

# WESTERN LINK

NEWSLETTER OF THE CATENIAN ASSOCIATION

PROVINCE 20 WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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NAME



*Top: 2 October 2019*

## Swan Valley's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



*Right: 22 October 1994*

A large gathering of Catenian brothers, wives and guests enjoyed a lavish dinner at The Abbey Restaurant in Henley Brook on Wednesday 2 October 2019 to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Swan Valley Circle.

The circle was inaugurated on 22 October 1994, officiated by Grand President, Phillip Barnes who was visiting Perth with a touring party of Catenian brothers and wives from the United Kingdom. A number of Founder brothers installed on that occasion and still active members of the circle are pictured above after being presented with their 25-year certificates at the dinner.

The inaugural President of Swan Valley Circle, Jim Schelfhout again holds this position in 2019/20 and was presented with a certificate commemorating the occasion by the Australian Central Council Vice President, Ralph Fitzpatrick.

The after dinner speaker for the evening was Stephen Williamson who played a part in the formation of Swan Valley Circle leading up to the inauguration and was the circle's inaugural Vice President. Stephen gave an interesting account of those early days when the idea of forming a new circle was generated by Dianella Circle and a Group was formed. He also talked about some of the highlights that have occurred over the 25 years since inauguration.

Another Swan Valley stalwart, Fred Miltrup, professionally performed the Master of Ceremonies duties keeping all members, wives and guests entertained throughout a memorable evening.



*Left to right: Rocco Rechichi, Angelo Fanetti and Vince Debono proudly display their 25-year certificates*

**Origins of Swan Valley Circle (see page 4)**

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Dianella	Norm Thompson
Fremantle	Kevin Hefron
Joondalup	Peter Johnston
Liwara	Graham Green
Mandurah	Mike Seeber
Perth	John Moore
Swan Valley	Michael Rosario

## Harare North Circle's Rosary project

### Giving back to the community

The October 2019 edition of the *Western Link* featured a rather unique and compelling story about a rosary project taken on by Harare North Circle to support the Catholic faith in its community.

The circle is located in Harare, which is the capital of Zimbabwe, a landlocked country in southern Africa known for its dramatic landscape, much of it within parks, reserves and safari areas. Harare has a population of over 17 million.

Members of the Harare North Circle have been distributing rosaries, rosary cards and Catholic moral code cards to students starting or finishing high school at several senior boys' and girls' Catholic colleges and schools in Harare. The rosaries are made in the respective schools' colours by the Ruvarashe Trust (formerly the Leprosy Association); also providing much needed funding to that Trust.

Harare North Circle now seeks financial assistance with this worthwhile project. To date, two circles in the United Kingdom have contributed funds, but significantly more is required if this very successful programme is to be maintained and extended to other Catholic schools in Zimbabwe.

Following a presentation at last year's Australian Conference in Melbourne, the then Great Britain National President, John Hogan suggested that funding should be sought from all circles and brothers in the Catenian Association.

The Rosary beads are sourced from Italy and the rosary and moral code cards from the UK. There is a severe shortage of foreign currency in Zimbabwe so donations in sterling currency or Australian dollars would be most welcome.

Donations should be channeled through circles to either Head Office or to the Australian National Treasurer. It is intended that suppliers will be paid from funds held in the UK.

Any donor (either personal or by circles') is kindly requested to notify the Circle 289 Treasurer, Brother Tony Jordon, with details of the donation by email to [atszjordan@gmail.com](mailto:atszjordan@gmail.com)

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Dave Garnett  
Harare North Circle Project Convenor  
Email: [dave@leozim.com](mailto:dave@leozim.com)

## Thank you

I wish to thank all those who kept me in their prayers over the past 12 months.

As from Wednesday 23 October 2019 my specialist advised me, all is well after my treatment.

God bless you all

Kevin Hefron



**Readers:** Lou Daily (Provincial Vice President) and Keith Morgan (Provincial President)

**Offertory:** Colleen Morgan and Liana Fitzpatrick with Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB

About 150 Catenian brothers, wives, families and special guests attended the Western Australian Association Province 20 annual Commemorative Mass held at St Mary's Cathedral in Perth on Sunday 3 November 2019.



The Most Reverend Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB offered the Mass in memory of all deceased Catenian brothers and deceased wives of brothers of Province 20 since the Association was established in Western Australia on 8 February 1977, including 12 members who passed away during the past 12 months.

