



# MSA Newsletter

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



## From Brother Michael Green

5 August 2014

Dear Brothers, Colleagues and Friends

It's been a sad kind of a month, or at least I have found it so.

First, MH17, of course – just a brutal and gutting thing. Then, the cheap, cavalier taking of life in the apparently stagnated and unforgiving blow-trading between Israel and Hamas – what a tale of horror that has become. It's all so tragically ironic that it occurs in the year we mark the centenary of a similarly clueless, costly slog in the muddy trenches of Belgium and northern France. Never again, the world promised itself. Ugh! And it goes on: the other plane crashes of recent weeks; the going slaughter caused by rival warlords and sect leaders in Syria and elsewhere; the disturbingly inhumane and arrogant treatment of people who are seeking asylum in our country; and other matters of sadness and shame closer to home. It can all be a more than a little disheartening.

So often, it's young people who are the ones who wear all this, and that exacerbates the tragedy for people such as you and me who have dedicated our lives to the education and well-being of young people, who have a heart for the young and a deep belief in their goodness and potential. Sad, sad, sad.

In naming who we are as Marists and what we are about with young people, the late Brother Charles Howard liked to describe us as "sowers of hope". It is well for us never to lose our sense of the importance and the centrality of that as a job descriptor. Certainly, the soil in which we do that sowing can be, to use the gospel image, a little rocky at times. If normal adolescent angst and autonomy don't provide sufficient rockiness on their own, the soil is made all the more unreceptive to our seed-planting by the post-modern, relativist and secularist field in which it finds itself. To that, mix in the harm and betrayal inflicted by big people with tiny consciences, and young people's capacity for trust and their sense of the world as a good place diminish alarmingly.

Our response? It is as it always has been: education. That was Marcellin's basic intuition. That is our particular contribution to all that conspires to shrink young people's readiness to grow in faith, hope and love. For us as Marists, it is an education that primarily uses the twin means of *presence* and *good example*; we affect young people by who we are in their lives. One essential ingredient of that example must be joy; not a happy-clappy, shallow bounciness, but a deep, inner Marian joy. In his biography of St Marcellin, Brother Jean-Bapiste lists "joy" as the first Marist quality that we should imitate from the Founder.

To cultivate such joy in ourselves, we would do well to heed the advice of Frederic Ozanam, the founder of the St Vincent de Paul Society, who urged people "to beware of discouragement" because "it is the death of the soul". Marcellin, who also greatly admired Vincent de Paul, said similar things. He believed that discouragement was the single most harmful trap that lurked for young people, a "work of the devil". He therefore urged his Brothers always to be encouragers. For us to be that for young people, we need ourselves to avoid feeding or wallowing in the discouragement that may well up in our own hearts. It doesn't mean we should insulate ourselves from feelings of hurt and injustice, but it does mean that we should never be mastered by them. It is, at the end of the day, to live the spirit of Mary's *Magnificat*.

*Nisi Dominus*

**Brother Michael Green FMS**  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

## COMING UP...

- 8-10 Aug Remar Gold Retrat (Year 12s)
- 9-13 Aug Marist Formation New Caledonia
- 11 Aug #serve program, Mount Carmel Catholic High School, Varroville
- 12 Aug #serve program, St Peter Claver College, Riverview
- 13-14 Aug #serve program, Holy Family Primary School, Parkes
- 15 Aug Feast of Assumption
- 15 Aug #serve program, Red Bend Catholic College, Forbes
- 17-20 Aug Footsteps 1 programe, Mittagong

- 20-22 Aug #serve program/staff spirituality days, Chanel College
- 21 Aug #serve program, Notre Dame College, Shepparton
- 22-24 Aug New Models of Animation, Governance & Management Regional Meeting, Mittagong
- 25 Aug #serve program, Catholic College Sale
- 25-28 Aug Staff spirituality days, Trinity College, Beenleigh
- 27 Aug MSA Regional Council Meeting Brisbane
- 29 Aug MSA Regional Council Meeting (Melbourne)

## AN ASSUMPTION BOARDER AWARDED THE INAUGURAL REX CAMBREY SCHOLARSHIP

Traditionally Assumption College has not been in a position to offer scholarships but, thanks to the generosity of the Tony Lennon Family Trust, a scholarship has been awarded to a year 12 boarding student, Timothy Willis. The scholarship, named in honour of long-serving Marist employee Rex Cambrey, was awarded to a country student attending a Marist boarding school who truly demonstrates the Marist spirit. Mr Tony Lennon and Mr Rex Cambrey visited Assumption College on June 19 to present the scholarship to Tim. Also at the presentation were Principal Mr Michael Kenny, Business Manager Mr Joseph Feery and boarding supervisors Mr Brett Benkenstein and Mr Ben Terrell. Timothy, the son of Graeme and Robyn Willis from



(L-R) Boarding supervisor Mr Brett Benkenstein, Mr Tony Lennon, Tim Willis, Mr Rex Cambrey and boarding supervisor Mr Ben Terrell after Tim was presented with the scholarship.

