



Spring 2017

September 2017 Newsletter

2016 – 2017 Annual Report

by Julie Langman

Our year began in the midst of the celebrations of the sesquicentenary of the Josephite story. Associates, Sisters and the wider Josephite community gathered on Monday 8th August 2016 in St Joseph's Chapel at Kensington to celebrate the feast day of a great woman and continue the celebration of 150 years of what sprang from the humble beginnings of Mary MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods.

As part of the sesquicentenary celebrations Sr Mary Cresp shared her reflections on Fr Julian through her presentation of the Julian Art Fest. The Associate Leadership Team asked Sr Mary whether she would repeat her presentation following the Mass at Kensington on Saturday 8th October 2016. The display of original art works by some of the Sisters was absolutely beautiful. These pieces of art were woven most brilliantly into the most comprehensive and interesting story of Fr Julian that I have ever been privileged to hear.

In October 2016 Bridgette Barrett and Lucia Ciocca were asked by the Sisters to write an article for their website on *The Year of Mercy*. What resulted was superb. It was published online and in our Associate newsletter. Also in October, following the 8th of the month Mass, on behalf of all Associates, we presented a cheque for \$1,000 to Sr Pat Sealey to assist her Refugee Support Programme. (Sr Pat's programme was our fundraising focus for the 2015/16 financial year.)

How does the legacy of Mary MacKillop live on in Peru? Mary Hemmings travelled to Peru to experience this and attend the first ever Josephite Associate Congress in Lima. Mary met with Associates in areas where the Sisters live and work, delivering the yarn which Associates had donated. She also met with Associates where the story has been spread by fellow Associates. On Mary's return she shared her reflections and insights into the life of Associates in Peru at a session which she presented at Kensington on 5th November 2016.

Srs Helen and Kateri Duke very successfully presented prayer days in regional centres in South Australia in mid 2016. These days were well attended, thought provoking and enjoyable. Srs Helen and Kateri presented an additional prayer day on Sunday 19th February 2017 in the Josephite House at Largs Bay. The theme was *Earth, Air and Water*. We explored our connection with these elements, past and present, and interwove science and prayer. It was a prayer day like no other, and aspects of the day continue to enter our daily thoughts.

During the season of Lent, on 25th March 2017, Lucia Ciocca led us as we prayed the Stations of the Cross at Kensington. For those of us who attended there was time for personal reflection and conversation as well as a light afternoon tea.

*'God give me strength
for what is necessary.'*
MMK 1877

Happy Birthday Associates

On Saturday 8th July, 2017 following the well-established 8th of the Month Mass in St Joseph's Chapel held in honour of Mary MacKillop, Associates, Sisters and friends gathered in Bethany for a special morning tea.



At the gathering we acknowledged 30 years of the Josephite Associate journey in SA with presentations by a number of people as well as the traditional 'cutting of the cake'. Many Sisters and Associates have been instrumental in the ongoing development of the Associate movement and below is one of these stories. This is part of what Mary O'Donnell wrote for us:

I have been associated with the Sisters of St Joseph all my life. All my schooling was with the Sisters and at 17 I entered the Order. There I had two and a half very happy years as a Postulant at Kensington and then as a Novice at Baulkham Hills.

After I left the Order and came home there was a time when I felt the Sisters did not want to know me, as though I had been cast aside. So imagine the sheer joy I felt when in the 1980's the invitation came to come to Kensington to learn about forming the Associates! I was made to feel so very welcome and realised that I had missed that *connectedness* that I had had with the Order. To this day the word I always use when thinking about the Associates is *connect*. We are connected in so many ways.

Sr Melita Howley was our first Co-ordinator. Some of the people in that first group included Pam Hemmings and Mary Carey. Mary and I compiled the first data base of names and addresses of Associates.