These recently deceased brothers were Reg Newman (City of Mandurah), David Young (Joondalup), Alan Grey (City of Mandurah), Bob Stidwell (City of Perth), Jack Boyle (Swan Valley), Vince Sgro (Canning), Claude Byron (Como), Ray Skelton (Fremantle), Alex Coe (Swan Valley), Frank Humphris (Fremantle), David Jays (Liwara) and Alan Hall (City of Perth).

Archbishop Costelloe warmly welcomed the gathering of Catenians at the Mass, outlining the values of the Association and the contribution it was making to Catholic laymen seeking faith based friendship with men with similar beliefs and interests, especially in the troubled times faced by the Catholic Church and the wider community.

The Provincial President of the Catenian Association in Western Australia, Keith Morgan (Canning Circle) was overjoyed with the number of brothers and wives attending the Mass.

"We are always appreciative of the opportunity to be able to remember our deceased members in the magnificent St Mary's Cathedral with such a solemn and beautiful ceremony, made all that more special with the accompaniment of the wonderful St Mary's choir," Keith said.

## Remembering our deceased brothers



"We were privileged on this occasion that Archbishop Costelloe was able to celebrate the Mass with us," he said, "and were most appreciative of his words of support and encouragement to our Association and members."

Following Mass about 90 Catenian brothers and wives attended the traditional Provincial luncheon, this year held at the Mt Lawley Golf Club in Inglewood to enjoy a wonderful buffet meal and fellowship that extended late into the afternoon.



Left to right: Alan and Mary Throssell and Harry Muller from Darling Range Circle



Lynette and Brian Murphy from Swan Valley Circle



# Origins of Swan Valley Circle

Written and contributed by Jim Schelfhout

I joined Dianella Circle around 1989 when I was 38 years old, sponsored by Brother John Nicoletto.



I really enjoyed the monthly meetings, getting together with men of the same beliefs as my own in a relaxed atmosphere. I made some extremely good friends whom I'm happy to say have remained friends for over 30 years.

I had been a member of Dianella Circle for only about two years when I heard some of the brothers talking about sponsoring a new circle in the Swan

Valley. I pricked up my ears. My family moved to Midland in 1960 so I had been living in the valley for over 30 years.

When I showed interest in what they were talking about I was immediately invited to a meeting to discuss the procedure of forming a new circle. The meeting was at the home of Ray Davern with many familiar names such as Graham Pittaway, Tony Stanbridge, Gene Vance and possibly some others that I cannot be sure of after 30 years. It was suggested that I get some names of potential candidates who might be interested in joining. These guys were serious and didn't want to waste time. The plan was to gather the men together at a home meeting, have a beer or two and explain what Catenians were all about.

I had a long list of names and made a large number of phone calls. Perhaps it's just that I'm not a good salesman, but some of the men I contacted and thought would be interested I just couldn't get to come along. One of the first to see the purpose and value of the Association was Stephen Williamson.

The first meeting was held at my home and I think we had four or, perhaps five men attend, including Stephen who was keen to say the least, and I think it safe to say he attended every meeting. The second person to show some commitment was Maurice Brockwell who offered his help in any way he could, even though he was such a very busy person.

A second meeting was held at my home including a few more men. A spark of interest from the group led to us deciding to meet outside of my home to simulate how a circle operates. We started to meet at Midland Inn in West Midland where we could share a meal and have a few drinks.

From this modest beginning, we received the strong support of Dianella brothers such as Terry O'Neill, Fergus Coleman, Pat O'Mara, Gerry Butler, Frank O'Mara, Tony Stanbridge and Gene Vance together with others from Darling Range Circle, Alex Coe, Wim Hultink, Albert Poli and Provincial President, Peter Tuinder. I apologise if I've missed anyone out.

Once we began gathering as a Group, we attracted regular attendees in the persons such as David Martlew, Emmanuel Calleja, Angelo Fanetti, Rocco Rechichi, Richard Taylor, Rocco Zampogna, Des Thompson, Vince Debono, Gerald Mackin and Maurice Brockwell.

