.L. We purchased their property at 173 Mt Smart Rd, and it is shown here.



Collating the magazine. Soon after the start of the ministry the number of pages had grown from 2 to 8, so it had been necessary to call in others to help collate and staple the copies. The number of copies required rose into the hundreds and by **1990** the thousands. Four times a year on a Thursday we would have up to 20 calling at no 87 to collate, and when the page number later grew to 32 we set up two long four metre tables, and the 30 helpers collated one sheet at a time as they moved the length of the tables and handed their bundles to be stapled, folded, labelled and put into postcode order.



The first Centre at Balmoral Rd. As we struggled to house the books, correspondence and gear in the developing ministry we took a step in faith in renting an old house in Balmoral Rd in Sept **1988**. We wondered whether we would be able to keep up the regular rent payments, but people responded, and it was a stepping stone to the future. The house was crammed with VW parts inside and out, and we were happy to clean all these out for a reduced rental, and we did the whole house up. The prayer meetings held each Thursday were very powerful, despite many having to stand outside the crammed room, also in the corridors and adjacent rooms. We had the official opening in November **1990** (shown above).

.....



My grace is sufficient for thee and my 2Cor:12

At the **1990 international congress** in the USA our eyes were opened to the world of disability, and led soon after to our magazine going worldwide. Here, **Di met up with Joy Gregory**, a remarkable leader of the Joy Fellowship in Canada for those with intellectual disabilities. They both “clicked” straight away, and this later led to several of our teams visiting her group, and three team visits of their folk to us in NZ in 1992, 1999 and 2003. It also led to Debby Kennedy spending months with Joy as an intern, and then returning to NZ and starting our own Joy Ministries.



“Why, it’s obvious. You are the only one here with a disability. You need to come to NZ to spend six weeks with CFFD to get ideas, and then return. He came in **1993**. We said to him when he was leaving, “Pray and ask God if He wants you to start a ministry”, and that is how the Philippines CFFD came into being and rapidly grew to be a force in the country under Briccio’s leadership.

Disability Awareness Services

In June **1994** it was decided to declare the third Sunday in June each year as “Disability Awareness Sunday” following Lloyd Cullen’s vision. This had begun with the service in St Mary’s church in Auckland, and



a year later the whole Anglican Church recognised this day. Two years later 300 attended this service in the Anglican Cathedral, where, as one of the contributions, the Trust acted out the drama in which the paralysed man was lowered down to Jesus. For several years after that we held a service in one main Auckland church each year along with the Deaf Fellowship, but more and more we felt we should be encouraging churches of all denominations to hold their own services, and we printed an enormous number of copies of a booklet, “Ideas for taking a Disability Awareness Service”, and this was sent to all pastors in four denominations throughout NZ.



Briccio is one of the 150 who live in Hebron. When aged 14 he was accepted into the orphan aid programme at Hebron, and had remained as part of the community. On coming up to 30 he felt it was time to move on, but not knowing what ministry or where. Jean Morley, visiting at the time, said,



strength is made perfect in weakness

2:9



*Some of
the Great
Moments at
the National
Camps*



*Camps of the
Branches and
Ministries*





God has chosen the weak of this

1 Cor. 1:27

The Philippines Ministry.

Ruth Beale has felt a life-long call to those with disabilities in the Philippines. She spent a couple of years over there in **1995** helping Briccio start up the disabled ministry before she became very sick and had to return to NZ. Back here she redoubled her efforts, setting up a sponsorship scheme, and as donations came in was able to sponsor needy disabled children to come to Hebron, as well as helping with the salaries of Briccio's co-workers, and meeting other expenses such as running the van. Despite continuing medical problems Ruth still runs the ministry which has grown and grown, and now there are 26 children and 14 workers all supported.



1996, two years after we moved in, the opening took place on the large freshly laid expanse of concrete. The photo shows Les Mills, the Mayor of Auckland, who opened the building, along with Bev Everton, Hugh and the local MP.

