

## PALLOTTINE FAMILY (UAC) NEWSLETTER

## **MARCH 2016**

#### LAUNCHING OF A UAC COMMON PROJECT – AN APPEAL TO ALL

"I would like to become food to feed the hungry, clothing to cover the naked, drink to quench the thirst of the thirsty..." Saint Vincent Pallotti

The idea of working on a "Common Project" has been discussed and supported at the various UAC Council meetings.

One project strongly recommended to us by Fr Jacob Nampudakam, the Rector General of the SAC is to support an orphanage in Keshero Congo named Flame of love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Father Jacob recently visited this orphanage and was touched by the children and the Sister who is caring for them. The orphanage, established by Sister Alvera Gahinyuza, cares for vulnerable children, women and other vulnerable people who have been effected by the different wars in the Eastern Congo region. At the centre there are 175 children and 75 of these children are cared for on a full time basis.

As a Pallottine Family we have been asked to support this orphanage to provide food for the children. It is estimated that \$250 to \$300 per month would greatly assist in meeting some of their food costs. Currently their basic food costs are being met through local donations including UN peacekeepers. These donations fluctuate and ensuring the food is always available is very difficult.

#### **Pallottine Family Newsletter**

Quarterly Circular for members of the Australian Pallottine Family

Editor: Merle Gilbo Phone: 03 9497 1691

Email: merlegilbo@hotkey.net.au merle.gilbo@blaze.net.au

Publisher: UAC

85 Studley Park Road, Kew VIC 3101

Annual Subscription: \$15.00



So we are asking for your financial support. If 50 of us contributed between \$5 and \$10 a month we would easily meet this target. We need to raise \$3,000 to \$3,600 per year. Enclosed in this newsletter is a donation form for you to complete. All of the contributions will initially be transferred to the SAC Provincialate in Rwanda and be assured that every cent of the money will reach the children. We look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions or would like a full copy of the annual report presented at the AGM please contact me. Let us pray in the words of Pope Francis in is jubilee year of Mercy Prayer:

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee Year of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your church, with renewed enthusiasm, may it bring good news to the poor..."

Cheryl Sullivan

0417386706



## UAC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the UAC was held at Pallottine College Kew on Saturday 27 February. The meeting was preceded by a National Coordination Council Meeting and representatives from the various apostolates. At this meeting and at the AGM, we heard of the work undertaken in the previous year and looked towards the future. It is clear from the various reports that together we all work to bring the charism of Saint Vincent alive as we respond to the needs of our times. Examples of how this is being achieved is: the hospitality to guests and outreach work being undertaken at Epiphany Centre, Pallotti College and Casa Pallotti, the scholarships offered through the Saint Vincent Pallotti and Pallottine Aboriginal Scholarship Trust, the initial and ongoing formation programs, the introduction of the Pallottine Cenacle Prayer evenings, the Gather and Share Sessions held in the various Pallottine Ministered Parishes and the annual presentation of the Walter Silvester memorial Lecture. There was also acknowledgement of the successful UAC Assembly and the preceding events: the Pallottine Camino and the UAC Retreat held during 2015.

At the close of the AGM, Father Ralph Besterwitch SAC spoke to those assembled of how the UAC is being lived in America, Canada and India. There was recognition of how this great charism we share is being lived by others throughout the world and how a deeper understanding of the charism is developing as more people are drawn into the appreciation that we all have a vocation.

#### GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION OF THIS PALLOTTINE FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Yes 50 Years on, this newsletter continues to keep members of the Pallottine Family in Australia connected through the various articles and news items. An amazing feat and primarily due to Merle Gilbo who has been the editor of this magazine almost since its inception (for well over 49 years!).

We want to celebrate this event and how better than to use the occasion of the birthday of Saint Vincent Pallotti on 21St April. Our celebrations will commence with a Eucharist at Pallottine College, 85 Studley Park Road, Kew, commencing and 5.15pm (please arrive by 5.00pm) and a shared meal after the Eucharist. If you would like to bring some food or wine to assist with the celebration that would be appreciated. We look forward to seeing you all there.

