



Marist Fathers Australian Province Provincial Circular

No 2 - Apr 2019

From the Provincial

Brothers

On Wednesday, May 1, the Marist Mission Centre celebrated the 70th anniversary of its foundation. In the presence of past members of our Japanese mission, representatives of Marist missionaries from around the world and the Marist family, and a large group of MMC supporters, Jim Carty with the assistance of Ron Nissen told the story of MMC from its beginnings as the Marist Japanese Mission League.

We are all familiar with the story of Lionel Marsden's desire to bring the gospel to his Japanese captors and his founding of an organisation to provide financial assistance in the establishment of the Marist Japanese Mission. At a meeting at the Sydney Town Hall on 4 April 1949 the Marist Japanese Mission League was formed. The first newsletter from John Glynn went out in May 1949. The league was of great importance for the mission, especially in its early years for purchasing new properties, erecting buildings and for the overall support of missionaries. Having morphed into the Marist Mission Centre in the 1960s, it expanded its activities, raising funds for Marist missions in the South

Pacific, and also funding projects in South East Asia, the Philippines, Latin America and Africa. As part of the same expansion, assistance was no longer restricted to Marists but the Centre made its resources available for worthy projects by other congregations and Church groups. To assist in its expansion it became an official Australian Overseas Aid Agency.

The structure of the MMC has changed in recent times, more recently MMC has been working in close collaboration with the Marist Brothers' Australian Marist Solidarity. What we celebrated on Wednesday was a story of generosity and self-sacrifice, of collaboration and interdependence.

Thanks to the directors, John Glynn, Michael O'Halloran, Jim Carty, Marist Sister Vivienne Goldstein, Ron Nissen, Kevin Stewart and Paul Sullivan and the many lay collaborators MMC has survived and continues; thanks to the many supporters, lay and religious, over the 70 years. Our missions and the many projects that have received funds are the beneficiaries of the gifts or over two thousand generous donors, from widows' mites to substantial bequests.

Jim Carty's panoramic presentation

was followed by Sr Lilibeth sm and Lionel Mechavez sm from the Philippines who brought the history into the present, speaking of their ministries which thrive with the help of MMC. The work continues!

As we recognise our indebtedness to all those who have contributed to the success of MMC, we are also reminded of how much over the years the province itself has depended for its life and mission on the generosity of our benefactors. Let us continue to remember them in our prayers as well as seeking opportunities to thank and recognise those who are still alive.

We might also take this moment to acknowledge our indebtedness to our confreres and their collaborators both in the ministries in which we are still engaged and those we have relinquished - schools, parishes, Toongabbie and CTU.

In a special way, let us be proud of the dedication and generosity and quiet accomplishments of our many confreres who established, built up and sustained our colleges over many years. Nothing is lost! Today Woodlawn, Burnie and Bellambi are flourishing schools where the Marist heritage is valued and the Marist spirit fostered.

Tony Corcoran



Provincial Diary

1 May

Marist Mission Centre 70th anniversary event

2-4 May

Provincial Visitation Gladstone

6-11 May

Provincial Visitation Brisbane

12-17 May

Provincial Retreat Brisbane

13-14 May

Provincial Fund Annual Audit

16 May

Professional Standards Panel Meeting

23 May

Provincial Council Meeting

4 June

Province Finance Committee Meeting

18-19 June

MAP Meeting, Samoa

25 June

Provincial Council Meeting

Provincial Council

At its meetings in March and April the Provincial Council considered:

- Appointments falling vacant at the end of 2019 – Hunters Hill parish, Maryvale/Montbel Superior, Vicar Provincial, Mission Centre Executive Director.
- Advancing Aged Care Survey recommendations.
- Visitation reports: St Patrick's, Maryvale/Montbel, Marsfield, Perth.
- Province Administrative Secretary from 2020
- Provincial Assembly 23-25 June, 2020; Provincial Chapter 1-4 September, 2020.