The Group continued to meet for several months, but the Dianella Circle sponsors were keen to set a date for inauguration. My response was that we didn't have the required number of 25 men committed to form a circle, but then Alex Coe informed me he had a good man who would join when we finally made up a circle. I had never met this man he talked about so positively, but it turned out to be none other than Tom Polich who, true to his word, did indeed sign up as a member on the day of inauguration. As numbers grew we needed a new venue and so we began to meet at The Pig & Whistle Tavern in Swan View.

During this formation period Graham Pittaway provided great support and guidance. He looked after the printing of invitation cards, the Inauguration Program and much more and we are extremely grateful for his contribution. Stephen Williamson was also a great help keeping minutes of meetings and with secretarial support. He also had a long connection to the Midland area and was well known and respected in the Catholic community.

It was decided that the inauguration of the circle would be held on 22 October 1994 to coincide with a visit of the Grand President, Phillip Barnes and his touring party from England. By that time we had been meeting as a Group for 18 months. We were delighted when the Archbishop of Perth, Barry Hickey accepted our invitation to attend amongst other distinguished guests.

The inauguration was held at the Midland Reception Centre with all brothers to be installed dressed in dinner suits. In all there was just shy of 200 people in attendance including the Grand President, the Grand Secretary, Provincial President, Peter Tuinder and Province 20 Director, Jim Kenny.



Left to right: Peter Tuinder, Grand President Phillip Barnes, Jim Schelfhout and Jim Kenny

I was installed as the inaugural President, Stephen Williamson (Vice President), Maurice Brockwell (Secretary), Rocco Rechichi (Treasurer), Pat O'Mara (Chamberlain), David Martlew (Marshall), Angelo Fanetti (Registrar), Alex Coe (Membership Officer) and Dr. Albert Poli (Provincial Councillor).

Several Dianella brothers became joint members of Swan Valley, including Fergus Colman, Tony Stanbridge and Gene Vance while Terry O'Neill swapped from Dianella to become a full member of Swan Valley.

Other men who became members on that night that I need to acknowledge are Emmanuel Calleja, Rocco Zampogna, Des Thompson, Vince Debono, Gerald Mackin, Dick Broughton, Wim Hultink, Richard Taylor, Tom Polich, Dennis Jones, Richard Kempen, Reg Thomas and Jim D'Oliveiro.

We have had many great celebrations and gatherings over the last 25 years and made many new friends, some brothers have passed away, some have moved from the area and a few have decided that the Catenians is not for them.

The future is unknown, however I sincerely hope that we can attract new men to continue what we have begun for the benefit of all present and future members.



Top: Darling Range President Pat Carney (right) presents the Visitors Cup to Fremantle President, Dick Finucane



Right: representing the winning Fremantle Circle, left to right: Kevin Hefron, Graham Mahony, Dick Finucane and Robert Williams

The long journey from the port to the Perth hills proved well worthwhile for the four Fremantle Circle brothers who were rewarded by winning the coveted Province 20 Visitors Cup on Wednesday 9 October 2019. It was a popular victory for the circle at a function hosted by Darling Range Circle at the Vault Restaurant, a relatively new venue in the heart of Kalamunda.

There were a total of 17 Darling Range members and 29 visitors representing 10 of the 12 circles in Province 20 on a pleasant balmy evening. An excellent buffet dinner was served together with fine Saracen wines.

A highlight of the evening was an auction skillfully conducted by Darling Range President, Pat Carney with proceeds donated to the Province 20 Youth Support Fund. Barry Webb (Liwara and Joondalup Circles) represented the Youth Fund providing two Catenian ties from the 2019 Liverpool Conference for auction.



Ben Paul (Avon Valley) and Fred Miltrup (Swan Valley)



Barry Webb (centre) congratulates the successful auction participants Mike Wright (Liwara and Joondalup) and Terry McDonnell (City of Mandurah)



Phil Van Eck and John Humphreys (Darling Range)



## A medical occupation, not for everyone

Have you ever wondered what your local General Practitioner does when not attending to patients in his medical practice? Well, perhaps not, but Dianella brothers and their wives were so enlightened in an absorbing address given by a special guest speaker at the circle's luncheon on 26 July 2019 at the Mt Lawley Golf Club.

A good turnout of brothers and wives were privileged to listen to Dr. Malcolm Vernon who has been a GP for more than 30 years with a family practice in Padbury.



