



# MTMnews

MTM  
Community  
Center

Fundraising  
appeal

Personal  
Testimonies

men  
transforming  
men

BUILDING  
THE NEXT  
FIVE  
GENERATIONS  
OF AUSTRALIAN  
MEN

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MTM's new centre

## A message from the founder of MTM, Rob Jones

*Dear friends and supporters*

In our last newsletter you would have read that MTM is moving in November 2010 to a new light industrial unit in Darra. This newsletter will furnish you with MTM's Case Statement for the fund raising appeal together with some testimonies of men whose lives have been touched by the work of MTM. There is also a response slip for you to prayerfully consider helping MTM.



Rob, Sharon, Mark, James and Elizabeth Jones

Continues next page

# Testimony

Keith

Too often men enter the second phase of their lives with a sense of purposelessness. I, personally, have found that MTM assists in redefining and providing direction for this period in a man's life by:

- Instilling a deeper knowledge and understanding of himself as a person
- Facilitating the re-discovery of his purpose and usefulness in this world
- Encouraging a better appreciation of other men's feelings through sharing his own
- Stimulating his potential for mentoring others and
- Re-awakening his spirituality

In the words of the author, Patrick Morley, MTM provides "A Second Wind for the Second Half".



# Fundraising

**When** I mention the word "fundraising", there is often much ducking and weaving. I can understand how some feel. Life is full of pressures and hardship. Many folk earn just enough to scrape by. I put myself in that category and yet if we stand back and look closely at our lives, we are still rich. We have so much more than most people in the world. As MTM moves into its 7th year in

the community, I am asking those that are already supporting and those who have benefited from the work of MTM to help us to raise the necessary funds to make this move to Darra possible. In total we need \$250,000 which will go toward a deposit to purchase the Darra property and significantly reduce MTMs monthly overheads. (See the MTM Case Statement for further details).

250 X  
\$1000

**In** reality, MTM has assisted thousands of men and their families. What we are looking for is for just 250 families to give \$1000. I know that \$1000 is a significant amount, and we are happy for whatever you are able and called

to give, however we recognise that if we think in terms of 250 x\$1000 bundles it does not seem so overwhelming a task. If we quickly raise the money we can get back to doing what we do, and that is helping men and their families.

## Additional Fundraising Activities

**To** further assist the fundraising, the following additional activities will be held:

- Garage and Boot Sales run by the MALES groups
- Stand at the Indooroopilly Shopping Centre
- Community Centre Raffle
- Bunnings BBQ's at Oxley
- Supporters information pledge gatherings

## Information / Pledge Gatherings

**Over** the next three months there will be information/pledge gatherings in supporters homes and Churches for you to have the opportunity to speak face to face with MTM board members.

The campaign can be followed on [www.mtmaustralia.org.au](http://www.mtmaustralia.org.au)

Thank you for your continued love and support for MTM.

*Peace to you and your families.  
Rob Jones*

# Testimony



**michael**

Eighteen months ago it was yet another down time for me, knowing that there were aspects of my ministry that weren't going well, and affecting the congregation, but I did not know what to do. With the encouragement of a brother pastor I was off to see Rob Jones at MTM. Last year I was working with Rob on a lot of my stuff. Rob's approach was gentle and firm, and slowly I discovered (and faithfully pushed) that all this could be dealt with contemplatively. That has been a part of me, but it hadn't connected strongly into how I did my pastoring. Then I went to MROP last year. More disjointed pieces of me fitted together well. The twenty minute quiet prayer time suddenly clicked into place and I happily do that 6 days a week. There is something inside that yearns for it near the start of the day, even if I go through periods where I am all ratty and not collected.

Rob encouraged me to do men's work at our church, so, with another graduate of MROP I have co-led a group at Corinda. We have up to a dozen men meeting, and our very first gathering immediately dropped us into a deeper connection.

