



# MSA Newsletter

A newsletter for Member Schools of Marist Schools Australia published fortnightly during term time



**From Brother Michael Green**

6 August 2013

Dear Brothers, Friends and Colleagues

It was expressed so naturally and spontaneously that the significance of it may have been missed.

During a panel session at last week's wonderful biennial Conference for our Australian Marist Schools, Conor Ashleigh<sup>1</sup> recounted a little conversation he had had recently while on assignment in Central Africa. A priest, intrigued by Conor's European ethnicity and his presence in a poor and otherwise entirely African location, had asked him if perhaps he was a member of a religious order. Conor replied simply, "I'm with the Marist community".

It said little but it said everything. What a profound expression of the new Marist reality, one that is developing a broader sense of communion, identity, and belonging as each year goes by. During the same session, Joe McCarthy challenged us to see ourselves – we Marists – as an ecclesial movement: a faith community in the Church that is inclusive of a broad range of Christian men and women – younger and older, men and women, lay and religious and clergy – who are committed to St Marcellin's way of Marist spirituality, community and ministry. Above all else, the Conference was a representative expression of that.

If we are an ecclesial faith community, then we need to gather. Not virtually or conceptually, but in flesh and blood. We need to be community. We did that in Cairns, and the hope is that the several people from each school who were there – principals, leaders and future leaders – are now able to take the spirit of the event back to the more than fifty Marist school communities around the country.

It was such a privilege for us to have the successor of Marcellin – our Superior General, Brother Emili Turú – in our midst! Brother Emili was engaging, inspiring and challenging in his invitation to us to put on Marian aprons (both literally and figuratively) in order to serve one another, to create the disposition of Marian interiority, and to build Marian-style community. So, also the other key presenters – Provincial Brother Jeff Crowe, Scripture scholar Sister Michele Connolly, and Catholic educational leader Dr Paul Sharkey – and all of the other session and workshop leaders and liturgy animators created for us a rich experience.

Brother Emili proposed to us that if we are to be the "Church of the Apron", then we need to position ourselves as did Jesus in the act of washing the feet at the Last Supper – that is, below. The servant looks up rather than down at those he or she is serving and, in doing so, is able to have a better sense of their world view, is more able to walk in their shoes. Perhaps it's a little unfair and naughty, but I found myself contrasting such an image with another that I had seen just two days beforehand: rows of mitred bishops perched on an elevated sanctuary disconnectedly high above the throng of three million young people on Copacabana Beach. What a difference it would have been had each of the shepherds been physically seated down on the sand, each among his flock. But the liturgists would have never been able to deal with that concept! (But I am unkind: I know that more than a few of these same bishops were indeed in the midst of their diocesan groups during the prayer vigil the previous night.)

We Marists are called to personify the Marian dimension of the Church – the one that many ecclesiologists would describe as its primary orientation. It's down on the sand, in the midst of the young, where we Marists are most at home.

*Nisi Dominus*

**Brother Michael Green FMS**  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR



<sup>1</sup> Conor Ashleigh is an outstanding young documentary photographer and multimedia storyteller, and former Marist student from St Francis Xavier College in Newcastle. Visit his website: [conorashleigh.com](http://conorashleigh.com). He has completed a number of photographic assignments for Australian Marist Solidarity, including an exhibition that has toured several Australian Marist schools this year. Conor has also helped in MYM and student leaders programmes for the Province.

## COMING UP...

7 Aug	MSol launch for the Sydney Region	23-25 Aug	AMC Conference, Mittagong
12-13 Aug	Next Gen 1 Programme, Brisbane	28 Aug	iBelieve, Bulleen
12-14 Aug	ACU Leadership Conference, Sydney	28 Aug	MSA Brisbane Regional Council Meeting
15 Aug	Solemnity of the Assumption, Patronal Feast of the Marist Brothers	28-30 Aug	Arts & Spirituality Symposium, Marist College Ashgrove
16 Aug	iBelieve, Forbes	30 Aug	MSA Sydney Regional Council Meeting
16 Aug	iBelieve, Pagewood	4-7 Sept	Contemplative Retreat, Mittagong
16 Aug	iBelieve, Sale	5-6 Sept	MSA Melbourne Regional Council Meeting
18-21 Aug	Footsteps Programme, Mittagong	6 Sept	iBelieve, Trinity Auburn
19 Aug	Directors' Forum, Marist Centre Sydney	9 Sept	Next Gen 2 Programme, Brisbane

### MLF TEAM APPOINTMENTS

We are delighted to announce the two changes to the MLF Team for 2014:

 **Ryan Gato** (Administration Coordinator at St Peter's Maitland) and  **Elizabeth Falconer** (Head of Arts at Marist College Ashgrove) will be on team next year, based in Sydney and Brisbane respectively.