A disastrous fire in the Philippines. In April **1997** fire swept through Hebron, the home of the Philippines ministry, leaving nothing behind but smoking ruins. Everyone's personal belongings, all the records, office equipment and the bus were consumed. The local community responded wonderfully donating a huge marquee, food and clothing, and under Diane Bailey's inspiring leadership rebuilding quickly restarted which was to result in a number of years to the whole ministry being even better off than before the fire!



The opening of the new Centre. It was some time after the move from Balmoral Rd before we could hold the official opening as the ground was just earth and often slippery. We set up an appeal with the name "From Mud to Concrete" This caught people's imagination and they gave generously, and in April

The 100th Issue of "The Encourager" came out in August **2003** and described the steps by which it had been first single sheets, then a booklet, followed by increases in the number of pages from 8 to 32. The circulation had grown rapidly, and there had been a change from printing in black and white to the start of colour, and the magazine at that time was going out to 41 countries around the world.



The Book of Remembrance. We so fondly remember and honour those who have been involved and are now in heaven. God told Di to make a book of remembrance in which we could put a photo of each person as well as a little about each of their contributions. This quickly filled up with 390 names, and recently we started a second book which has brought the number up to 503. Jean Ferguson did the embroidery.



the background. Jesus was to be shown with a group of people with disabilities. Graham was intrigued with the idea and readily agreed. As he worked on it the idea came to him of showing the reflections in the water, **with all of those with disabilities healed!**

Furthermore, it was to be a way of raising money for the ministry by printing cards. Cards were produced which showed the whole painting on the front, and on the back an enlargement of Jesus and the group, so that the details could be clearly seen. Then large prints were made and sent all over the world and many in New Zealand bought them.



Graham Braddock's Painting. God gave Di a vision of a painting to be done By Graham Braddock. After receiving a bequest from her mother she commissioned Graham to do the painting. It was to be set in NZ bush beside a lake with high mountains in

An Amazing Rise out of the Ashes. Hugh and Di visited the Philippines again in **2008** and were amazed at the progress from virtually nothing left after the fire. It was very significant that the very first one they built, even when they were still living in the tent accommodation, was the one for disability ministry. Now there is a huge meeting hall, a separate building for disability ministry, a children's home, two large ones for staff accommodation and another for the Hebron Christian College. All this had been built from what was completely destroyed or unusable.

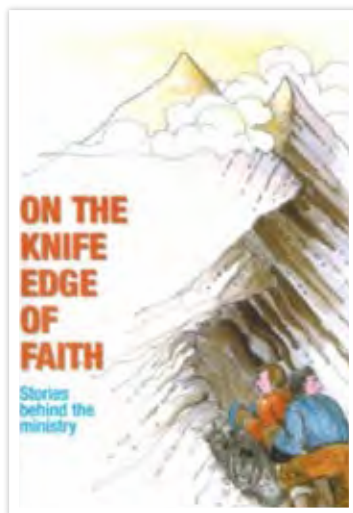


Who made man's mouth - the dumb, the o

Ex.4:11

The Knife Edge of Faith

In **2006** as part of the 30th Anniversary celebration the Trust had a book launch of a book Hugh Willis had been working on for several years which told the story of the ministry up to that point. There were 14 chapters, each one was broken up into short sub-chapters to hold the interest, and there were 157 of these in the 188 pages! and included some exceptional excerpts from past copies of The Encourager.. At 6.50, just 10 minutes before the launch was due to start, still no copies of "On the Knife Edge of Faith" had arrived! By 8pm they had – hilarious with such a title!



aerial journey. The extra rooms immediately helped with spreading the number of places we could meet, and especially provided two extra disability toilets.

In 2012 we changed our name to Elevate, Christian Disability Trust. One of the problems we were having to face was that "Christian Ministries with Disabled Trust" was a huge mouthful to say, and when we used the initials CMWDT, they failed to flow in the way that CFFD had. One big drawback was that all stationery with the old headings as well as different logos could no longer be used, but despite the costs associated with this, we made the change, and it lifted (ELEVATED!) the whole ministry.

