



# Mission Adventure Trust

*Life – the real adventure*

February 2009

Though the sun was bright and warm there was a strong sense of rain coming as ominous clouds crept over the distant horizon. Mark lay on his back on the roomy weather deck. The water had that deep blue; the inviting Pacific. The motion was easy in the building sea. This is something of what we had waited so long for.

The Mission Adventure trustees and a couple of others, were ecstatic about getting away for 4 days across the Hauraki Gulf to spend time at sea and enjoy the growing relationship with our first ship. The wind was light for much of the time so we learnt about workings of the boat other than sail. But on a building breeze, a 12kn NE, under full sail we really tasted the glory of traditional sail.

'Maggie', a 75' gaff rigged schooner, lay alongside the wharf in our local town of Warkworth. Brian had taken Maggie up the Mahurangi River. At the sight of such a magnificent ship crafted after thousands of hours of vision, trial and sweat I explained what a great ship she would be for missions work in the South Pacific.

And so for the last 4 years we have developed Mission Adventure Trust and set plans and vision to action. Brian has been amazingly gracious as we have worked our way through the complexities of a vision held for nearly 30 years.

Now we are forging ahead and bringing the dream into reality for thousands to enjoy, changing the next generation for good. We want you to share this with as many people as you can, as we look to God for supply and leading. So far we, the Trust, have supplied nearly all the needs of the project (in the vicinity of \$40,000 plus many hours of labour) and we know it is way bigger than us.

Mission Adventure Trust now owns this splendid 75' schooner; although we have still have payments to make. We are putting in place all the systems involved for the running of the vessel and have already commenced crew training and developing safety procedures manuals.

**See our website!** [www.mission-adventure.org.nz](http://www.mission-adventure.org.nz)

- Everywhere we have opportunity to speak with people we have sensed incredible favour on this project; its time has come.
- We have received cheques from total strangers as they read of our plans in newspaper articles.
- Suppliers of ancillary goods who have promised hugely reduced rates when we come to buy.
- We have had donations of smaller boats, one of which we were able to sell immediately for cash.
- Maggie's vendor has dropped the purchase price by nearly \$100,000 as we have discussed our dream with him, although we have not mentioned the price as part of the negotiations.
- The purchase agreement is now structured so that instead of large payments we only need to find \$10,000 per month for the next few months.

Obviously we still are in that place of needing the funds to come in; it is a stretch of our faith. The biggest favour you can do for us is pass news of MAT to all your friends.

- We need to continually see the favour of God in the provision of funds and people. As we discuss the future and potential of what we are embarking on it just grows. There is so much more to this than we had first considered. New Zealand needs righteous mentors, leaders, and fathers take their proper and leading role, in a society needing strong visionary leadership that look beyond their own generation. We recognise such people in previous generations. We are men still raising their own families, thinking about future generations we may not see.