Most of our meetings were held at Kensington in the old Bethany, where we would gather in prayer and hospitality. We devised the first Mission Statement and the purpose of the Associates. We held ceremonies in the Chapel for enrolling new Associates which were always followed by afternoon tea and a raffle which Monica McCormack usually organised. Most of the money we raised was for the Congregation in Peru. We had a lovely afternoon with Sr Ursula Hoile when she returned from Peru telling us all about the Peruvian Associates.

The highlight of each year was the Associates' Retreat at Aldgate. Our retreats were led by some wonderful people and always enjoyable with Sr Eileen Taylor leading many in prayer.

Besides meeting at Kensington, Thebarton and Aldgate we also had some lovely picnics in the grounds of the Convent at Largs Bay. We had a wonderful pilgrimage to Penola with Sr Pat Keane where we were well looked after by Clare Larkin and her wonderful band of helpers in Penola.

Our next Co-ordinator was Sr Mary MacNamara who helped us to grow stronger. In Mary's time we formed a Leadership Team and became far more involved with the Associates in other States. We also began to visit our country Associates – the Jamestown group, led by Sr Eunice Barry and the Renmark Group, led by Sr Maria Hennikan

It is a delight to see the direction in which our Leadership Team is leading us which means there is a great future for the Associate movement. There are also groups of Associates meeting in Parishes for prayer, discussions and companionship. I love meeting once a month with Srs Majella O'Sullivan and Teresa Cooper and the Hectorville Associates. This is a wonderful group who are helping me to do something I have never done before, that is, to question, as it is in the questioning that my faith is growing stronger.

God bless our Leadership Team. It is doing a fine job in leading us forward into the future and I am sure that Sr Melita would be looking down and smiling at the direction the Associates have taken since our small and tentative beginnings.

There are so many things that I have forgotten over the years but hopefully this will give you an idea of where and how the Associates came about. I would also like to thank the Sisters of St Joseph who have been, and still are, an important part of my life.



Christmas Carols

Friday, 8th December 2017

Bethany Centre

4 High St

Kensington

6.30pm

Hosted by Sr Majella O'Sullivan

Come along, bring a friend and enjoy an evening of *friendship, prayer and service*

Following Sr Catherine Clark's Reflection in St Joseph's Chapel at 5.45pm come next door to the Bethany Centre where our evening gathering will be held.

Be entertained by Sr Majella as we explore some of the traditional ways to prepare for the Christmas season.

This year we are asking participants to bring items of female toiletry which will be collected, packaged into bundles and distributed to women in need in our community through local charities.

*There will also be a raffle and a light meal will be served.
So, come and enjoy while helping people in need this Christmas season.*



Weekend in Penola

Unfortunately we were not able to meet our minimum quota so this event has been cancelled for this year. Thank you to all those who expressed an interest. We will try again at a different time.

Associate Newsletter

This newsletter is also available on the internet. Check out the web address:

http://www.sosj.org.au/being-involved/list_newsletters.cfm?filter=NLSAA&loadref=544

There you will also find the newsletters of other regions. This is part of the Sisters of St Joseph website where you will find many articles of interest.

Recycle your Newsletter

When you have finished with the newsletter, a good recycling idea is to pass it round for others to read.

RIP Josephite

We remember with love and gratitude:

Sr Mary Reardon who entered eternal life on 15th September 2017.

Sr Mary was in the 88th year of her age and in the 66th year of her religious life.



Mass, Cuppa & Talk at Murray Bridge

by Yvonne Slattery

The Murray Bridge Josephite Associates were privileged to have Mary Hemmings, Julie Langman and Carla Mastrangelo come to join us at Mass on Sunday 20th August, 2017. We had a special morning tea with parishioners, then after our cuppa, Mary gave us a very informative and interesting talk of her trip to Peru.

Mary's photos were a great way for us to see how other people live their lives. The photos showed us people with much less in worldly goods than we have here in Australia, yet they looked so happy and blessed in their faith and hope for the future; so many helping each other to obtain better outcomes, particularly for their children. It made those of us listening feel

guilty about complaining when life isn't just as we would like.

