



WA Cluster Chronicle
6/10

9th September 2010

*The voice of the WA Cluster
of the Oceania Province of the Christian Brothers*



Warm Birthday Greetings to:

In Anticipation

Brian Clery - 17th September
Warwick Bryant - 20th September
Tony Kelly - 22nd September
Pat Kelly - 30th September

PRAYERS FOR RECENTLY DECEASED



Rina Giorgini: Fondly remembered by the Christian Brothers as a dedicated, loyal, warm hearted, most generous and long serving staff member of St Patrick's College Geraldton.

Julia Needham: Sister-in-law of Laurie Needham passed away on the 15th August 2010.

Christine Dawes: Mrs Christine Dawes was for many years the Principal's Assistant at Catholic Agricultural College Bindoon. After a long battle with ovarian cancer she died peacefully on Monday 6th August 2010. Christine and her husband Brian operated a small cafe in Toodyay. We keep Christine and her family our prayers.



Please keep in your Prayers those who are sick and infirm. Be assured, all of us will see our names on this list sometime! It's good to know that other Brothers and close friends have us in their thoughts.

Joan Rafferty: Health Care Co-ordinator for NSW whom we had on our prayer list on the last Cluster Chronicle writes:

Sound when stretched is music.
Movement when stretched is dance.
Mind when stretched is meditation.
Life when stretched is celebration.

-Ravi Shankar

Recently after a car accident in Ireland I realised the truth in the above. I was unfortunately 'fortunate' to have to lie on my back in hospital for five days. Observing the world around me I realised how much I miss in my normal day to day living. How kind people are, how the acts of random kindness go missed, how important the way we treat each other is - doing a good job is not just efficiency but 'how' we do it. I also realised how great the people that I work with - my colleagues and the family of the Christian Brother are. Thank you all for your wishes and prayers - they are deeply appreciated.

Joan Rafferty

Continued Prayers are requested for Fr Dan McMahon (Tas), Brothers Steve McLaughlin, Dan Courtney, Gonz Weston and Peter Toomey who has been admitted to Nowra Hospital with chest pains and is undergoing test.

Christchurch Earthquake:

We think of our Brothers and the people of Christchurch as they face the destruction caused by the recent earthquakes.

Our Brothers' homes seem not to have suffered damage – however some articles in the homes have been broken.

Apparently there was some damage at St Kevin's.

We pray in gratefulness for preservation of life and we pray that our Brothers and all in Christchurch will be supported in their time of need. Please keep all in your prayers.

Ted Magee

*APPOINTMENT OF OCEANIA PROVINCE
CLUSTERS LEADERS*

The appointments take effect from 01 October 2010, for a period of three years.

New South Wales and
Australian Capital Territory:

Cluster A: Patrick White
Cluster B: Brian Murphy
Cluster C: David Curtin

New Zealand:

John O'Shea

Papua New Guinea
(Cluster Leadership Team):

Alfred Tivinarlik (leader)
Iggy Kalok
Joachim ToRavit
Herman Wagira

Queensland, Northern Territory,
East Timor & The Phillipines:

Cluster A: Ian Robertson
(appointed earlier this year)
Cluster B: Ted Magee

South Australia:

John Webb

Victoria & Tasmania:

Cluster A: Peter Richardson
Cluster B: Tim Moloney
Cluster C: Terry Burke

Western Australia:

Pat Kelly

These appointments have been made following the recent consultation with all Brothers in the Province. I am grateful to all the Brothers mentioned above for their willingness to undertake this responsibility of leadership. A special welcome to those moving into these leadership positions for the first time (Brian Murphy, David Curtin, Iggy Kalok, Joachim ToRavit, Peter Richardson and Terry Burke) and a special thanks to all the others for their willingness to continue into a second term.

I thank those Brothers who are now retiring from cluster leadership responsibilities: Brothers Dan Stewart (NSW B), Tim Barnes (NSW C), Fidelis Toatahi (PNG team member), Frank Hennessy (Vic A) and Kevin Laws (Vic C). All have contributed very much to the first few years of our new Province, and I have heard from very many Brothers about how much they have appreciated the ministrations of their cluster leaders over the last three years. Our Constitutions tell us that any position of leadership is a "special service of love", and also that part of our relationship with leaders is that "we pray with them for god's gift of wisdom, courage, compassion and gentleness". (Constitution 69) I am sure that all those now called to cluster leadership will appreciate such prayers.