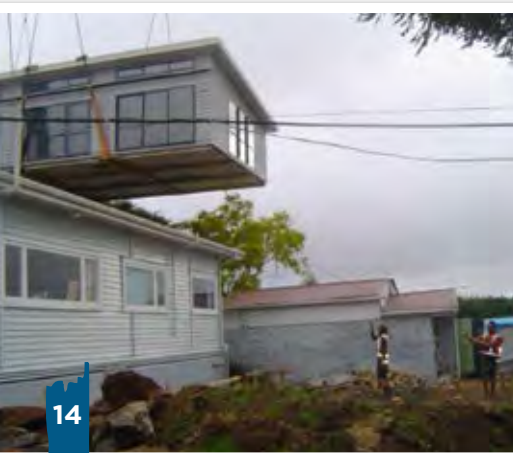


Making an impact on the community. We provide without charge a place for those with disabilities to gain life skills in a multitude of ways. Many are living in group homes. Students come for practical assignments from Bible colleges and AUT, and teams go out to take seminars in Bible colleges, churches, and even the Auckland University Medical School and Massey University.

The Three "E"s

Geoff Wiklund, our Spiritual Advisor, came up with the idea of the three "E"s – Evangelise, Equip and Educate as these three words so neatly sum up most of what the Trust is all about.

A dramatic shot here showing the new building for our Centre being lifted over the existing building in **2012**. Its journey had started at 5 am back in



Cambridge, and it only took two minutes to lift it over, but this could only be done after two hours had been spent ensuring that the balance was right for the

Opening of the New Building. On 2nd September **2012** the new building was opened with a special plaque "Eleos Wing" paying tribute to the grant from Eleos Trust in Te Puke that covered the whole operation. On this same day the extensive alterations in the main building, including making a new kitchen, were dedicated to the Barnabas Trust which had paid for all these costs. These two trusts have been wonderfully generous for some years in covering projects and parts of camps.



leaf and the Blind? It is I the Lord

The conference for pastors "Beyond Disability",

May 2014. Thanks to a grant from MSD "Making a difference" fund we were able to run a seminar for pastors and church leaders, and 45 came. Along with this we produced a 37 page book about the unique role of the church, which included testimonies from pastors, those with disabilities and several others. At intervals the conference broke up into groups of 6 to 9 to hear different thoughts on a variety of topic.

Two comments: *"It was an eye-opener for our church."*

"I've always had an awareness, but some of my thoughts have now been redefined, others reinforced....and some shot to pieces."



The Leadership Camp

The first one was held in **1992**. Now they are held every three years. It gives our folk the chance to see the whole scope of the ministry, to share ideas, to hear different things that have been tried in other branches and ministries and proved very successful, and to be spiritually encouraged.. We have speakers like Lyn Hawkins with a wealth of experience in fundraising, who is able to give the steps she has followed that have proved so successful for her branch. As a result Wellington CFFD has been able to pay a treasurer for their accounts.



A Gathering together of the Church Contacts/Reps 2015.

It is so necessary to have folk in churches relaying information



re Disability Awareness Sunday and camps etc, encouraging the church to **include** people with disabilities and leading to **belonging**. These meetings held in Auckland are to encourage and support the contacts/ reps and give out helpful literature.

Logos

In **2015** we felt it was necessary for the logo of each ministry to be revamped and these are shown here.



DROP IN
CENTRE



CFFD



EMMANUEL



JOY
MINISTRY



TORCH
MINISTRY



Cards. It is great when a branch comes up with a new initiative. Christchurch CFFD did this in **1984**. They decided to put together cards at Christmas with three different designs, and these proved popular.

The Trust took up the idea and over the years have printed cards by Grant Allely, Pauline Stansfield, Margie Willers and the ones mentioned earlier with

the Graham Braddock lakeside painting. In addition, Graham has given the Trust packets of ten cards to sell to raise money for the ministry. Thank you to all these wonderful people.