There is also more depth to me, and I am able to be more present to others, without getting in the way. I am also more aware when I am running away, and I handle myself more lovingly and gently. I trust that I am doing that with others as well. MTM has been a great blessing for me.



**MTM on a Monday night.**



**MTM breakfast**



**MROP men**



**MTM breakfast**

jim

Within minutes of speaking to Rob Jones on the phone I was convinced he would provide just what I needed. There was an overwhelming sense that this was one of those special God moments. I was desperate to find someone who could help a "clapped out" pastor. Rob clearly had the knowledge and personal experience to be used by God in this process.

In my times with Rob I have been lead to see (even though intellectually I knew this) that my struggles and hungers involved me as a man, a spiritual man in Christ and a man seeking to minister spiritual blessings to others. Each area is closely intertwined and has a mutual impact. One area can't be "fixed" without touching on the other areas.

This is why the ministry of MTM is so valuable as it deals with the whole man. So my times with Rob worked from the core outwards. I have learned that woundedness, brokenness and failure is not fatal, but often a prerequisite to spiritual growth and kingdom usefulness.

I think the fact that MTM is able to stand outside our usual denominational structures is of enormous help to be free in these journeys.

My meetings with Rob have involved 12-14 hour days travelling from interstate. The time, effort and cost of travel have been far outweighed by the blessings received. MTM has a profound ministry, one that is desperately needed in Australia. It must be supported and expanded!

## Case Statement for the MTM Community Centre

**Imagine** your life is in crisis:

- Your spouse has told you to leave the family home.
- For some time now you have found it difficult to find meaning in life.
- Your family relationships are disconnected and strained.
- You are struggling with a sudden loss (loved one, livelihood ...)

Who will you talk with - you feel so alone. You feel that nobody really understands you. You are frightened and not sure what to do



## MTM Community Centre

**These** scenarios have been faced by hundreds of men and their families who have arrived at the MTM Community Centre. Their backgrounds and situations differ, yet they all have an important connection. They are all looking for a way forward.

What they find upon entering MTM is a warm, safe environment for men and their families confronting the same uncertainties in a unique way.

Men, who take part in MTM, soon realise that we are not just about counselling. Men for the first time in their lives have the opportunity to take personal responsibility and embark on a journey of real life change.

For some, MTM is a place to catch up in men's

groups, compare notes of other men going through similar situations, while for others, it's time to learn new ways of parenting, relating to a partner or learning some personal skills. Sharing experiences in a safe non judgmental environment is fundamental to personal growth. Every effort is made to make their experience conducive to growth.

The truest comforts don't come from the building and furnishings, rather from the humanity within. There is an understanding qualified team of workers who are well versed in the triumphs and struggles

of life and of course there are the men themselves, who gain amazing strength from the most difficult of circumstances by sharing experiences with each other.



# Where Are We Now?

**MTM** Community Centre currently rents a 106sq metres of office space at Taringa. This has two counselling rooms, an area for production and storage of resources, and a reception administration area. Men and their families are charged for the counselling at less than half the commercial rate with many receiving sessions at no charge. No family is refused help for lack of ability to pay.

The men's groups meet offsite at the Brookfield Centre, which is hired on the days required.

Men Transforming Men has provided this critical service for over 6 years. Thanks to the generous financial help from donors, we have assisted thousands of men nationally, through counselling, mentoring, spiritual direction and group work.

## Our Challenge

**Our** fast paced modern day living is increasing pressure on men and their families. Some of the symptoms are:

- Depression
- Growing rates of relationship breakdown
- Increase in addictive behaviours
- Fatherlessness
- High suicide rates

MTM is seeing increasing numbers of men and their families seeking help. Further funding is required to continue and grow this vital work.

Our premises are too small for current and future demands. The present lease expires in November 2010 and the Board having reviewed many options, has agreed that

the best alternative is to move to more cost effective premises.

Not meeting these needs will mean men and their families will continue to suffer now and in the future.

You can help us meet these needs.