Vince Duggan

Thank you from the WA Cluster Leader

It is certainly a great privilege to be one of the Oceania Cluster Leaders and I thank you sincerely for accepting me as the WA Cluster Leader for the past three years and for nominating me to continue for another term. I am fully aware that the Cluster Leader role is an evolving one and the next three years should not necessarily be a repeat performance of the past. The OLT has been specific in suggesting I do some things differently from now on and I would hope that all in the WA Cluster also feel free to communicate to me suggestions to improve my work/performance.

Pat Kelly

Visit of Brothers Benjamin Mbaso and Joash Diemo to Perth

Brothers Benjamin Mbaso and Joash Diemo Sigu from Kenya were in Perth recently for a few days on their way home from several demanding weeks in Melbourne. They had been hosted there by St. Kevin's College which for twenty years has been a major sponsor of Edmund Rice activities in Kenya, Tanzania and Southern Sudan. Recently ten former students of St. Kevin's, University Students, on their own initiative and accompanied by two of their former (lay) teachers undertook ten days' immersion, working amongst poor people in Nairobi. In addition to a major fund raising occasion at St. Kevin's, Benjamin and Joash found time to visit most other Edmund Rice projects in Victoria, including those in Ballarat and Geelong.

It is the policy of the Brothers in Africa, wherever possible, to give our young men there the opportunity of visiting the Brothers and their ministries in those countries from which the expatriate Brothers come. In the case of our own part of the world, eight African Brothers have now visited communities and ministries in Oceania. Benjamin and Joash remarked that, being visitors in Melbourne during winter, they had now come to some better understanding of certain cultural celebrations there on freezing Saturday afternoons, and the impact these celebrations/contests had on Brothers like Peter Cole, Barry Callan and Tom Kearney, courtesy of Fox television. "It's seems a very violent game" they said.

Gerard Ellul asked the Brothers here in WA if we could offer some experience of Western Australia to the two visitors on the way home. He has since written to express his gratitude, especially to Joe Murphy, John Collier and Brian Clery of the Waterford Community, who were such great hosts. The Brothers arrived on Wednesday 4th August, and were guests of Clontarf Aboriginal College that afternoon, thanks to the good offices of Laurie Negus. They were very pleased to meet Brian and Tony there over afternoon tea.

Thursday Joash and Benjamin spent at Aquinas where they spoke to four classes, and then travelled to Trinity where they met with two more groups. On Friday, courtesy of the ever generous Richard Mavros, they spent the day at Wheelchairs for Kids, Edmund Rice Centre and Shopfront. Thanks so much to Richard and the Brothers there. On Friday night they first spoke and then had the evening meal with Aquinas boarders, who for five years have been huge contributors to Ruben Centre in Nairobi where both Brothers have worked.

It was clear that by Saturday the two young men were 'bushed', and needed a little breathing space. So the planned visits to other communities and to Catholic Agricultural College Bindoon had to be cancelled. On Sunday it was good to have lunch with a recently arrived Kenyan family whom they both knew, and eat some beautifully prepared Ugali. On Monday they back at work, speaking to the staff and boys at Fremantle, another school most generous to Edmund Rice African ministries. By Monday evening they were back on South African Airways for the long flight to Kenya via Johannesburg.

Joash and Benjamin have been members of the Congregation for about eight years and are typical of the quality of young African men joining the Congregation across Africa. They did not attend Edmund Rice Schools but got to know the Brothers through Parish Youth groups and the indefatigable journeys and correspondence of Peter Cole and other Brothers. After postulancy in Arusha with Tony Shanahan, Kevin Delaney and Amandi Mboya, they undertook the two years of Novitiate, Benjamin in South Africa and Joash in Ghana. After a further two years ministry they both enrolled in degree programs at Tangaza College CUEA, and are in their final years – Joash in Social Work and Benjamin in Secondary Education.

The two Brothers have clearly been well formed in the Religious Life, and are deeply committed to the Charism of Edmund Rice and his mission, not only in Africa but across the world. Their commitment to the Congregation is a huge blessing of our times. Observing these two fine young men speaking and relating more than competently to classes of Australian boys from Grade Four to Year Twelve was a hugely privileged experience. In every case the obvious interest the students showed, their willingness to ask questions and their general intelligence and courtesy was especially noteworthy. I was particularly interested in how often the boys asked the two Brothers why they had joined the Congregation and what the experience was like for them. So God bless Joash and Benjamin, all the Brothers and people working with them in so many and varied places, and especially our own Australian, New Zealand and other men there whose contribution, commitment and cheerfulness is just so extraordinary.