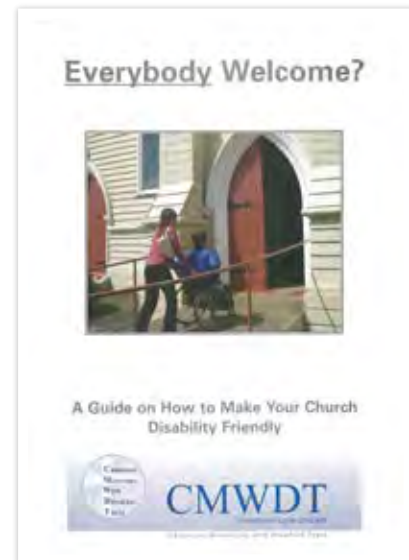
I am the Lord

Ex:15

Other Significant Events

Space does not permit mentioning many other key events, but in this section we will mention briefly a few important ones.

- In **1992** the Fiji CFFD was formed. A few years later it became a church under the name "Horeb Ministries", and is still thriving.
- In **2001** Sir Michael Hardie-Boys, a former Governor General, became the patron of our ministry.
- In **2004** the Lausanne Evangelical Conference for the first time included a section looking at "Ministry with People with Disabilities", and Di Willis was one of the few world-wide chosen by Joni Eareckson-Tada to attend.
- A Carers Fellowship run for a few years, but when Trudi Smith stepped down in **2004**, no one was prepared to lead this important group, and it had to close.
- "Everyone Welcome"** A book about the church reaching out and including those with disabilities. Primarily written by Karen Jack, it puts into one book much of the Trust's literature on this subject.
- The **2011** was our **30th camp at Totara Springs**, and to celebrate the occasion we included an outside carnival as part of the programme on the Saturday afternoon, and invited the inhabitants of Matamata to come and join in, and many did.



Drop In Centre

Has been operating for 26 years. A place of love, acceptance and healing. Many activities including speaker, Bible study, craft, quizzes and an outing shown here.

"I am accepted here. I am shown love and am learning how to love others".

"I used to be really shy but now I get asked to get involved in lots of things".

"Elevate has given me an opportunity to know God more and to help others".



Philipines C.F.F.D

Distributing continually the Christian Radios to Persons with Disabilities

The Lord put a conviction in our hearts to continue home visitation, sharing the word of God, praying and giving a Christian radio to people with disabilities because it is really a necessity for them. As we are



visiting them, we see the real world of persons with disabilities. Sometimes the reality bites, seeing their needs such as an accessible road, It is so rewarding to see the smile on their faces as we visit them and give them the radio, and others who are not yet Christians get to know the Lord Jesus as their Saviour as they listen. . We also visited and gave radios for some PWDs who attended our last camp. We were happy to see them again and to hear that some of them are already attending churches. We had prayed about that.

We are doing the follow up little by little for the people who attended our camp. As you know I am the only full time staff of PCFFD nowadays. Others are part time. Thank God that Remy is still helping me as a volunteer, and I have a new friend and a volunteer - Pastor Grace. I encouraged and oriented her about the disability ministry and thank God, she embraced our mission. She is willing to accompany me every time that we have a home visitation as long as she is free. Thank God, some of the participants of the camp are already attending church. We had prayed about that. But there are still challenges/ barriers such as not being able to attend church because the church is not accessible, and there are barangays that have no church. Now, we prioritize the PWDs who attended the camp to be the recipient of our radio project because we know that listening to the broadcast would help them grow spiritually.



Cesar (a crutches user) said he is fond of listening to radio especially at night because he finds it hard to go to sleep.

One year ago our readers responded wonderfully to the appeal to donate \$15 to pay for one of these radios to be given to a needy disabled person. There is only one channel that can be picked up and that is the Christian one. What an evangelisation tool! 30 were given out.

We are looking for more such donations of \$15. Send to our PO Box 13 322 Onehunga, Auckland.

But If Not...

Daniel 3:16-18

I know You can deliver Lord,
from every trial and test,
but if not, then give me the grace
to know Your way is best.

I know that health I'd rather have,
than sickness, hurt or pain,
but if to heal is not Your will,
I'll praise You just the same.

For just as Shadrach in that fire
knew Your sweet presence near,
e'en so I know You'll walk with me,
and I'll have naught to fear.