#### **Rest in Peace**

Kevin Clark was born in August 1929 to Nell and Harry Clark and was proud of his South Melbourne roots; he was professed as a Pallottine in 1959, some six months before his 30th Birthday. His younger sister Joan has contributed information to the writing of this article. Kevin's life was influenced by two world events; he was born a few months before the Great Depression and professed as brother months only after the great reformer Roncalli first occupied the Chair of Peter. These two events were key markers in Kevin's life. He was a man of prudent consideration; from a practical angle - was his frequent catch cry and he was a man who lived through seismic changes in the church. He was formed by them and contributed to them in his own

certainly very perceptive way.

At school, he obtained a diocesan scholarship to St
Colman's and gained his Leaving Certificate from
Parade (East Melbourne). At 18 he joined the Carmelites
(0.Carm). Upon returning to the workforce he entered the
State Education Department but also became a member
of the Younger Set at Kew in the fifties as well as joining
the Apostolic Groups, working with Fr Silvester.

It was not surprising that Kevin sought to enter the
Pallottines and even from his earliest days he has been
remembered always for his welcome at the front door and
his acceptance of people as they were. He was professed
as a Pallottine on the same day as Father Pat and like
Father Pat, Kevin spent time in the Manly (NSW)
community.

Kevin was a shed-certified wool classer in Tardun, and proud he had not even seen a sheep before he was examined; also he had various adventures. He was at Millgrove, cooking and involved in other activities when Pallotti College was a centre for youth and he was assigned as a parish assistant in Syndal, visiting people in their homes and elsewhere and being the man behind the scenes. Kevin's birthday parties hosted by the ladies of Syndal held precious stories for all involved. He saw himself always assisting, and excelled in this service to parishioners, working with, at different times, Fathers John Hennessy, John Flynn and Pat Jackson and he was always ready to answer the call to service, whether it be Fr Benno (as then Regional Superior) calling him to Syndal or years later receiving a fax through the parish office, that asked him to come to Kew. At Kew he also developed a quiet presence, attentive to details and people's needs.

Whenever he was on respite care, he came quickly to know his surroundings and the people at the residences where he stayed. Kevin loved the interior life but also watched from his window and connected with the busyness of the street and passing traffic. Even if he did not like to travel or to engage the stranger in the street, he held them in prayer.

In later years, he noted how he would sometimes drift into slumber during prayer - but God always graced the moment and Kevin was self-accepting. He read the paper daily and attentively, was ready to argue his point and even be critical of a church perspective. Kevin never lost a moment; moments were gifts to be savored and his attention to detail saw some great moments, benefiting community.

Authentic to the contemplative life are qualities of hospitality, work and prayer. Kevin brought especially his own identity to the ministry of welcome as brothers like Eddie Wishart, Bob Bradley and Pat Bicknell and others had previously brought to Kew and elsewhere. In another hospital some years back, when Kevin disappeared "off the radar" from his ward he was to be found in prayer in the chapel; something that Kevin always sought to return to, even in the hectic life around him.

Even in palliative care, in his final days, he prayed silently within his soul and people were drawn to the peace that was nurtured by God through Kevin. Joan, his sister, recalls how Kevin was always there for the family, the weekly car trip on Thursdays from Syndal, the Tuesday telephone calls whilst at Kew and faithful correspondence when he was interstate. He loved his two families - a loving son and brother to his natural family and committed as a Pallottine confrere.

So Kevin finds himself now in the quiet community, where his bones are interred in the Melbourne General Cemetery and his soul has been born to eternal life. At Kew, Kevin is greatly missed, his death having a profound effect on the whole community.



**Brother Kevin** 

#### Linda Bodey. (nee Pierotti)

Ann Cayless shared these beautiful words in memory of her very special friend of over 50 years. Thank you, Ann. Linda was a gentle, loyal, caring and treasured friend and neighbour who always made my family welcome at her home. An exceptional lady who never spoke ill or saw wrong in others who loved to hear news of family and see photographs, especially of grandchildren.