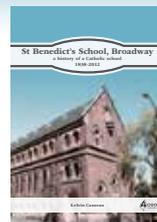
Deniliquin, is the third of four members of his family to attend the College. As a year 12 student he leads by example in the boarding house, is actively involved with the school's co-curricular activities playing football and officiating at games. Through his VCAL studies he has also been involved in the BlazeAid bushfire fencing program. Mr Cambrey gave more than 20 years of dedicated service to the Marist Brothers as the Southern Province Business Manager and continues to do charitable work with the Brothers.

## 2015 APPOINTMENTS

- Some appointments for next year have recently been announced:
- Ms Kate Fogarty, as Principal of Assumption College Kilmore
  - Mr Greg Cameron, as Principal of Burdekin Catholic High School, Ayr
  - Mr Ryan Greer, as Head of Senior School and Deputy Head at Marist College Canberra

*Warmest congratulations to these people!*

## St Benedict's School, Broadway a history of a Catholic school 1838-2012 Kelvin Canavan



122 pages  
\$15  
To order call (02) 9568 8221

### Take a walk down memory lane...

Kelvin Canavan's account of the story of St Benedict's School from 1838 to 2012 gives readers a concise overview of Catholic schooling in Sydney. He uses St Benedict's to tell a fascinating story.

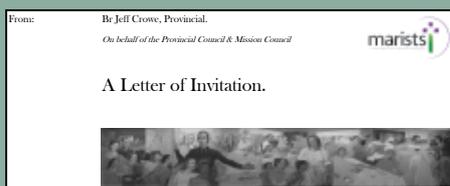
He describes the early years when former convicts and assisted immigrants taught large classes in the chapel-school, and the circumstances that saw the parish turn to the Sisters of the Good Samaritan and the Marist Brothers.

The reader is given a snapshot of changing custom and practice in schooling and is introduced to some fascinating characters associated with St Benedict's.

Kelvin Canavan is a Marist Brother and was a long-term Executive Director of Schools in the Archdiocese of Sydney. Over the past thirty years Kelvin has written about the Catholic school story and supported others in their research and historical writing.

## PUTTING A FACE TO A NAME

For a couple of years, one of the background pictures on the MSA website has included a shot of some students of Trinity Catholic College Lismore. Brother John Hilet has been pleased to advise us that one of those young people (who was College Captain in 2012) has recently been named National Indigenous Youth of the Year in NAIDOC Week. Our warmest congratulations to **Amelia Telford**.



## EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST ARE ROLLING IN!

It has been exciting to see the first Expressions of Interest to join the Marist Association come across the desk of Tracey at Marist Centre Melbourne. People in schools and other ministries, and others who are connected in their own way to Marist life and mission, are being invited to take another step in their journey within the Marist family. It will be a wonderful way of drawing together all

people who are doing their bit to keep Marcellin's dream alive in the place they live and work.

The leaders of each school and ministry are choosing an appropriate time to create a moment around the invitation, and then provide a hard copy of the Letter of Invitation to all staff. This is indeed a Spirit led and Spirit filled moment in the life of Marists in Australia, and in the life of the broader Church. It will continue to come alive as individuals who feel their path to God has been significantly shaped and formed by the practical wisdom and spiritual life that is Marist step forward!

Joe McCarthy  
Director of Lay Marists

# Marist MISSION AND LIFE FORMATION

## BEING MARIST CONFERENCE



From 30<sup>th</sup> July to 1<sup>st</sup> August, 36 delegates from 19 different Marist Schools and Ministries across Australia gathered at Mittagong for the 2014 biennial Being Marist Conference for School Officers. After an opening ceremony which centred round the talents of the St Gregory's Campbelltown Brass Band delegates spent the three days exploring the Marist story, our spirituality and how each of them can be Marist in their lives and at work. The three days were a wonderful opportunity for all to stop and reflect on their very important place in our Marist family and how Mary can provide them with the inspiration and role modelling in their daily lives. At the conclusion of the conference the delegates were commissioned by senior students from St Gregory's to go back to their schools and lives and "Be Marist"! (Darren McGregor)

### #SERVE PROGRAM



**Leeton**

(L-R) Lea-Kathryn Nelson, Kirstie Wakely, Shelley Foster, Catherine de Andrade and Maria Georgiou