Appointments

Bob Barber: appointed assistant priest at St Patrick's, Church Hill, as from 1 April, 2019.

Personnel

Michael Jacques will be undertaking a renewal programme in the United States in the 2nd half of 2019, & early in 2020 he will participate in the Colnian renewal programme at La Neylière. He advised us a week or two back that the title of "Professor Emeritus" was recently conferred on him.

Paul Glynn: recently retired from his position of Guardian of the Villa Maria cemetery. Paul's scripture quotation of choice was Jn 14:2 – "I am going now to prepare a place for you..."

Pat Kervin: has moved from Villa Maria to a unit at Ryde. Pat can be contacted on his mobile phone: 0418 383 987.

Greg Ferguson: has recently moved from Maryvale/Montbel to a retirement/aged care facility at Marsfield. Greg can be contacted on his mobile phone: 0459 423 274.

Sick

John Thornhill: from 29 April John commenced a projected stay of a couple of weeks at Hunters Hill Private Hospital.

Adrian Drane: principal of Marist Regional College, Burnie, and on extended leave following a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. The news obviously came as a shock to Adrian and his family, and to the entire College community.

Syd Nugent: has now returned to Montbel following a period in the Mater Hospital for a build-up of fluid in his feet.

Pio Fong: Pio, who has been working at St Patrick's in recent months, was due to have hip-replacement surgery at the Mater Hospital at North Sydney, on 2 May. He will then spend several weeks recovery at Maryvale/Montbel.

Brendan Barber: Bob's brother had another stroke over the Easter period and has been in hospital in Newcastle. He has experienced some further loss of general mobility and flexibility, though hopefully this will improve over time.

News

Fr Paul Cooney Memorial

Handicap: on Saturday, 23 March, at 4.54pm, a small field of six left the barriers at Kembla Grange in the inaugural running of the Fr Paul Cooney Memorial Handicap. The winner was McCormack, which firmed in the betting from \$3.10 to \$2.80. Omen backers may have jumped onboard on the basis that Kath McCormack retired several years ago as director of CatholicCare in Wollongong and was an inaugural member of the Child Abuse Papal Commission. Confreres can be reassured that no Provincial Fund money was on the line.

Provincial Retreat, Brisbane:

there are 15 confreres booked on the retreat at Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, commencing Sunday 12 May at Ormiston in Brisbane. Brendan Byrne SJ is the retreat director. Confreres who attended last year's retreat were impressed with the facilities and general layout at Santa Teresa. We wish the confreres a peaceful and enjoyable time away. The second retreat for 2019 will be held at Maryvale/Montbel from 22-27 September.

Deaths

Fr Peter Carde sm

d.3.3.2019, Havelock North, New Zealand



Fr Eduardo Esteinou sm

d.5.3.2019, Mexico DF, Mexico

Fr Bernard Peillon sm

d.6.3.2019, St-Genis-Laval, France

Fr Joris van der Zant sm

d.12.4.2019, Honiara, Sol. Islands

Fr Louis Bernard Saunier sm

d.24.4.2019, Avignon, France.

Fr Thomas Michael Laffey sm

d.26.4.2019, Auckland, NZ.

Jack Soulsby; died at St Vincent's Private Hospital in Brisbane on the evening of Monday, 22 April, and was buried at Nudgee following a Mass of Christian Burial at St Peter Chanel church, The Gap, on Friday 26 April.

Whether by Divine Providence or a happy chance, the date of Jack's burial was also the date of his 50th anniversary of ordination. About 15 confreres concelebrated the funeral Mass with the Provincial as principal celebrant. The burial was at Nudgee Cemetery.



Sr Georgina Heger: Schoenstatt sister from Mulgoa who died on 4 March. Georgina was registrar at CTU for 10 years.

Jubilarians' Mass & Dinner: will be held this year on the evening of Friday 27 September, following the Sydney retreat.