Linda was an inspiring member of our Pallotti mothers' group for more than 46 years. She brought to the group her love of God, her deep faith and trust in God's love for her and for each of us. At our February meeting in 2014, with great courage, Linda shared with us the news that her cancer had spread and most likely she would go home to God before Christmas of that year.

If Linda could talk to us today, I am sure she would say: "Well, I made it to 2016 with God's help. Keep him in your lives and talk to him often as I have done". Thank you, Linda. For all you shared over the years—your courage, trust and inspiration. You truly are a SAINT! Rest peacefully with the Lord, my dear Linda, and thank you for passing our way.

It was a great tribute to Linda and the five remaining members of our mothers' group, to have at her funeral the husband of a member who passed away in 1995 and ten family members of past and present members. We were gifted and encouraged by their presence and the support of our husbands to continue our meetings, not forgetting those who have gone to their eternal reward.

#### Marie Hassed (nee Cunningham)

Marie was a member of the Apostolic groups in Kew in the 50s, her group having taken as their motto 'Cor Unum', which means 'one in heart'. They certainly lived up to that name because, those who are still on this earth have continued to meet and one was able to attend Marie's funeral at St. Therese's church , Essendon on 1st March..

#### May they all rest in peace

#### **Archives tell our story**

The Pallottine Family has included many, many people from the time the first four Pallottine religious stepped foot on Australian soil. All members of the family will have different memories of their time in the Pallottine family. All members will have photographs, records, objects and other memorabilia of the time they spent as part of the family. All of these items will invoke memories in other members of the Pallottine Family. The same items cannot invoke a Pallottine story in the mind of a non-Pallottine Family member or indeed a member who has not had a similar experience as the owner of the item. This is the major difference between memory and history. The history of the Pallottine Family is written based on the permanent value records (archives) and items with known provenance (history / archives). Permanent value records are produced everyday by the Pallottine Family but are very few in number. The vast majority of records produced are kept for a set amount of time and then destroyed. The permanent value records of the Pallottine religious are held in the archive at Rossmoyne.



## Why is it important to have originals in an archive collection?

There is any number of answers to this question but I hope the images below will demonstrate the most important point. Original source documents are the best source of information. The scan of the original photograph illustrated below is much sharper and has much more detail than the scan from the reprint even though this scan of the original photograph was done at a much lower resolution. Having said that, a reprint is of much more value than the photocopy of the same image.

The photocopy of the image of La Grange hospital was part of the McKelson collection. Luckily in the same vast collection was a small photo album with reprinted photographs from a former lay-missionary

containing the same image of the hospital. The reprints are fading as modern machine reprints do and so it is important to scan these images before the information contained within them disappears. The original black and white photograph showing a later version of the hospital will not disappear and will be available for access in to the future. This photograph does not need to be scanned to maintain information. Why am I telling you this? You have original source documents, whether they are photographs, negatives, 25 mm slides, letters, diaries, other records. Many of the records held by the archives are photocopies or reprints. The records in the archives are disappearing.



If you have original items that fit within the collection policy of the UAC and SAC and you would like to donate to the collection please contact the archivist at archives@pallottine.org.au.

#### LIVING A LIFE OF LOVE IN AND FOR THE WORLD - IRENE DOUGLAS MUNSEY

On Sunday the 7th February 2016 a small book on the life of Irene Munsey was launched at the Mariana Community home Oak Maree, McNamaras Road Millgrove.

Over 100 people came to participate in this event including Irene's sister Lucy Harper, relatives, friends, community members and some who did not know Irene, but knew of the many successful undertakings she achieved in her life. There was much reminiscing and sharing using the majestic oak at Oak Maree as a canopy for being together.

The book was launched by Jim Childs a past president from the Shire of Yarra Ranges. Jim spoke of Irene's tenacity when something "needed to be done" along with her quiet support and care for others. Maria Mithen, a long term shire resident reflected on the meaning of the name "Irene" including how Irene's seek balance and harmony in their life and the world at large with recognition of how Irene lived that balance and harmony thorough her service and hospitality, including running

Monserrat at Millgrove for several years.