# Testimony



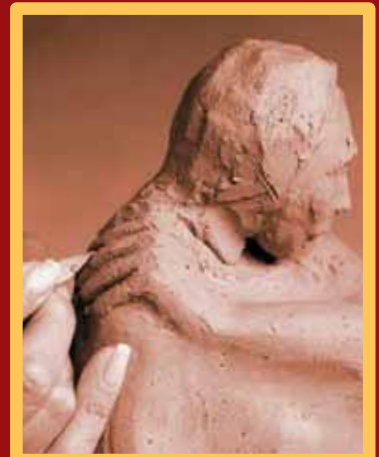
**felipe**

*Tired of living the same old same old? "Working all day, working all night to pay the bills you have to pay", just like Abba? Thinking this is how life is, and no one can run from it?*

**Come along to MTM meetings, so we can talk more, about everything, anything, about life. You may start seeing your life with a new vision, for bad and for good, though you, sooner or later, might come with a conclusion it's all right. You are not the only one, you are not an isolated island. Also you have got feelings to be felt. You are not a machine.**

**Men Transforming Men is a place where you can meet other men, who have been on a life journey together. It has helped me, and it can bring insights for your life too.**

**I hope to see you one day. Until then I wish all success in your journey, because you deserve it.**



## Our Plan

### stage 1 2010 - 2015

**MTM** has been offered a new 243sq metre light industrial unit at an excellent price by a developer who is very supportive of the work of MTM. The unit will cost \$480,000 and will be fitted out to MTM's requirements. This will give us an additional 137sq meters of space and will significantly reduce our monthly outgoings and build towards our stage 2 plans. Stage 1 is a two level office block with ample parking.



Continues on page 6

# Testimony



**mike**

Six years ago, I "hit the wall", big time! I couldn't work, even answer a phone. There was a glass wall between me and my tasks. It was like I'd had a massive overdose of muscle relaxant. I was totally debilitated, sleeping at least 12 hours a day.

After heaps of medical tests for heart, lungs, blood, viruses, clots, etc, one specialist said I should "talk to somebody".

I had heard Rob Jones speak at a menAlive conference, and had regarded him as an expert in "men's business", so I met with him.

After 10 minutes, Rob asked, "So, how long have you had depression?" No way! Not me! Depression – that was for weak people, and I was renowned for my strength, and ability to cope with serious difficulties. And proud of it!

Besides, I knew men with depression and their symptoms were different to mine. "That's *their* depression. I'm talking about *your* depression", said Rob.

4 years later, with Rob's counseling, MTM's support groups, and generous amounts of Contemplation, I've been put back together – not back to the way I was before the "crash", but more like the man God wants me to be. Praise God!

Continues from page 5

## stage 2 2015 onwards

The MTM Board recognise that Stage 1 is not the long term solution, but a vital 3-5 year stepping stone that will help MTM realise a much larger long term vision of a premises that will incorporate all its activities in one location.

This combined MTM Centre will incorporate a Community Centre, a Business Centre, a Training Centre, a Residential Centre, a Community Garden and Chapel.



# Making it happen

### STAGE 1 (2010 - 2015)

To fund the next phase of MTM, the board, staff and volunteers have launched a campaign for the MTM Community Centre.

This consists of:

- \$200,000 Capital Campaign
- \$50,000 additional annual operational funding

### Capital Campaign: \$200,000

#### Development Cost

▪ Construction and fit out	\$480,000
▪ Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	\$10,000
▪ Moving Expenses.	\$10,000
<b>Total Development Cost</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>

#### Source of Funds

▪ Bank Loan (To be approved)	\$300,000
▪ Capital Campaign Total	\$200,000

**Estimated Market Value of building at completion**      **\$660,000**

## Ongoing Annual Operational Funding: \$50,000 Per Annum

Your sponsorship or donation will help us increase our services and help offset our operating costs. Tax deductible Sponsorship opportunities are available for those who want to provide recognition and promotion of their business and products.