Thank you Mary, Julie and Carla. We are very grateful for the effort you put in to visit us in the Bridge.



@ MCC by Sr Catherine Mead and Marianne Shaw

During Term 4 2016 students in The Mary MacKillop Team (TMMT) at Mount Carmel College (MCC) took the action of collecting donations of toiletries and beauty products from within the school community.

These goods were then organised into gift bags for Christmas which were offered to the Hutt St Centre for distribution to those who use their facilities. TMMT planned and advertised their action by *seeing a need and doing something about it*.

In addition, TMMT organised a collection of food items amongst the students and staff. These were put into Christmas hampers for the St Vincent de Paul Society to distribute to local families.

TMMT @ MCC is proud of its simple yet

effective effort to encourage the school community to be thinking and acting for others during the Christmas season. Students in TMMT reflected on their action and recognised that small actions taken by a few committed people can make a big difference in the lives of others.

At the start of 2017, TMMT continued its work for others by supporting students across the school to raise money during Lent for Project Compassion.

As part of the Lenten journey students and staff were invited to reflect on the positive aspects of their own lives and how these can be used in the service of others. Members of the MCC community were inspired to collect \$1,300 to support other communities around the world.

***“Never see a need without
doing something about it.”***

MMK

from pg 1

Thirty six Josephite Associate leaders throughout Australia and New Zealand gathered at Baulkham Hills, northwest of Sydney, over the weekend of 7th – 9th April 2017 to explore the theme *The Future is One we are Creating*. Our Leadership Team from Adelaide and Yvonne Slattery from Murray Bridge were the SA representatives. Srs Katrina Brill and Christina Neunzerling were the facilitators. We explored practical ways for the Associate movement to move forward by looking at our core values of friendship, prayer and service and how they may be experienced differently. We were spiritually nurtured and energised throughout the weekend.

Back by popular demand we re-visited the Mitcham Cemetery on Saturday 20th May 2017. The Josephite Cemetery at Mitcham is the place where most of the SA Sisters have been laid to rest. Sr Catherine Clark has a passion for history, and using the theme, *Listen, Walk, Talk, Write*, she spoke about the history of the area, why the cemetery is located where it is and the first burial that took place in 1881. Prayers, hymns and time to walk amongst the graves were followed by a raffle and afternoon tea.

Sharing in the Hospitality of Josephite Associates in Western Australia

By Mary Hemmings

In July this year I had the privilege to spend time with some of the Associates in WA.

My first port of call was to meet with the Leadership Team in Perth. This enabled me to gain some insights into the history of these faithful Associates who have worked with their fellow Associates over many years. The challenge facing them, and indeed most of our groups, is how to 'grow', to bring others into this great story of Mary MacKillop and those who have followed in her footsteps.

From Perth I travelled south to Pinjarra. Here the Josephites have lived and worked for many years, and while presently there isn't an Associate group there I was invited to share with parishioners a little about the Associates. This was an opportunity for them to think about whether they would like to continue to gather

In the past months the Associate story from Peru has been taken to regional SA by Mary Hemmings. So far the Leadership Team has visited Penola and Murray Bridge. In 2018 we hope to visit more regional centres. This story inspires us to live in the spirit of compassion, humility and kindness and bring God's love to those we meet in our daily lives through our sharing of friendship, prayer and service.

Our fundraising focus, for the year just ended was Peru. Funds raised will be presented to Sr Katrina van Ruth when she comes home from Peru for a visit in December this year. The fundraising focus for 2017/18 is the Mary MacKillop Museum, Adelaide. Whilst Mary MacKillop is a figure of national significance, Mary has a particular historical relevance to South Australians. The new Museum will ensure the South Australian story and its humble beginnings are portrayed in a unique and engaging experience. Plans are in place for the launch of the Museum in the new year.

It is with pleasure that I write this report on behalf of the Leadership Team. We meet once a month in friendship, prayer and service to our Associate members.

further as people touched by the spirit of Mary MacKillop.