John Carrigg

RUBEN CENTRE & RUBEN CLINIC



Elissa Kennedy is a Medical Doctor from Monash University Hospital in Melbourne who regularly goes to Ruben to help the Nursing Sisters there.

In the last Cluster Chronicle No.5 we included a photo of the Ruben Medical Clinic with just five people standing around. John Carrigg has sent a couple of additional photos to give a more accurate indication to show just how busy, active and important it is to the people struggling in the Mukuru slum. Thanks John.



Injections at Ruben

FORMATION & SABBATICALS

Attached to this Newsletter is the current list of Brothers who have been successful with their applications for Sabbaticals in 2011. We wish George and John from Bindoon every blessing as they journey to Tantor in Israel for their period of Renewal.

The Province will soon be preparing its next Budget for Renewal/Sabbaticals so now is a good time to commence the planning process as suggested in the attachment.

The process for any Brother contemplating Renewal/Sabbatical for 2012 is as follows:

- A conversation with the Cluster Leader before August 2011 to discuss thoughts/plans.
- The completion of an Application Form (this will be available in early 2011) to be sent to Ted Magee well before August 2011.
- When the Application Form becomes available – early 2011:
 - The Application Form is obtained from the Cluster Leader
 - Course(s), Programmes are to be stated.
 - Brief reasons and resume of previous Renewal/Sabbatical to be stated.
 - Approximate costing to be indicated.
- The OLT normally meet to discuss applications in August (i.e 2011)
- Applicants will be informed of the OLT decisions soon after the August 2011 OLT meeting.

You will note that Renewal/Sabbatical is available to all brothers every ten years (approximately). However, the OLT may ask a brother to undertake Renewal/Sabbatical at any time.

EDMUND RICE CAMPS FOR KIDS WA ANNUAL FUNDRAISING BALL

In 2005 all Holy Spirit Province Christian Brothers ministries, schools and other Ministries were directed to become self-funded and non-reliant on financial support from the Province. Edmund Rice Camps for Kids WA (ERCKWA) under the guidance of its present CEO, Ashley Little has diligently pursued this PLT Directive. In 2011 ERCKWA will have a staff of five (5) persons, an increase of three since 2004. It will also run 16 Camps as compared to the normal annual number of 8. It's important to add that in 2011 ERCKWA will be self funded and sustainable into the future.

One fundraising event for ERCKWA is the Annual Ball. In 2009 the function, amazingly raised \$18,000. That result was matched and surpassed in 2010 when the ERCKWA Ball netted, more amazingly, \$26,000.



Left to Right: Kellie Pickford (Programs Officer), Pat Kelly (Cluster Leader), Karen Armenti (Admin Assistant), Carly Mercadante (Client Liaison Officer)

Photographers: Seanna Dempsey (Development Officer),
Ami Walker (Volunteers Coordinator).

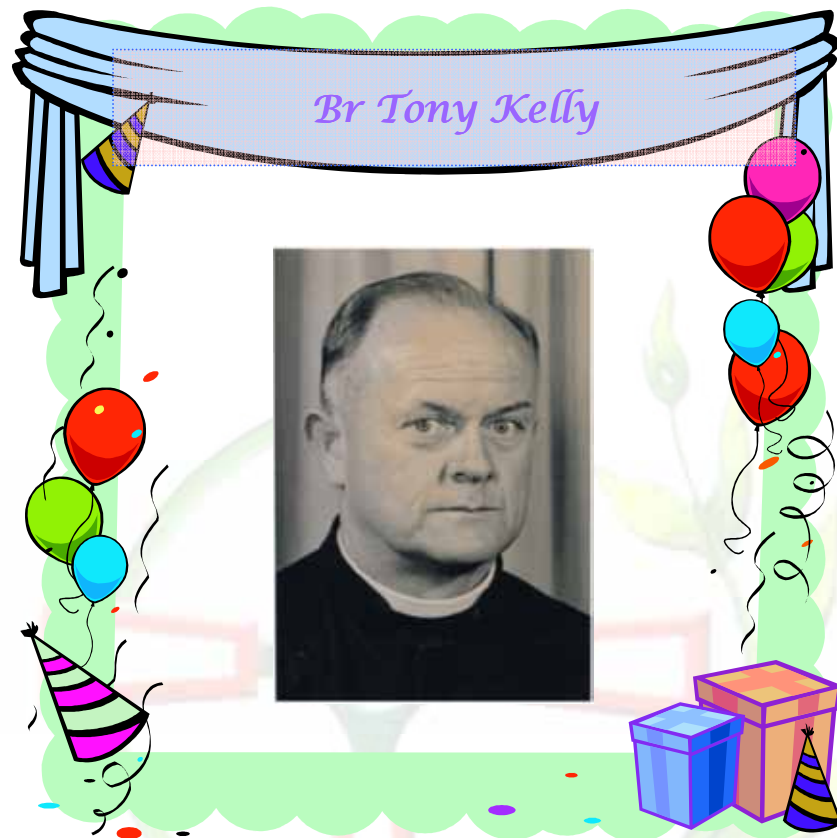
It was a pleasure to pay the necessary fee to attend and join other Westcourt staff at the Duxton on Saturday 28th August for the event brilliantly organised by Events Co-ordinator Jessica Snooks.