**Dr. Vernon addresses Dianella's gathering of brothers and wives and the circle's July luncheon**

In 2012 Dr. Vernon accepted an appointment at the Australian Antarctic Division bases of Macquarie Island, Mawson, Davis and Casey with Mawson being the furthest away at 5,475 kilometres south of Hobart, Tasmania. In total Dr. Vernon has spent around three years as the medical practitioner for the Australian Antarctic Division.



Dr. Vernon said that the medical role at these locations requires that you must wear 'many hats', from consulting, calibration and review of equipment as varied as X-ray machines to assessing station water potability. "You are also an anesthetist, surgeon, pharmacist, nurse, physiotherapist, pathologist, dentist and bear responsibility for

the maintenance of some of the medical facilities."

"Prior to being accepted and sent to the Antarctic Division you must complete a very rigorous training program at the division's land base in Hobart where you are subjected to survival programs with a high degree of preparedness and sophistication required to embark on this journey."

In response to questions from the audience about what he did for social activities and relaxation, Dr. Vernon said that he was a keen amateur musician and played his guitar for relaxation and for the pleasure of other people on the site at the various locations he was at. He also said that to keep fit, exercise was a major activity and access to rock climbing and beach walking was available on a daily basis except when the weather was too bleak, like minus 8 degrees Celsius.

"It's not an occupation for everyone," Dr. Vernon concluded, "but it does give you a tremendous outlook on life's journey outside the square of normal routine."



**Surgery in the Antarctic**



**Transport and living quarters at Casey**

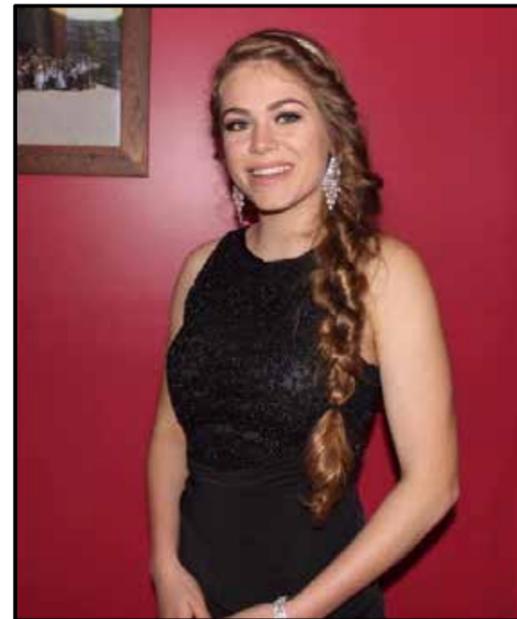


**The Mawson Station accommodation block**



## Scholarship awarded to outstanding Mandurah student

Mandurah Catholic College graduate, Jessica Fenton has been selected from seven Australia-wide applicants to be awarded the third Catenian Charity Inc. scholarship during the period until she realises her dream of graduating as a Doctor of Medicine.



**Jessica Jane Fenton**

The Catenian Charity scholarship of \$5,000, announced in September 2019, is continuous until Jessica graduates at the end of 2023. She is eligible for the award because she is in receipt of a Study Allowance from Centrelink and is therefore deemed to be in necessitous circumstances, a requirement of the Australian Taxation Office for the Charity to operate.

Jessica was born in 1997 at Narrogin, moving to Mandurah in about 2003 when her parents, Ann and Mark relocated to provide their children with an opportunity to obtain a secondary education at a Catholic school. She is their second eldest child and has four siblings, two sisters and two brothers. Narrogin is about 200 kilometres due east of Mandurah, which is about 90 kilometres south of Perth.

Jessica attended St Matthew's Catholic Primary School in Narrogin and St Damien's Catholic Primary School in Dawesville, a southern suburb of Mandurah and then attended Mandurah Catholic College for five years, completing her secondary education in 2015. She was a House Prefect in her Year 12.

In 2017 at the University of Western Australia, Jessica commenced reading for Bachelor of Science - Double Major in Medical Sciences and Psychological Sciences. She is in the final year of that degree and when she graduates at the end of 2019 will have a direct pathway into a degree in medicine.

Jessica has resided at St Thomas More College at Crawley and in 2018 was selected to be a College Resident Advisor for Outreach and Social Justice and in 2019 became the Senior Resident Advisor.

She has an outstanding academic record from secondary school and university. Additionally she scored well in the other three Catenian Charity criteria: Personal qualities and motivation, community service and ATAR academic merit where her score of 95.95 is exceptional.