We hope we have left you with a better understanding of the work we do to help men and their families.

Please help us create a place for MTM to serve more families.

Your donation towards this expansion will ensure our vital work can reach more men

Thank you for opening your heart and financially supporting this project... together we can "Build the Next Five Generations of Australian Men".

*Board, MTM Australia*



# Sponsorship Opportunities

There are opportunities for business and corporate to be part of several great community programs. MTM can in return for sponsorships provide advertising exposure in all our activities

including our busy website. The board of MTM would love to talk with you about tax deductibility for the promotion of your business.

## Annual Sponsorship Opportunities include:

- **The Rites of Passage Program \$15,000**
- **MALES Groups at Brookfield \$10,000**
- **Community Counselling Services \$25,000**
- **MTM Computer networks \$25,000**
- **MTM Quarterly Newsletters print runs \$10,000**
- **MTM worker \$10,000**
- **MTM breakfasts \$5,000**



MROP Program

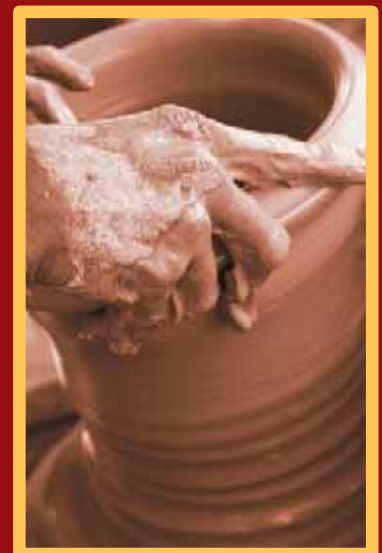
## Testimony



James

Men Transforming Men has been a wonderful experience on my journey with the Lord. At 68 I had always considered myself in a "good place", however several major events in my life have opened a deeper awareness of God's love for me. Having spent several years as a semi-recluse in the Border Ranges, I discovered that it isn't healthy, mentally or physically, being "a loner".

Through His Grace, I was led to my exposure to MTM and the fellowship with other men on our journey. My role as Resources Officer, through the teachings of Fr. Richard Rohr and others, has allowed me to broaden my understanding of Contemplative Prayer, enriching my personal relationship with God and my "agape" (unconditional love) for all creation.



## donation details

One off donation of \$.....  
 Monthly donation of \$.....  
 For the MTM Community Centre  
 [Gifts can also be given online  
 at [www.mtmaustralia.org.au](http://www.mtmaustralia.org.au)]

## payment details

Total Donation amount: \$.....  
 VIA:  Visa  Mastercard  
 Card Number:  
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Signature: .....

Name on card: .....

Expiry Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_  
 Please make Cheques payable to  
 MTM Australia

### DIRECT DEBT DETAILS

Commonwealth Bank  
 MTM Australia  
 BSB: 064 178  
 A/C 10 20 87 98

## personal details

Title:  Rev  Dr  Mr  
 Mrs  Miss  Ms

Name: .....

Address: .....

Suburb: .....

State: ..... Postcode: .....

Email: .....

Contact Phone: .....

Please continue to  
 send me updates

**To donate please complete  
 this form and return to:  
 MTM Australia PO Box 85,  
 Indooroopilly Qld 4068**

# My Response

## to the MTM Community Center Appeal.



**You can count on my  
 support for the ongoing  
 work of MTM and the  
 Community Centre Appeal.**

## Why partner with us direct?

We are grateful for every gift we receive and a once-off donation will help, even if for a short time. However, if you would join us in our mission, then your \$25 or even \$75 can multiply into \$300 – \$900 over a year, simply by setting up a monthly direct debit payment from your credit card or institution. It's **easy, convenient and secure.** Become a partner today by filling out the response form and we'll contact you to confirm your preferences.

## Campaign progress meter



as of  
**30 JULY  
 2010**