I know You can deliver, Lord,
but maybe, not just yet.
Maybe there's lessons still to learn
and blessings still to get.

So thank You for the trials Lord,
the "fires" that seem to come.
Deliver me, if that's Your way,
if not . . . "Your will be done"

- Yvonne Hammond



This image and the others at the top of the even pages show some of the booklets published by the Trust

I was blind,
John

What has brought us through these 40 Years in such an amazing way?

That's an easy question to answer:

God, Prayer and His amazing provision working through people

We give God the Glory and Praise – this is His ministry.

Prayer is such a key, actual prayer meetings, but also the individual prayer times. An example is the lovely old lady whose daughter's husband recorded the magazine, and each time we called she gave us stacks of twenty dollars notes she had saved up, but more importantly had held us up in prayer throughout. We praise God for our prayer chain and are so indebted to them and others who hold up the ministry to the Lord daily.

We have a great group of people who have committed themselves to automatic payments, which is such a help in knowing for certain that the sum total of all these will always be coming in. It is something we can count on. Many others give from small to large amounts. It all builds up to provide for the vision.

We've had a small number of bequests, but amazing what they made possible. Two were well into the tens of thousands, real answers to prayer, received when finances were low P.T.L. Another came from a couple who both had disabilities, and they wanted to see the ministry growing in its outreach well after they had died!!! Many people think about doing this, but never get round to setting it up. Sad, as it's such a blessing when they do.

In the March magazine we mentioned how our funds had fallen dramatically on each of the two successive years up to 2015, and the response has been AMAZING and in the latest year our income almost matches our expenditure. Thank you so, so much.

Thank you to everyone over the years for your giving in small ways and large. The success of the ministry over 40 years is because you have responded so wonderfully to the promptings of the Lord. ■

Very helpful hints in sharing Jesus with others

I commend these four steps to those of you who struggle in sharing with others what God has shared with you.

What is it? First clear away misconceptions and help someone understand what being a Christian is not. It is not being joined to a religion, but being joined to a person.

What will living for and following Jesus do for you? You will find forgiveness, freedom, reality, a sense of inner unity and of coming home.

Who says so? Jesus does through His Word and through the testimony of multitudes of His followers.

How can you get salvation? By repenting of sin – not just wrong habits and actions, but the sin of self-dependence – depending on self rather than God. I recommend these four questions as a basic framework for sharing Jesus with others.

Condensed from an article by Selwyn Hughes in "Everyday with Jesus"

The 2016 Leadership Camp

The theme was **"Strengthening the tent pegs."**

It was held at Pulman Lodge, South Auckland for the first time, other camps having been at Totara Springs, Matamata, a change because flights in and out of Auckland are much more convenient. Forty came, and it was a great weekend. Another first – we had three outside speakers, all excellent. Rex Booth from Caleb Ministries encouraged us to be shepherd leaders. Mike Buckley and Jean Morley from CBM gave a very funny

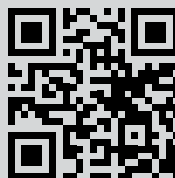


but real talk on working together with succession planning when the ages are different and the roles are changing. Another first was Tarnya giving training in using the web sites. Geoff Wiklund's messages

were stunning, a real bonus having him for the whole weekend.

Two comments;
"The best thing was meeting so many people who are involved - it was like a family reunion."

"Got loads out of it. Everything was so valuable and relevant."



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Kumbayah - St David's Presbyterian Church - Palmerston North Ann Bennett		06 355 2818
Bible Friends - Wanganui Louise Rostron	rostrons@extra.co.nz	06 344 5955
THRIVE - Greerton Bible Church, Tauranga Ray Harvey	ray@eol.co.nz	027 284 9433

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Activities at the Meetings

There is a huge variety in the activities thought out for the meetings of the branches and ministries throughout the country such as...



Craft



A Paintathon



Wheelchair Dancing



A Contest



A Local Walk



A Bible Quiz



A Guest Speaker from Ireland



A Bush Walk



An Outing



A Picnic



A Dance Performance