Dardanup, near Bunbury, was my next destination. Here I had the opportunity to share a little about the story of the Josephite Sisters and Associates in Peru. While in Peru I was very blessed to meet up with men and woman who have accompanied the Sisters for the last 35 years.

With each group I was able to speak a little about **IJALT**, our **I**nternational **J**osephite **A**ssociate **L**eadership **T**eam, which formed several years ago to support and connect our Associates across Australia, New Zealand, Peru and Timor Leste. My travels into a few places in WA was one way of trying to do this and I am very grateful for the wonderful hospitality that I experienced over this time.

Josephite Associates SA

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the period 1st July 2016 to 30th June 2017

INCOME:		
Opening Balance 1/7/2016		2,919.86
Subscriptions	1,245.00	
Fundraising/Donations	1,281.00	
Largs Bay lunch takings	105.00	
Bank Interest	3.02	
TOTAL INCOME	2,634.02	5,553.88
EXPENDITURE:		
Publishing costs – stamps/envelopes	1,049.23	
Prayer Session costs – lunch/presentation fees	441.00	
Donation to SOSJ	200.00	
Donation to Peru	350.00	
Donation to Sr Pat Sealey’s Refugee Programme	1,000.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	3,040.23	3,040.23
TOTAL INCOME <u>LESS</u> EXPENDITURE		2,513.65
CLOSING BALANCE – Statement dated 30/6/17		2,513.65

Julie Langman, Treasurer 20/7/2017

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Associate Subscriptions for 2017 – 2018

The Leadership Team sincerely thanks you for paying your subscription, which enables us to remain in contact with you. To make it easier for you to pay your subs, our banking details are included to enable a direct payment over the internet, or to make a payment at a BankSA Branch.

BankSA BSB Number: 105-087
 Account Number: 039066240
 Account Name: RSJ Associates SA

Your payment primarily covers postage, presentation fees & donations to Josephite ministries.

Payment Amount: \$20.00 \$15.00 (unwaged/concession)
 Payment Method: Cheque Cash BankSA deposit or internet transfer

Title: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Would you like your newsletter sent via email? Yes No

Telephone: Home _____ Mobile: _____

Please post this form to: Julie Langman, 16 Greenwood Cres, Glenalta 5052
 (Especially if you are paying by Bank transfer/deposit as you may not be able to include all your details)

Other News

- **St Joseph's Old Scholars Association**

An Old Scholar is anyone (male or female) who has ever been connected to a Josephite school or college in Australia as a student or teacher. Join us for our final event this year:

October Luncheon

Wednesday 4th October, 2017 at 11.45am
Alberton Hotel, 124 Port Rd, Alberton
Bookings with Josie (8295 3667) or Chris (8263 1948)
RSVP by Friday 29th September

- **Mary MacKillop Old Scholars Association**

The Association continues the friendships and encourages the building of life-long networks amongst past students and staff after high school. Come along to our reunion:

Annual Reunion

Friday 27th October, 2017 at 6.30pm
Enquiries: Trish – 8342 0785
Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/285613>

- **Mary MacKillop Centre**

1. *Fundraising Garden Party in support of the MMK Museum Redevelopment Project*

Sunday 29th October, 2017 from 2.00pm – 5.00pm
St Joseph's Convent Gardens, 286 Portrush Rd, Kensington
Adults \$25 and Children \$10
Bookings and enquiries: 8130 5916

2. *2018 Josephite Calendar*

Available now at \$7 each + postage & packaging
Order online: marymackillopadelaide.org.au
Enquiries: 8130 5916

3. *Monthly Mass & Reflection in St Joseph's Chapel*

Sunday 8th October – no Mass. Reflection (5.45pm)
Wednesday 8th November – Mass (10.30am) & Reflection (5.45pm)
Friday 8th December – Mass (10.30am) & Reflection (5.45pm)