The biography was compiled by Ann Rennie, with the assistance of Lucy, Irene's sister, members of Mariana Community and writings left to us by Irene. It tells the story of a country woman who looked beyond herself and gave unstintingly to others with her very down to earth and practical wisdom in her secular vocation of living a life of love in and for the world to the full.

Perhaps a section of the book which sums up Irene's life is "Irene was someone who did God's work in her vocation and occupation; bringing God to others in her goodness. Irene lived out the tenet of witnessing where you are in both the sacredness and the secularity of daily life".

If you would like a copy of the book contact Kath Curtain at curtaink@tpg.com.au or on 9882 8967 or Cheryl Sullivan at cherylsullivan11@bigpond.com or on 9416 7138.





## St Vincent Pallotti Grants awarded in 2015

The St Vincent Pallotti Trust was established in 2008 to offer financial support to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in ministry activity which is consistent with UAC aims and objectives.

Applicants need to demonstrate their involvement in an immediate program which will benefit others. This may be in leadership/ministry formation [eg. part payment of course costs], or in a specialised activity [eg. the promotion of faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care].

Over the past 8 years, grants of between \$200 and \$4,500 have been awarded annually at the discretion of the Trust Committee from a pool of approximately \$5,000. Grateful responses were received from both 2015 recipients, one of which follows here - Georgie Juszczyk's acknowledgement, an inspiring young adult from Queensland:

#### Dear St Vincent Pallotti Trust

Today I write to you as a recipient of the Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust, to thank you for providing such generous assistance to my involvement as Convenor of UN Youth Australia's Pacific Project 2016.

It is not possible to measure the true value of this donation, as it means so much more than just its dollar figure. It is a tremendous opportunity, both for the tour and for myself personally. More than that however, it is encouragement of immense proportions, to know that the pursuit of social justice and the commitment to spreading gospel values is one which does not go unrecognised, and that people such as yourselves believe in the importance of investing youth with the power needed to execute this mission.

Thus, in an effort to express, in at least some small form, the extent of my gratitude, I am more than happy to provide a post-tour activity report following the conclusion of the program in July. Furthermore, it also goes without saying that should the panel require any further details at any stage, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Once again, thank you for this incredible gift.

Yours sincerely Georgie Juszczyk

#### **MONEY MATTERS**

Thank you for all who support this publication by giving contributions —whether by hand, by mail or directly into the bank. I've heard that some of you have experienced a difficulty when using the latter method. For others it has worked!! Anyhow, it's the Commonwealth Bank—CBA.

BSB: 06 3 142

Account Number: 1010 4176.

#### The B B B B What is it?

Well dear Pallottines, relatives, friends and parishioners of St Christopher's, it does of course refer to the Beautiful, Big, Birthday Bash we had at St Christopher's to celebrate the birthdays of our much loved priests Fr Pat and Fr Ralph. Both had "special" birthdays this year, Fr Pat achieved his 80th on the 30th January and Fr Ralph his 60th on the 4th January, so what better reason to celebrate. This we did in great style on the 31st January commencing with a grand concelebrated mass with Frs. Pat and Ralph assisted by Frs. Eugene, John Winson, and Joe Butscher. It was a beautiful Holy Mass, ending with the strains of Happy Birthday resounding through the streets of Syndal! The party bash then began and as always much of the food was generously provided by the members of the parish and was all so delicious, and of course of a multicultural flavour. The church grounds were decorated with colourful marquees and balloons and we were blessed with a fine day. The youth provided the party music and what a great job they did, with singers and songs to suit all tastes. To add to the ambience both Fr Pat and Fr Ralph took to the microphone with their guitars and each one of those singing priests delivered an amusing ballad to a standing ovation!

The day ended with speeches and the cutting of the obligatory birthday cakes and everyone agreed, what a great party it was! When is the next one? No doubt there will soon be another reason to celebrate and everyone is invited!

