



A Leaf from the Ark

NEWSLETTER OF ARK RESOURCES LIMITED

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Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus.

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We are pleased to include testimonies in this newsletter from Paul & Floss Gummer, who joined Liberty Trust upon their return from the UK, and Pastors Ian & Jenny Wilson who left NZ to plant churches in France, and Pastors Ben & Sharon Tan (below) church building in Australia. What a global lot we are!

In the last three months we have provided interest free housing loans to families in Palmerston North, Upper Hutt, Manukau, Rotorua, Cambridge, Wellington and two households in Tauranga. It is great to see the funds coming in and out of the storehouse at an escalating pace. More than **200** households and churches have now received Interest free mortgages!

Our annual accounts at 31 March 2008 have been audited and are available for viewing or printing at <http://www.libertytrust.org.nz/financials.htm>.



Unstoppable in Unity!

Can you tell us a little about yourselves ...

Sharon and I met at the Bible College of New Zealand, Henderson, Auckland, where we were students for 3 years. The Lord then led us to Kaitaia where we pastored for nearly 25 years and pioneered a new church (Abundant Life Centre), Christian school, childcare centre etc. We've been married for 33+ years and have 6 children ranging from 9-31 years of age and have 5 grandchildren. We are presently leading HistoryMaker Australia on the Sunshine Coast, Australia. You can look up historymaker.org.au for more photos and info.



Do you have a favourite Bible verse/ passage?

I have STACKS!!! One is Hebrews 11 v 8: "By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out not knowing where he was going" – reason I love that verse is because real FAITH is spelt H.O.T. ...

H = Hear (if God is the Initiator of all visions He will also be the supplier of all provisions)

O = Obey (don't worry about the how, why, where, who – just obey)

T = Trust (God with the outcomes – when we've done our best, we can trust God with the rest)



Why did you join Liberty Trust?

We joined Liberty Trust because we believe in and love the vision of Liberty Trust. It is a wonderful and practical expression of Christian faith and love – great to see the people of God working together. This reminds us of the Book of Acts where God's people were continually in "one place, one accord, one voice, one heart, one soul, one mind, one spirit" – such unity is **unstoppable!**

How have you used your interest free loan?

The interest-free loan is helping us pay off our mortgage faster, reduce debt and give us greater financial freedom. It will also help us explore other investments to create more wealth for future ministry locally and globally.

And why you are looking forward to becoming debt free?

Our vision for financial freedom is to enable us to serve the Lord without restrictions – it will allow us to go anywhere and do anything and not worry about the costs.

Blessings *Ben & Sharon Tan*

The Beauty of God's Way

We heard about Liberty Trust soon after arriving in NZ from UK. Floss comes from Whakatane so there was a sense of familiarity about the Trust's origins. We had no reservations in signing up and waiting ten years to receive our interest free loan because, as they say, "Good things take time". The loan is a real blessing.

We live in an old relocated villa on an acre property in Palmerston North. We spent ten years renovating our house and added an extension using old recycled doors, windows and accessories collected from demolition yards. It has been a labour of love, especially putting on the finishing touches such as coloured glass in old colonial doors, using old Victorian door locks and getting mouldings made up at a local sawmill to save money. Old villas inevitably have lots of gaps, cracks and holes in the wrong places that in our case used to let the wind and rain in. At 3am one night we awoke to rainwater pouring into the bedroom! Thankfully, these are all 'healed' now – our neighbour affectionately calls our place 'Polyfilla Villa'.

I guess it's the same as God seeing the potential in us in our broken state and gradually restoring us, eh? The potter and the clay... the renovator and the polyfilla ...

We didn't actually need the interest free loan to repay a mortgage but instead have used part of it to connect the house to city services as we were on tank water and our septic tank was in desperate need of being renewed. When the council said they were putting services in our road, we jumped at the opportunity. It ended up costing tens of thousands – not a cheap exercise but well worthwhile....it's not often you can be pleased burying your money underground with nothing physical to see for it!

We believe God is in favour of living in beautiful surroundings (well, He does have a good track record of doing nice surroundings) and lack of money needn't inhibit that. Floss has made some lovely flower gardens, mostly from cuttings and Paul has made various architectural features and pieces of furniture from demolition timber. We have bought items such as a colonial mantelpiece for \$20, got an ornate old coal range for green dollars, etc. It's all about seeing the potential and applying lots of 'elbow grease'. We now have a spare room for guests to stay in and this year alone we have had five lots of overseas visitors.

We plan to use more of our loan to landscape the property as the fences are literally rotting away and falling down; paths and a wider drive would be an asset and boxing in veggie garden raised beds, etc would make things take shape.

We will continue contributing to Liberty Trust for our children, Annie and Johnny, who are 12 and 10 respectively. In ten years this could be invaluable in these times of increasing house prices. We have also set up an account with the Trust for a family we know who are currently on overseas mission.

The beauty of all this is that it is God's way with finance and as long as folk are prepared to go against the tide of 'get-now-pay-later' and 'pay and wait', God rewards us with the savings the rest of the world craves. Ironical, but God's way has often been seemingly bizarre such as Noah building his ark and Moses standing at the shore of the Red Sea. It's all about faith, eh! So, a huge 'THANKS' to everyone involved behind the scenes at Liberty Trust and Ark Resources.

God bless you all. Paul & Floss, Annie & Johnny Gummer



The Gummer's have used their loan for service upgrades & landscaping and have started memberships for their two children. They also sponsor missionary friends.

Interest Free in France



Thank you Liberty Trust for the interest free loan - just great!

For us the loan came at just the right time, just after one year as missionaries in France, and has helped bring a little 'security' into the home base in Leeston NZ, where we pastored a church for more than 15 years. We currently pastor a French church in the south of Paris, and have a call to plant churches throughout the nation.

We have four kids – Laura (17) who is with us in Annet-sur-Marne located just on the fringes of Paris city, Tim (23), Anna (20), and Kate (25) who is married to Paul.

It is amazing how the Lord works all things together for His good in our lives, and is so faithful in every way! Thank you Jesus for your faithful provision!

Ian & Jenny Wilson

