

AGM Report (abridged) by Di Colborne and Mary Hemmings

<u>Mission Statement</u> of the Josephite Associates

As Josephite Associates we respond to the call to live the charism of MARY MACKILLOP in our daily lives in our own unique way.

We support one another by FRIENDSHIP, PRAYER and SERVICE to make a difference in our local area and so further the Reign of God in our world.

Our Associates' 2011 Annual General Meeting provides us with time to reflect on how we might have lived out this mission in the past twelve months.

2010 was marked by the great occasion of **Mary MacKillop's Canonisation**. This event touched people in different ways as our first Australian saint was formally recognised by the Universal Church.

Two travellers, Paul Murphy and Amanda Taverna who went to Rome, shared their experiences at our first gathering for the year, our **"Friendship Afternoon**".

The theme for 2011 was "**Go On...**" This came from the words spoken by Mary MacKillop at her death bed where she gave those who had been inspired by her the directive to continue her work.

We have gathered for prayer and reflection twice: our **Advent Prayer Day**, led by Lucia Ciocca and Val De Brenni and our **Lenten Prayer Day**, led by Sr Eileen Taylor rsj.

Our **Musical Evening** in December provided entertainment, reflection and gift giving.

In March, three from our Leadership team went to **Jamestown**. Paul's input on the Canonisation, a discussion about future possibilities and a Missioning Liturgy made the day.

The production of a new **Associates' brochure** now provides people seeking information about the Associates in SA with updated and valuable information.

As part of our **Service** theme, over \$600 was donated to the **Josephites in Peru** from raffles last year. This year our focus is **Ain Karim** where we gathered for our AGM. *Funds raised will support this much needed ministry.*

Our **newsletter** remains our key means of communication. Items reflect the myriad of people who are drawn to the charism. We also provide a prayer focus in each newsletter.

As we look to our **future** we have several exciting plans in place. Our continuing focus on *Prayer* will lead us to the **Jesuit Retreat Centre at Sevenhill** for a day of reflection.

On 6th August we will have a **gathering of Sisters and Associates** to celebrate Mary MacKillop's first "official" Feast Day.

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Also in August three from our Leadership Team will participate in a **national gathering of Associates in Sydney**. Some of our Team will travel to **Murray Bridge** for their Associates' celebration of 100 years of their Parish Church. We hope to continue strengthening our ties with our country Associates in the year ahead.

An Afternoon at Ain Karim by Kayleen Nutchey

On a wet Saturday in July about 24 of us met at Ain Karim for the Josephite Associates AGM. We were warmly welcomed by Srs Chris Schwerdt and Loreto O'Connor rsj.

For those of us not really familiar with the circumstances surrounding the beginnings of Ain Karim back in 1984, Srs Chris and Loreto were able to fill us in with the details. Sr Genevieve Secker rsj (from Cummins) had a dream to provide housing for people with disabilities where they could be taught the skills and attitudes necessary for independent community living. After many years of hard work and lots of prayers Ain Karim was opened.

It is run along the lines of the L'Arche communities set up in France by Jean Vanier in 1964. Ain Karim was named for the small town not far from Jerusalem where our Lady visited her cousin Elizabeth, staying with her for 3 months until the birth of her son John. Our Lady brought with her love, peace, compassion and serenity; these qualities permeated the homes we visited in our walk through the surrounding streets.

We were privileged to meet a number of residents who are living there in community and who eagerly showed us around their homes while sharing some of their life stories. Special thanks to all the residents and may God continue to bless you all.

The AGM was held with reports from the cochairpersons and treasurer. A successful raffle was held with all proceeds from raffles this year going to help support the work of Ain Karim.

The gathering concluded with afternoon tea provided by the Committee and then a short meditation before heading off.

In the words of Mary MacKillop, 'God loves us all.' 1906

We are very grateful to **Maris Kavanagh and Val De Brenni**, who have decided to step down, for their commitment on our Leadership team over the last few years.

We look forward to the future as we continue to plan events that will enhance the life of our Associates and help to keep alive Mary MacKillop's story and spirit.







On Saturday, 22nd October the **Jesuit Retreat Centre at Sevenhill** has been booked. This will provide a delightful venue in which to gather and find spiritual nourishment.

"The grounds, shrines, Stations of the Cross, walking paths and surrounding vineyards create an environment conducive to encountering God in a restful and peaceful rural setting." [website]

Val De Brenni and Lucia Ciocca will lead the Retreat. We hope that many of our Associates from the city and Mid North (and beyond) may be able to join us.

From Adelaide we are happy to co-ordinate people sharing cars to get to Clare. From other centres you may also like to arrange shared transport.

As this event is being formally catered we need **definite numbers by 10th October**. The cost for the day will be \$20 per person and payment may be made on the day.

To book your place and for further information please email us on <u>sa.associates@sosj.org.au</u> or telephone Mary Hemmings on 8355 5365 or complete and return the tear-off slip below. We ask for this to be done by **10th October at the latest**. We will follow up with further details with those who let us know of your intention to attend.



Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the period 1st July 2010 to 30th June 2011

1st July 2010 Opening Balance

\$4512-77

Plus Income			
Subscriptions for period 1 st July 2009 to 30 th June 2010			
""" 1 st July 2010 to 30 th June 2011			
" " " 1 st July 2011 to 30 th June 2012		525-00	
Donations	\$	140-00	
Josephite Associates Peru Raffle	\$ \$	100-00	
Mary MacKillop Mission	\$	225-00	
Friendship Afternoon Ain Karim	\$	140-00	
Bank Interest	\$	39-36	
Total Income for the Period			\$2499-36
Total Income Available			\$7012-13
Less Expenditure			
Newsletter	\$	928-84	
Printing Promotional Brochure		591-95	
Presentations to Speakers	\$	161-00	
Donation Beatification Expenses	\$	500-00	
Donation Mary MacKillop International Mission	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	608-00	
Deposit Prayer Day Jesuit Retreat House	\$	100-00	
Afternoon Tea Friendship Afternoon	\$	46-70	
Executive Expenses	\$	50-00	
Postage	\$	210-00	
Office Expenses	\$	19-00	
Total Expenditure for Period Funds Available at 30 th June 2011			\$3215-49 \$3796-64
Represented by Funds in Bank SA			\$3796-64

Gerald Hinton Treasurer 23rd July 2011

Subscriptions for 2011 – 2012

You can still pay for your membership for <u>this financial year</u> (2011 - 2012). Please complete the form from our Winter newsletter and post, together with your payment of \$15 which may be made by cash or cheque, to our Treasurer, Gerald Hinton, 25 Chapel St, Campbelltown, 5074. Alternatively, you can see anyone from the Committee who will be more than happy to pass it on.

Our Associate Country Contacts

Jamestown (P Sandretti)Margaret Williams 8664 1739 and
Colleen Stewart 8662 4185Murray Bridge (J Langman)Maureen Howard 8532 1520Port Lincoln (D Colborne)Julie Palmer 8682 3655 (at St Joseph's School)WDL a c c c m and mark markMark and the c the c the collection of the collection

"Please put me on the List"

Would you like to receive this Associate Newsletter by email? It can be done very easily. You would be able to see the photographs in colour and it would also be environmentally friendly. Should you choose to be included on this secure list please telephone Mary Hemmings on 8355 5365 or email us at <u>sa.associates@sosj.org.au</u>

First Feast Day Celebrations by Carla Mastrangelo



A cool yet sunny day greeted us as we were guided to the Chapel for a liturgy in honour of Mary MacKillop to celebrate her first feast day as a saint. It was a thoughtful gathering as we reflected on St Mary of the Cross through scripture readings, prayers and blessings.

The barbeque followed and was very well attended with over 70 Associates and Sisters coming together in Bethany Hall.

There was definitely a positive feel about it all as I watched people re-connect, heard much chatter and laughter while at the same time enjoying a delicious meal.

The trading table and raffle were well patronised and Sr Majella O'Sullivan rsj conducted the drawing of the raffle in her usual enthusiastic way. Lots of prizes were donated and distributed with all funds raised going to help support the work of Ain Karim.

On behalf of the Leadership team, thank you to all who contributed to the day and made it such a note-worthy occasion.





Other News

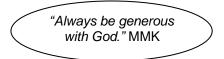
RIP Josephites

We remember with love and gratitude: Sr Veronica Daniels who entered eternal life on 7th July, 2011

Changes to the Leadership Team

Farewell to Val de Brenni and Maris Kavanagh who have retired from the Leadership Team. We thank Val and Maris for their support and contribution while serving on the Team and wish them well in their future endeavours.

Also, welcome to two new members onto the Leadership Team: Bridgette Barrett and Anne Slattery. We look forward to their input and ideas.



News from the Mary MacKillop Centre

Compiled by Sr Patricia Keane rsj

Weekend St Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage to Penola and the South East 16 – 18 March 2012

Travelling in a comfortable coach, we will leave the MMK Centre on Friday morning and return late Sunday afternoon visiting Robe, Mount Gambier, Port MacDonnell, Portland, Hamilton and Penola in our 3 day journey.

Accommodation is in a very comfortable motel in Mt Gambier.

Cost: \$450 pp twin share or \$520 pp single. \$50 deposit required when booking.

This cost will include:

- Transport and Accommodation (2 nights)
- Meals: Breakfast (2 mornings), Morning tea (2 days), Lunch (2 days), Dinner (2 nights)
- Entry & town tour at Penola
- Pilgrimage book and carry bag

Cost does not include:

• Friday lunch, drinks at dinner, afternoon tea each day and incidental expenses.

To find out more please contact the MMK Centre on 8364 5311 or visit the Centre.

Book early to avoid disappointment. Places are filling fast! Reservations close 1st February 2012 or when maximum number of 40 is reached.

Mary MacKillop Rose

The St Mary MacKillop roses have arrived here at the Centre and are now available for purchase. \$15 each. Don't miss out this year.

2012 Josephite Calendar

The cost is now \$6.50 each plus postage. To place an order please telephone the Centre on 8364 5311 or to purchase visit us at 19 Phillips Street, Kensington.