**Penshurst**

(L-R) Br Tony Butler, Jenny Guy and Debbie Wand

### FOOTSTEPS: MAKING JESUS CHRIST KNOWN AND LOVED



Footsteps participants reflecting on the Marian face of the Church.  
(L-R) Amanda Boschetti, Vina Gibson and Katherine Buttigieg

#serve  
oneanother



Marist Asia-Pacific Solidarity (MAPS)  
 Australian Marist Solidarity (AMS)  
 Marist Volunteers Australia (MVA)

## CELEBRATING THE EXPANSION OF OPERATION RAINBOW!



*Br Shanthi Liyanage officially opening the new St Marcellin Hall for the Operation Rainbow community*

Last week we received wonderful news of the completion of the St. Marcellin Community Hall at Operation Rainbow in Trichy, India! In their email to us the Marist Brothers, on behalf of the community, wrote:

“We sincerely thank Brothers, friends and benefactors especially in Australian Marist Solidarity. Your great support and contribution has allowed us to open St. Marcellin Community Hall.”

The St. Marcellin Hall was inaugurated by Br Shanthi Liyanage, Provincial of South Asia Province, and blessed by Fr Kulanthaisamy, Parish Priest of Pariyanayaki Matha Church. Students performed in a cultural program to mark the occasion followed by the distribution of prizes for academic performance in grade 11 and 12 for 2014.

Thank you to all those who have got behind this effort to expand the possibilities for the program in supporting those living with HIV/AIDS. We look forward to what this project has made possible for the Operation Rainbow community and its participants. Click [here](#) for more information on the project.

To continue the support of the now expanded programs of Operation Rainbow contact us on:

**P** | (07) 3354 0600 **or E** | [msol@marists.org.au](mailto:msol@marists.org.au)

Michael Coleman, MSol Team – Brisbane

### Interested in volunteering in Asia and the Pacific?

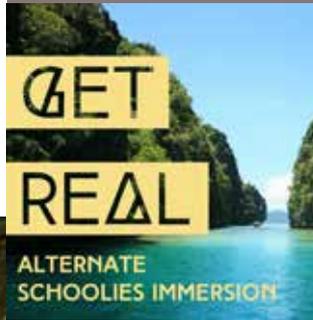
Contact Ashley now on:

**P** | (07) 3354 0600

**E** | [mva@marists.org.au](mailto:mva@marists.org.au)



## IMMERSION LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY



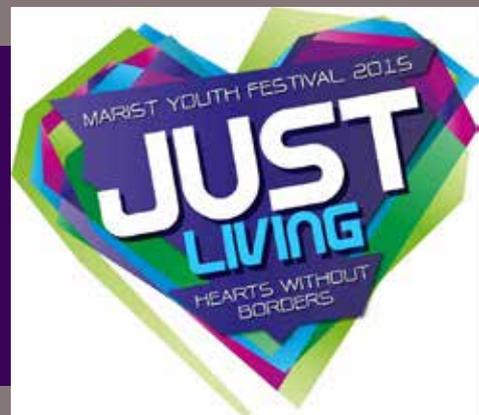
Marist Youth Ministry are looking for 1 staff member to join their team to help lead the 2014 Get Real Alternate Schoolies Immersion to The Philippines. Lead by Sally McEniry and Br Doug Walsh, the immersion is a 2 week experience from November 29th-December 13th, 2014.

The successful applicant should fulfil the following:

- Staff member at MSA school between 25-40 years in age.
- Confident traveller, with past personal or professional experiences
- Strong Catholic faith and sense of the Marist charism
- Passionate about Youth and Young Adult ministry

This opportunity will be fully subsidised and will provide an aspiring teacher a great platform to gain experience leading an immersion, whilst strengthening ties with Marist Youth Ministry. To apply or register your interest, please contact Sally McEniry on 0409 451 822 or [sally.mceniry@marists.org.au](mailto:sally.mceniry@marists.org.au)

## MARIST YOUTH FESTIVAL



**HELP NEEDED!** From 12 -15 January 2015 we will be hosting the Marist Youth Festival 2015, a justice festival for approximately 300 post school young adults. Some young people from our Marist schools will also be attending with their teachers. The festival will be held in Sydney.

It is a large undertaking which will need the help of a significant number of volunteers to do all kinds of jobs prior to, during and following the festival.

**If you are in a position to help for any of the stages of the festival, or would like to know more about volunteering at it, please contact Carole Wark at [carolewark1@gmail.com](mailto:carolewark1@gmail.com)**

Looking forward to hearing from you soon!