From the reports submitted by her referees she is a capable and determined lady and congratulations are extended to Jessica and her parents who have shared her dream of personal and academic achievement.

Jessica writes: "Since I was quite young, I have always been determined to persevere against all odds and overcome adversity. In my final year of high school I graduated with over 200 hours of community service, the title of House Prefect, experience representing Western Australia at the Youth Girls Australian National Football Championships, House Colours and an ATAR of 95.95. Living at a residential college St Thomas More has added such breadth to my life that, despite the ongoing agony of trying to find that last dollar for rent, I would happily go through again and again."

Jessica has the strength and humility to acknowledge the love and sacrifice given to her by her parents, as she writes: "Despite being born into such isolation in a small country town, through the acts of my parents I was afforded the chance for a decent education. Now it is down to me to chase my dreams and further my education in the hopes of achieving my vocation. I decided to pursue medicine because I believe it holds the key to unlocking my abilities and further enhance the influence I have on this world."

A senior staff member of St Thomas More College who has known Jessica for over two years observes: "Jessica's ability to follow through on any task was a major contributing factor to her elevation to the senior student Resident Advisor position within the College. Her commitment and dedication to this College and our chapel community is enduring. She continues to maintain both the respect of her peers and of the office staff."



## Graduated with high distinction



Ashleigh Habkoug

On 24 July 2019 Ashleigh Habkoug graduated as a Bachelor of Biomedical Science with High Distinction from the University of Notre Dame Australia, Fremantle campus, and gave the valedictory speech on behalf of the assembled students, parents, friends and staff.

Ashleigh, who moved from Sydney to Western Australia to study at Fremantle, was awarded the inaugural Catenian Charity scholarship in 2018.

The Province 20 Provincial President, Keith Morgan was among a contingent of Catenian brothers present at the ceremony to extend the Association's congratulations. The Chancellor of the university, the Hon. Christopher Ellison, who is a Trinity College Old Boy, acknowledged the support of the Catenians.

Ashleigh has now returned home to Sydney where she has been given an interview by the Dean of the School of Medicine at Notre Dame, Sydney campus where she has applied to further her studies.

In her valedictory speech, Ashleigh thanked all the staff members of the university. *"It is your tireless dedication and efforts that has led us here today,"* she said.

*"To our family and friends your unwavering support and encouragement has been invaluable and graduating would not have been possible without you."*

*"On a personal note I want to thank my parents for their ongoing sacrifices and love and my entire family in Sydney and abroad. I would especially like to thank my mum and dad for flying with me to Perth to be with me as I graduate today. I thank our God because it is no accident that I am up here today and He is at the centre in all that I have done and I will continue to do."*

*"I would also like to extend my ultimate gratitude to the Catenian Charity and members of the Catenian Association, some of whom have gathered with me here today. On behalf of all graduates of the School of Health Sciences I also thank our wonderful, Professor Naomi Trengove. She is not only a fabulous lecturer and school leader, but a mentor who has been instrumental in our experience; always comforting us with her friendly and approachable presence."*

## Youth Fund scholarship supporting a Broome nursing student

A continuous Province 20 Catenian Youth Fund scholarship of \$2,000 awarded in early 2019 is helping Northampton student, Deborah Baikie continue her study for a Diploma of Nursing at the University of Notre Dame, Broome campus.

Broome is about 1900 kilometres from Deborah's home at Northampton, located about 50 kilometres north of Geraldton in Western Australia's mid-west. The scholarship is helping her with flights and accommodation costs to attend skills block fortnights and multiple clinical placements of two to five weeks in Broome because there are no clinical assessors near Northampton.



Deborah Baikie

Twenty-three year old, Deborah lives with her partner of three years. Both are hard working independent persons who rely on their incomes to support their basic needs such as rent, utility bills, car/home insurance and groceries. The costs involved in completing the nursing course as well as losing shifts at work to travel to Broome have placed a financial strain on them both.

Nursing has always appealed to Deborah's nature. Her referees describe her as a kind and caring person who always does her utmost to help others in need. Nursing is the profession where she will put these qualities to use and make a difference to people's lives. Her ambition was always to nurse and she is excited and grateful to have been given the opportunity to work towards her goal.