FAREWELL & BEST WISHES TO KEV RYAN

For the past four and a half months we have been privileged to have in our WA Cluster Kevin Ryan, loved and respected by all of us for all he did for Holy Spirit Province as Province Leader, Deputy Province Leader and before that Principal and Teacher. Sadly Kevin's time here has been restful but not a holiday because it entailed chemotherapy and other medical treatment. The positive element is that the chemotherapy has been successful and Kevin now feels confident that he is medically and physically fit to return to where his heart is; Papua New Guinea, Wewak and Callan Services. We wish Kevin every blessing as he returns and we will keep him, his work and his health in our prayers and look forward to his next visit to us, hopefully in better circumstances.



Thanks to Olly and the Wembley Community for marking the occasion of Kev's departure with a Cluster BBQ on the evening of Saturday 11th September. Kev leaves on Monday 13th September.



Tony Kelly will turn 90 on the 22nd September and Rob Callen and Warwick Bryant have invited the Brothers to a Mass and celebration at St Thomas More College on Sunday 19th September. If you are planning on attending and have not already sent an RSVP, please do so ASAP to – Br Rob Callen at rector@stmc.uwa.edu.au or 9386 0111.

Pen Pictures – What Brothers are doing

Bob Wallace and Neville Thornton have suggested that there be a regular feature in the Brothers Oceania Newsletter. The suggested topic would be "What Brothers are doing" and would consist of between 100 and 200 words and if possible, accompanied by a photo. I can think of 39 possible articles from the WA Cluster. Feel free to write about yourself or check out with others if you'd like to write about someone else. Submit the article to nthornton@edmundrice.org or in hard copy to Neville Thornton, Oceania Publications Co-ordinator, PO Box 596, Virginia BC Queensland 4014.

Calendar

11th September	CAC Bindoon Open Day	Bindoon 10.00am – 3.00pm
11th September	Farewell & Good Wishes – Kevin Ryan RSVP Olly Pickett or Bill Finegan	Wembley 5.30pm
19th September	Celebrating Tony Kelly's 90th Birthday (Remember to RSVP Rob Callen 9386 0111 or rector@stmc.uwa.edu.au)	St Thomas More College
25th September	Catholic Religious WA. Social Gathering (Remember to RSVP Sr Philomena Burrell on 9422 7919 or fax: 9328 2833 crwasec@highgate.perthcatholic.org.au)	New Norcia 10.00am – 3.00pm
13th – 17th October	Retreat Emerging Religious Life – The New Story	Mulgoa - NSW
17th October	Canonisation of Mary MacKillop Celebration	St Mary's Cathedral Perth 11.00am
27th – 29th October	Forum (2) - Brisbane	
31st October – 5th November	Gathering – Over 71 year olds (2) "Shepherding The Decades"	Kincumber, NSW
7th November - 10th November	IST (International Spirituality Team) Visit Perth	Staying at Westcourt
5th – 11th November	Retreat Creation Spirituality Retreat	St John of God Retreat Centre, Shoalwater WA
11th December	Jubilee Mass & Celebratory Meal	Aquinas College
23rd December	Westcourt Office Closes at 12.00pm and re-opens on 5th January 2011	

Please notify Karen on 9365 2859 if you would like to register an upcoming event in the Calendar Section of the Cluster Chronicle.

Contributing to the Cluster Chronicle

Please feel free to send in articles and photos for the Cluster Chronicle. Longer articles may go out as attachments when the Chronicle is emailed.



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