New Book Available

Mary MacKillop's Adelaide – A Self Guided Walk is now available for \$7.00. Spend an informative and enjoyable time finding out about the Josephite beginnings strolling along the streets of Adelaide city. No need to do it all in one walk as it can be done in stages.

Mary MacKillop Place

Located in **Sydney** where Mary MacKillop is buried it is a spiritual centre for pilgrims. The grounds include a Museum, the Chapel and a Café/Gift Shop.

Different spirituality and museum programmes run throughout the year including school holidays.

At the moment (until 30th September) an Exhibition entitled *The Original Portraits of "St Mary MacKillop"* is on show.

Contact details for the MMK Place are:

- 7 11 Mount St, North Sydney, NSW 2060
- PO Box 1081, North Sydney, NSW 2059
- t: (02) 8912 4878 and f: (02) 8912 4835
- <u>www.marymackillopplace.org.au</u>







From 7pm Bethany Hall, Province Centre 4 High St, Kensington

Associates, families and friends are invited to an evening's entertainment. This is an opportunity to socialise with others in an informal setting in an informal way. Sr Majella O'Sullivan rsj will lead us and have us singing and laughing.

Please bring a plate of supper to share as well as one inexpensive Christmas tree decoration per person.

So, come along. Bring a friend! Wear your favourite Christmas colours.

Please contact Mary Hemmings with numbers and if you need transport. The telephone number is 8355 5365 or email us at <u>sa.associates@sosj.org.au</u>

Diary Dates for 2011 UPDATED

③ St Mary MacKillop's Monthly Mass and Reflection

Date:8th of each month (except Sundays)Time:10.30am (Mass) and 5.45pm (Reflection)Place:Kensington Chapel, 286 Portrush Rd, Kensington

Day of Reflection

Date: Saturday, 22nd October Place: Retreat Centre, Sevenhill For more details please refer to page 3.

Musical Evening

Date: Friday, 9th December Place: Bethany Hall, Kensington For more details please refer above.

Prayer Requests

Do you know of any Associates who have died or are ill and in need of our prayers? We could advise Associates of your need for prayers at our gatherings, as well as offering prayers at the monthly Masses on the 8th.

If you would appreciate assistance in this way, please feel free to telephone Mary Hemmings on 8355 5365 or let one of the Committee members know.

Postage Stamps

Used postage stamps provide some extra income for the Peruvian mission. If you would like to collect used stamps, please leave a sizeable border of paper, eg 1cm around the stamps. Stamps can be sent to the Province Centre or posted to PO Box 57, Kent Town SA, 5071.

"Entreat God to make us all that we should be." MMK

MEETING PRAYER & REFLECTION

We continue with the series of reflections from Sr Monica Cavanagh rsj "Praying from the Heart – A Reflection with Mary MacKillop for each day of the week" for Associates to use at Associate gatherings or to use for personal prayer. We will present this starting point for meetings and hope this format may be useful.



MARY MACKILLOP

A WOMAN WITH A HEART FULL OF TRUST

Gathering

Leader: We welcome one another as Associates and friends of Mary MacKillop.

From the Pen of Mary MacKillop

Leader: Mary's legacy is her profound faith and trust in a provident God. She writes in 1883: *"When I could not see my way God kept my heart full of trust to make all come right."* Let us take some time to think about these words.

What does Mary mean? What were some of her troubles? How did she cope with these? What are the worries in my life? How do I cope with these situations? Do I make time for prayer? *(Some quiet time to reflect)*

Scripture

Leader: We listen to God's Word. A reading from John 14:1 *Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God and believe also in me.* (Silence to ponder God's Word)

Reflection

Leader: Mary MacKillop was a woman who had great trust in God, believing that God would provide whatever was needed in all aspects of her life, be it food for the orphanages, money for the building of the convent, strength to face opposition and false accusation or a way through a difficult situation. She often reminded her Sisters that *'God's work does not depend on any of us.'* She had a wonderful confidence in God.

Story from the Life of Mary MacKillop

Leader: During her travels in Europe while awaiting the approval of the Rule, Fr Anderledy suggested that Mary go to London. On the way she travelled by train. At Verona she was seeking a place to sit. *"My dear Angel must have guided me for our good God found me a friend. In some way I happened to drop my rosary, and before I could stop to pick it up this person had done so. I was delighted when I discovered that he spoke English. When we arrived at the next station he carried my luggage to the Customs office and they let me pass politely."*

Pause for Reflection

Leader: What keeps my heart full of trust when I am facing difficult situations?

Prayer

Leader: We gather our reflections and stories, and place these before our God. Let us pray together:

ALL: Provident God, you provide for us in so many unexpected ways. May we, like Mary MacKillop, place our trust in you when we face difficult situations. Amen. St Mary of the Cross, trusting God's loving care, pray for us.

Action

Leader: Let us think about what action we could take from our discussions and reflections today. For example, place into God's hands something that is troubling you at this time. *(We share our ideas)*

News

Take some time to discuss the Newsletter items and any group projects.