She says: *"I will be a very dedicated student because I have waited many years to get myself prepared for this course and will not waste the opportunity provided to me. I will strive to attend all lectures, block fortnights, clinical placements and keep up with all assessments."*

Deborah has successfully completed her first semester and is enjoying every moment. She describes the written work as challenging, but very rewarding. She has also completed her first clinical placement of two weeks in aged care.

## Plenary Council process has captured many voices

Written and contributed by Graham Mahony

**Fremantle Circle Brother and Plenary Council Animator, Dr Graham Mahony writes about his commitment and dedication to the process, dating back to when the Plenary Council 2020 was first announced over two years ago.**



Graham has been one of the driving forces behind the co-ordination of Phase two across the Pastoral Care Community comprising East Fremantle, Myaree, Palmyra and Attadale Parishes, as well as Catenian members and their families.

"What we've tried to focus on is positive outcomes for the drafting committees without telling the Bishops what to do, we're simply saying that these are some suggestions that you might want to consider, and that's really what it's all about," Graham said.

"If we keep our heads too much in the clouds – in a constructive sense - people are just going to recreate the first phase again and we don't want to do that."

"What we need to do now is to reflect and discern realistic, positive outcomes," he explained.

The Plenary Council 2020 is now nearing the end of the second phase of preparation.

Following a long and detailed review of responses from the Listening and Dialogue, the National Centre for Pastoral Research has published the final report of the first phase the Plenary Council, capturing the voices of more than 222,000 people.

The 314-page report provides insights into the 17,457 individual and group submissions received from May 2018 until March 2019.

It also outlines the Listening and Dialogue process, including the questions asked, the research methodology and the preparation of the final report.

Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB, President of the Plenary Council, said he hoped when people read the report, they "will be encouraged by the passion and commitment which the invitation to enter the journey has generated in such an extraordinary way".

"In the first phase of our journey, this listening has produced an extraordinary treasure of ideas and proposals which represents the heartfelt response of many people," he said.

"The great challenge ahead of us now is to 'catch' the voice of the Holy Spirit within the passionate, hopeful, but sometimes contradictory voices of God's people."

National Centre for Pastoral Research Director, Trudy Dantis, said the Plenary Council has already been one of the most ambitious research projects the Church has ever undertaken.

"For the bishops to invite the people of God in Australia to respond to such a broad question was a courageous move and the response was overwhelming," Dr Dantis said.

"We could not have predicted the number of voices from which we would hear, but we were able to use high-level research and analysis tools to understand the threads and topics on which people spoke.

"This report is faithful to the stories told, the questions asked and the opinions shared."

Archbishop Costelloe acknowledged that the invitation to open listening and dialogue, and the honest and open reporting of what arose from that, means that people "may be challenged, and even disturbed" by some of the responses.

"The on-going journey of the Plenary Council provides us all with an opportunity to deepen our own reflection in the light of what other members of the Church have expressed, as together we now enter into the next phase of the journey: the Listening and Discernment phase," he said.

It is after that time of discernment, which will run for several months, that the agenda for the Plenary Council will begin to emerge.

Archbishop Costelloe said the Plenary Council has been an exercise in being open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, with the Council's theme coming from the Book of Revelation: "Listen to what the Spirit is saying."

That ought to continue in the coming months, he explained.

"As we now enter into the crucial phase of Listening and Discernment may we be open to the wisdom of the Holy Spirit who will lead us into the fullness of the Truth (cf. Jn 16:13) and eager for that gift of humility which will equip us for the opportunities, the challenges and the joys which now lay ahead of us," Archbishop Costelloe said.

*The final report of the Listening and Dialogue phase can be found on the Plenary Council website:*

<http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/reports/>

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# Memories of a conference “first” for the young married

Dianella Brother George Bartoli and his wife, Gloria have fond recollections of a Catholic Church conference they attended together some 45 years ago, setting the foundation of a happy marriage.

George and Gloria were one of 38 couples that attended the first project by the Catholic Church in Western Australia to assist specifically the young married couple and the newly-weds; an all-day conference on marriage held in January 1975 at Trinity College.

The Catholic Marriage Guidance Council, of which Emeritus Archbishop Barry Hickey (then Father Hickey) was Director, had been looking for some time at the possibility of providing a conference for young married.

In his address to the inaugural conference, Father Hickey said that some people had the impression that if you had troubles in marriage then you attended one of these sessions.