The Province is grateful to the Principals of each school for allowing Ryan and Elizabeth to be seconded to these roles for 2014. The appointments were made following an application process that attracted a very strong field from our Australian Marist Community, and was managed by a selection panel comprised of Tony Clarke, Julia Lederwasch and Brother David Hall.

### MARIST SCHOOLS CONFERENCE



Some 180 Marists gathered in Cairns last week for the biennial Marist Schools Conference, with the theme "He Gave Us the Name of Mary". It was a singular privilege and great blessing to have our Superior General, Brother Emili Turú, as our main presenter. It was a most engaging and inspiring time for all, and some key directions for us as a Province community were addressed. Thanks to all who helped to make it happen and to our local hosts, St Augustine's College.

Click [here](#) to see a gallery of photos.

### BUSINESS MANAGERS' MEETING MARCELLIN COLLEGE BULLEEN

Marist Business Managers gathered on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July at a meeting hosted by Paul Benedict at Marcellin College Bulleen to discuss college financial processes and reporting.



Photo (L to R): Christine Blyth, Finance Manager – Marcellin College Bulleen, Kiah Cashman, Business Manager – Catholic College Sale, Melissa Clohesy – Business Services Manager, Marist Centre Sydney, Christine Worth, Business Manager – Marist College Canberra, Joe Feery, Business Manager – Assumption College, Kilmore, Paul Benedict, Business Manager – Marcellin College Bulleen, Steve Byrne, Principal, Sacred Heart College Senior School, Adelaide, Trevor Freeman, Business Manager – Sacred Heart College Middle School, Adelaide, Rob Tarraran, Business Manager – LaValla Catholic College, Traralgon, Peter McCabe, Business Manager – Sacred Heart College Senior School, Adelaide, Bernard Kenna, Director of Business Services took the photo.

### MARIST PILGRIMAGE 2014 11 APRIL - 2 MAY

India, Rome, Lyon and The Hermitage, France

A reminder that **applications** for the Pilgrimage in 2014 are to be submitted to Brother Michael Akers, [michael.akers@marists.org.au](mailto:michael.akers@marists.org.au) by Friday, 9 August 2013.

Enquiries should be directed to Tony Clarke, National Director, Marist Mission & Life Formation at [tony.clarke@marists.org.au](mailto:tony.clarke@marists.org.au) or 02 9218 4000 or Brother Michael Akers, Pilgrimage Coordinator, Marist Mission & Life Formation at [michael.akers@marists.org.au](mailto:michael.akers@marists.org.au) or 02 9218 4000.



### Thinking of visiting The Hermitage?

The Hermitage in France – the house of St Marcellin – is visited each year by many Australian Marists. It is set up as a house of hospitality for Marist pilgrims and visitors from around the world. We receive frequent enquiries from Marists who are planning a European trip about the possibility of including a stay at The Hermitage. The short answer is: you will be made very welcome. Here is a link with information about who to contact and how to get there: [The Hermitage](#)

## **iBELIEVE – 31 MAY ST FRANCIS XAVIER’S COLLEGE, HAMILTON**



*Vlasta Veltruvski, Bryan Maher, Kath Petherbridge, Emma Thompson*

## **iBELIEVE – 15 JULY OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART COLLEGE, ALICE SPRINGS**

Staff from the 3 campuses at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College, Alice Springs gathered to begin Term 3 by engaging enthusiastically in the iBelieve programme. There was plenty of cross-campus creativity in the process and a real sense of community in the time spent together.



*Kylie Henderson, Leanne Whyte, Andre Simon*

## **iBELIEVE – 16-17 JULY HOLY FAMILY PRIMARY SCHOOL, PARKES**

Staff at Holy Family Primary School, Parkes participated in the iBelieve programme on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July.