God Bless Ronnie Poskitt









#### **SOME 2016 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

## CELEBRATION OF SAINT VINCENT'S BIRTHDAY AND 50 YEARS OF THE PALLOTTINE FAMILY NEWSLETTER – 21 APRIL, 2016

Time and Venue – 5.15 pm Eucharist at Pallottine College, 85 Studley Park Road Kew, followed by a shared meal – please bring a plate or bottle to share.

#### PALLOTTINE CENACLE PRAYER EVENINGS

These evenings provide all of us in the Pallottine Family with the opportunity to pray together on a monthly basis.

Time and Date: 7.30pm to 8.30pm on the 22nd of each month.

22nd March - Pallottine College, 85 Studley Park Road, Kew.

22nd April – Saint Anne's, 54 Knees Road, Park Orchards.

22nd May – Holy Child Presbytery Dallas, 115 Corilella Cres., Dallas. (street beside church)

#### **GATHER AND SHARE SESSIONS**

Come along to break open the word, share some of Vincent's Charism as well as company and food. (Please bring a plate to share)

Time 4.00pm to 7.00pm.

Sunday 1 May - Holy Child Parish Presbytery Dallas, 115 Corilella Cres., Dallas. – (the street beside the church)

Sunday 31st July – North Ringwood/Park Orchards Parish – address to be confirmed

#### **UAC FORMATION PROGRAM**

This program is for those who want to learn more of the great charism handed on to us through Saint Vincent Pallotti, recognising that this charism is the call for us to be apostles following the Gospel of Jesus. These sessions can be seen both as initial and ongoing formation so all are invited to attend.

Time: 9.00am to 3.00pm – including attendance at 10.30am Eucharist at Syndal.

Dates: 15 May, 21 August and 23 October 2016.

Venue: Saint Christopher's Parish, Doon Road, Syndal

If anyone has any queries please feel free to ring Cheryl Sullivan on 9416 7138 or 0417386706

#### PALLOTTI COLLEGE "BACK TO ORDINARY TIME!"

Saturday, 4th June 2016

A day for those involved in Liturgy as musicians, cantors, Liturgy team members.

With **Br. Michael Herry** fms & **Fr. Dean Bradbury** SAC

During the day we will:

- See how we to prepare / choose music for liturgies.
- Explore what can be done with the psalm
- Share experiences and gather resources.

Cost \$50, includes meals and refreshments. Limited accommodation available Friday night and/or Saturday night.

**Contact: Fr. Dean 59662585** 

### 2016 Pallottine Camino

Pilgrimage Walk from St Christopher's Syndal to Pallotti College Millgrove 65km over three days Accommodation at Pallotti College



It's not too late to book!

There has been strong interest this year & there are just a few spaces left!

Help Needed
We need a few generous people who can assist with welcoming pilgrims and with transport (in vour car) between Pallotti College and each day's start/end point.

If you would like to walk or if you can assist with welcome and transport contact Lorraine:

> Phone: 0402 217123 Email: lorraine613@bigpond.com

# Discovering the Sacred Space Within A weekend for Women



#### May 13th -15th Pallotti College, Millgrove

Amidst the clamour of life as woman, friend, student, workmate, mother, partner, daughter - how easily we forget the spark which burns within, urging us to become all that we are capable of being!

Experience a gentle journey of reflection and discovery as you explore and celebrate your inner space through a range of activities,

including story, music, prayer and journaling ....

**Cost: \$190** 

includes meals and accommodation in a private room with a shared bathroom.

**Facilitator: Lorraine McCarthy** For a flyer with further information or to book:

> Phone: 0402 217123 Email: lorraine613@bigpond.com



#### **Pallottine Family UAC** Newsletter

85 Studley Park Road, Kew VIC 3101 Print Post Approved 335169/00015

**SURFACE MAIL** 

**POSTAGE** PAID **AUSTRALIA** 

You can read this publication also at the SAC Website www.Pallottine.org.au