Kevin Gadd, a former member of the Province, was ordained to the diaconate on 27 April at Our Lady of Victories, Shortland (Newcastle). Garry Reynolds and Bob Barber represented the Province.

No Council of the Province: in view of the two sessions of the Extraordinary Provincial Chapter last year, and an Assembly and Chapter to be held in the next 12 months, a decision has been taken not to have a Council of the Province meeting in 2019.

Marist Regional College, Burnie: Peter McMurrich recently

attended the inaugural meeting of a Committee set up by school principal, Adrian Drane, to work towards a memorial at the school to those who have experienced sexual abuse. The Committee will meet again in late June.

Marist Family

Marist Sisters Farewell from

Woolwich: on Saturday 23 March there was a farewell Mass at Woolwich to mark the leaving of the Marist Sisters from the Woolwich property. **Tony Corcoran** was the principal celebrant, and the Province was also represented by Andrew Murray, Michael Mullins, Garry Reynolds, Michael Whelan, Kevin Bates, Peter McMurrich and Paul Pidcock.



Currumbin Bookings

The self-contained flat at Currumbin is available for bookings for Marists and their families. Bookings are made through the Provincial office. Current bookings are:

May 8-21

Peter McMurrich (Family)

Jul 1-8

Tom Ryan (Family)

Jul 14-27

Paul Sullivan

Aug 1-31

Garry Reynolds

Sep 12-26

Peter McMurrich

Oct 13-20

Jim Hargrave

Nov 2-17

Bob Barber

Dec 7-13

John Thornhill (Family)



Please ensure if you stay at Currumbin you leave the place neat and tidy. It is the responsibility of those that use the facility to take care of it. On a number of occasions, the property has had to be cleaned by the people entering rather than those that have enjoyed the facilities. This is particularly the case with the flat – if you use it, before you go you should vacuum it, clean the bathrooms, clean benches, mop down tiled areas, and

dispose of garbage and perishables.

The upstairs section of Currumbin is for the exclusive use of professed Marists. The exception is for approved group use eg. Marist Charism Group planning meeting, where the usage is notified to confreres well in advance.

Provincial Directory



Stephen Truscott: Steve advises that he no longer has a landline phone. He can be contacted on his mobile: 0417 467 937.

Greg Ferguson: mail for Greg can be sent either to Maryvale/Montbel (to which community he is attached), or to the Provincial Office.

Pat Kervin: mail for Pat can be sent either to Villa Maria (to which community he is attached), or to the Provincial Office.

Tom Fulcher: is able to receive mail. Send to "PO Box 24, Lindisfarne, Tasmania 7015".



JPICC Corner

Provincial Committee for
Justice, Peace
and Integrity of Creation

BP-ers' success at ACU

After a rigorous round of application tests and interviews, six graduates of the Bridge Program were accepted for Australian Catholic University's the latest diploma program on the Thai-Burma border.

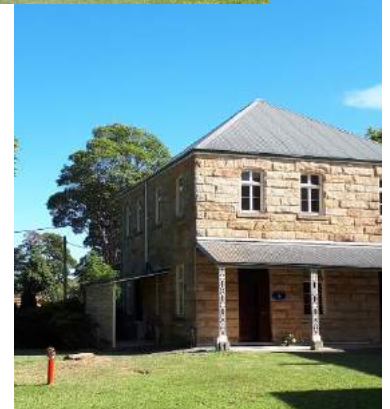
Five other BP-ers will graduate from the ACU course in Maesot on May 18.

And also...



Clockwise from above:
Br Colin Campbell on his 97th birthday
 | ...and **Kerrie Sanders** on hers | Way of the Cross in Villa Maria grounds | International commission for inter-religious dialogue at Ranong | **John Larsen** with MMC staff





Clockwise from top left: Lionel Mechavez with Tony King at Marsfield | Now you see it, now you don't... stricken eucalypt at Villa Maria | Marist Charism & Culture members at prayer with Villa Maria community | Tony Kennedy in Cameroon