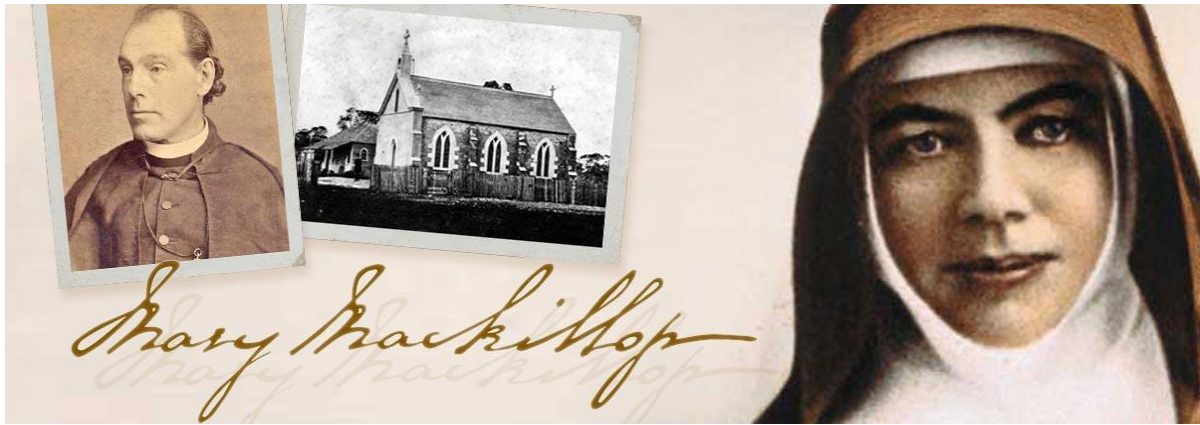
- **QuizTrivia Night**

Saturday 7th October, 2017 from 7.00pm – 9.30pm
St Therese's School Hall, 28 Strathmore Terrace, Brighton
\$10 pp. BYO food & drinks. Coffee & tea are provided
Tables of 8 (maximum)
Bookings: susan.pollard@sosj.org.au
RSVP by Friday 29th September
Hosted by Robyn and Peter Mercer

Help raise funds for a free school in Siem Reap, Cambodia, for children whose families can't afford formal education. Srs Mary Cresp and Susan Pollard will be joining a group (hosted by Andrew Costello – Cows for Cambodia) and will play a part in building the school, leaving Adelaide on Saturday, 2nd December.

Hear Ye!
Hear Ye!





A Woman With A Compassionate Heart

From the Pen of Mary MacKillop

God's love is too deep for words to express. 1870

Scripture

Moved with pity Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. Mark 1:41

Reflection

Mary MacKillop had a heart big enough to enclose the troubles of all those who sought her assistance. No-one was excluded. She knew how to stand in the shoes of another. Sr Annette recalls: "She had the greatest compassion and love for the poor girls and the poor orphans." There was no wound that she did not reach out to. It was in the environment of her home life that the seeds of compassion were sown. Mary wrote to Monsignor Kirby: "My home when I had one was a most unhappy one."

Story from the life of Mary MacKillop

Mary MacKillop loved to visit the orphanage at Kincumber. This sometimes meant that she travelled by boat in stormy weather. On one occasion she travelled to Kincumber in a boat through a violent storm because a young orphan boy had requested her presence as he lay dying. Mary stayed with him until he died and then led the funeral service because no priest was available.

Pause for Reflection

Take a moment to recall a person who has shown you the compassionate face of God. Give thanks for this person.

Prayer

Compassionate God, fill our hearts with love deep enough to walk in the shoes of those who have known hardship in their lives. Like Mary MacKillop, may we reach out to those who are struggling in our community. St Mary of the Cross, serving with compassion, pray for us.

Action

Take time today to extend the hand of friendship to someone who is sick or experiencing loss in their lives or who is a newcomer to our country.

***"May God bless and strengthen you.
Confide all to God.
See how God carries us through the storms."
MMK 1872***