*L-R: Denise Bokeyar, Bev Berger, Andrew Berger, Sue Caldwell*

## **FOOTSTEPS 1 – MAKING JESUS CHRIST KNOWN AND LOVED 21-24 JULY**



*Daniel Curran (St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill), Paul MacGee (Marcellin College Randwick), Brant Waterson (Red Bend Catholic College Forbes) and Brendan O'Flynn (St Gregory's College, Campbelltown)*



*L-R: Judi Cannon, Nicole Mercer, Denielle Cartwright*



*Gail Coates (team), Ros Hennessy (Mt Maria College, Petrie), Bridget Ashton and Melina Trimarchi (Mt Carmel High School, Varroville)*

## CAPACITY BUILDING FOR OUR MARIST MISSION IN ASIA



*Our mission in the Marist world often means a great need for access to funds. Without this, work cannot continue and much needed education and support for local communities would cease to exist.*

As the sun set on Saturday July 21 three of the Marist Solidarity (MSol) team (Br Allen Sherry, Executive Director, Catherine Hannon, Volunteering, Advocacy and Projects Officer and Michael Coleman, Communications, MSA Schools Liaison and Projects Officer) arrived in Bangkok, Thailand to present at two workshops for Marist Brothers and lay partners hosted by FMSI (Marist Solidarity International Foundation) over two weeks.

The first workshop, on project funding and proposal writing, aimed to enable Brothers and Lay Marists to access the much needed funds. The second workshop, led by Catherine Hannon, was on child rights and protection and aimed to improve the understanding of issues that our world faces around child protection. The tools for implementing best practices were also presented.

Having over thirty Marist Brothers and lay partners from across all of Asia come together with such passion reflects highly on the desire for forward movement in our mission.

After months of preparation both workshops have now been completed. The team experienced an extraordinary amount of energy being passionately injected into a wide variety of projects. To be a part of such a diverse group of Marists and to catch a glimpse of the future of Marists in Asia was a privilege.

Michael Coleman  
MSol Team Brisbane



## REMAR NEWS

The Remar Ministry Team have continued to deliver our dynamic and vibrant Marist youth ministry program across our Nation. We have now completed our Red Caravel Day and Blue Retreats for 2013. Thank you to the rowers, helms, school coordinators and support staff from the following schools for all their support, hospitality and support during our visits:

- Newman College, Perth
- St Patrick's College, Launceston
- Marist Regional College, Burnie
- St Peter Claver College, Queensland

We are currently preparing for the upcoming Gold Retreat which will be held in mid-August. In preparation for this retreat, Gold Helms from across the Country gathered on Friday, July 26 for their final inservice. During the final prayer on this day, the RMT took time to affirm each helm present and to sincerely acknowledge the role they have played within their Caravel over the three year Remar journey. On behalf of all the 2013 Gold rowers I would like to sincerely thank all our Gold Helms for the important roles they have played in the lives of these young adults. May you never forget the footprints that you left on the hearts of your rowers.

Thank you:

<i>Pam McKillip</i>	<i>St Francis Xavier College, Beaconsfield</i>
<i>John Paul</i>	<i>Penola Catholic College, Broadmeadows</i>
<i>Carol Nguyen</i>	<i>Penola Catholic College, Broadmeadows</i>
<i>Emily Andrews</i>	<i>Marcellin College, Bullen</i>
<i>Vicki Devine</i>	<i>Assumption College, Kilmore</i>
<i>Jess Simkin</i>	<i>Notre Dame College, Shepparton</i>
<i>Jess Pahor</i>	<i>Marist-Sion College, Warragul</i>
<i>Jason Blackburn</i>	<i>Marist-Sion College, Warragul</i>
<i>Kallie Rodham</i>	<i>Catholic College, Wodonga</i>
<i>Natalie Ling</i>	<i>Marist Regional College, Burnie</i>
<i>Darryl Tuppen</i>	<i>St Patrick's College, Launceston</i>
<i>Aaron Richards</i>	<i>Newman College, Perth</i>
<i>Eilis Black</i>	<i>Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College, Alice Springs</i>
<i>Paul Morgan</i>	<i>Sacred Heart College, Adelaide</i>



**Gold Helm Inservice 2013**

Front (L-R): Vicki Devine (Assumption College) and Emily Andrews (Marcellin College). Back (L-R): Pam McKillip (St Francis Xavier College), Darryl Tuppen (St Patrick's College), Jason Blackburn (Marist-Sion College), Paul Morgan (Sacred Heart College), John Paul (Penola Catholic College) and Carol Nguyen (Penola Catholic College).

Nicki Pitt  
MYM-Remar  
Coordinator