



Hawkes Bay Update

May 2022

School Holidays & Spreading Hope



“Do not be afraid of sudden danger, Nor of trouble from the wicked when it comes; For the LORD will be your confidence, And will keep your foot from being caught.” (Proverbs 3:25-26)

Hope in Hastings

The delivery of the Hope booklets in Hastings has been completed well, with a superb team effort and ongoing friendships and outreach with some of those involved in the effort. We have been using the leftover booklets to hand out in the streets and as a bit of a conversation starter.

Riverbend Kids Camp

Just after Easter we ran our second Kids' Camp at Riverbend. It was great to have the covid restrictions eased by the time camp started and to have a number of new people. We had about 46 kids come and a great bunch of teenage leaders. The teens took responsibility for their cabin of kids for the whole time and did a great job looking after them during activities, meals, duties, chapel time and bedtime. A highlight for me and others in the leadership team, as well as some of the teenagers themselves, was how well they led the song times in the chapel. All of them were up front, full of energy and enthusiasm to lead the kids in songs with Biblical truth and praise to God. My role was helping on the leadership team in promotion and planning of camp and being there to



help during the week. I also took "Go & Grow" in the mornings which up to half the kids enjoyed coming to for a Bible story before breakfast. It was neat to see how camp worked out well to the glory of God. These photos just show a snippet of some of what we got up to at camp, but hopefully there will be a video coming out later.



Outreach Roadtrip

In January I enjoyed taking some girls on roadtrips for outreach. I am aiming to organise one each school holidays and take whoever is willing and free to come as it is good for a mix of outreach and discipleship, fellowship and adventure. This time round there were just two girls from Hastings because others were sick, away or working. We headed to Rotorua where we teamed up with a few girls from the Indian fellowship there and a friend of mine. It made for a perfect carload as we went sight-seeing, sharing out Hope Booklets along the way. We took a scenic drive out to Pirongia on our return home, to drop off some resources to friends at MMM who are soon moving to Fiji, Lord-willing, and had some space in their container to take over some resources to our OAC guy there.



Flaxmere Fun Day

After all the events cancelled in the past few months, it was nice to be able to have a stall at one in Flaxmere. I took the Māori Postal resources, the model ark and leftover hope booklets, and teamed up with 3 others to engage with people on the day. There were a lot of people but not as many came by to talk as usual. I did have a long and worthwhile chat early on with one of the Mormon missionaries at the neighbouring stall, who has recently started his 2-year mission. Please pray that he will come to Christ.



Plans to pray for

We have the School of Evangelism block courses in Hastings over the last 3 weekends of May (12-14 May, 18-21 May, 26-28 May), Thursday and Friday evenings and all day Saturday in each weekend. Please pray for those coming and also for Jeremy as he teaches there.

Over Queen's Birthday Weekend (4-6 June), we have Impact Bible Conference at church. I have volunteered to organise the kids' program using Walk Thru the Bible resources and I am quite excited about this!! Please pray it will go well.

Please also pray for our regular outreach and ongoing discipleship from week to week. I am out on the street at various times with different people, particularly after school hours. I'm also involved in Girlzone and Sunday School at church, keeping in touch with others in different churches and following up some who have shown an interest in the Gospel. Thank you for continuing to partner in this ministry through prayer and practical means. It does not go unnoticed by our Lord.

Much love, Maria