“In fact, the lectures and discussions were not for people with problems,” he said, “but were designed for those who wished to know how to avoid problems.”

“The aim was to give the young marrieds an opportunity to make their marriage a richer experience.”

Father Hickey was delighted with the first conference and its focus on the early years of married life when difficulties do threaten and often destroy a marriage that should be really building up. He said that the couples at the conference were presented with an opportunity to find out more about themselves early in marriage and to be able to talk with each other with more honesty and genuine understanding.

Among the 38 couples that attended the first conference designed specifically for young marrieds and newly-weds were George and Gloria Bartoli (pictured left in the following photograph reproduced from *The Record*) with Cheryl and Andrew Davini and John and Marie Schelfout:



# Some good golf, despite the heat

Thirteen golfers braved searing 39-degree heat at the Marangaroo Golf course on Thursday 14 November 2019 to play in Liwara Circle’s annual stableford golf competition. Eight Catenian brothers represented Liwara with four visiting players from Joondalup Circle and one from Darling Range. Seven sensible players rode in golf carts while six hardy ones elected to walk, finishing up ‘out on their feet’ at the end of the 18 holes. However, flagging spirits and energy were suitably restored at the 19<sup>th</sup> hole with suggestions flowing for next year’s competition.

Gerry Barton won the Liwara trophy on a count back from John Weselman and a Joondalup Circle prospective member, Phil Meynert, won the visitors’ trophy from runner-up Andrew Swanson.



**Ron Brukwinski and Garry Tardrew ready for action**



**Ralph Fitzpatrick presents Gerry Barton with the Liwara trophy**



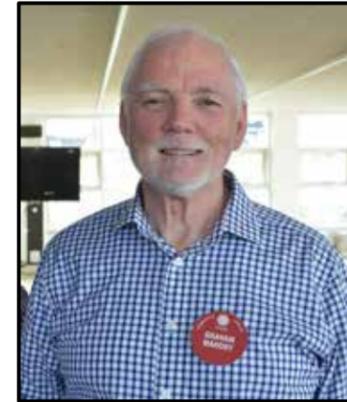
**Phil Meynert awarded the Visitors’ trophy**

Other notable performances were from Garry Tardrew who had the longest drive (despite also losing eight golf balls), Mike Wright the nearest to the pin and John Weselman the longest putt. The ten players who braved the heat to finish were all rewarded with three new golf balls each in recognition of their perseverance; all trophies donated by Liwara Circle.

# Pathway to global sustainability

## A Strategy Working Group update

In June 2018 a Strategy Working Group (SWG) was established by a Central Council mandate to facilitate a worldwide review of the future directions of the Catenian Association. Peter Woodford, who was the last Grand President at the time of the Restructure of the Association in July 2016 was appointed Chairman supported by 15 SWG members from Great Britain, Australia, India and Malta. Of the five Australian committee members, Graham Mahony (Fremantle Circle) and Gerard Tonks (Darling Range Circle) were nominated to represent Province 20.



Following six months of intense deliberation, in mid-December 2018 the SWG placed six Position Papers on the Catenian website in the United Kingdom, inviting comments and input from members globally. The Australian National Council

(ANC) placed the same papers on its website.

In June 2019 the global response from Catenian brothers was included in a strategy briefing presented to Central Council by Peter Woodford. The documents presented have been posted on the Catenian members website.

## Province 20’s response to the Position Papers

The response from Province 20 was exemplary mainly due to the pro-active approach adopted to analyse the recommendations arising from all the Position Papers for presentation to members at circle meetings. It was thought that this tactic would more readily facilitate and support comments and responses.

Graham Mahony visited all circles in Province 20 over a period of several months, leaving a comprehensive questionnaire on which members could express their views about issues that have been identified in the Position Papers and should be addressed to stimulate a revival of the Association.

The responses from Western Australian members were compelling and completed questionnaires were consolidated and presented to the SWG.

## Open letter to Australian Catenian brothers

Following Peter Woodford’s presentation in June 2019, the President of Central Council, George Kazs issued an open letter to all Australian Catenian brothers on 31 July 2019, wherein he wrote:

*“The Woodford SWG provided a consultation opportunity for members and, yes, we are now continuing that discernment process. The one difference is that we now have a series of informed conclusions, recommendations and suggestions to work with. So, your thoughts and comments are being sought on the SWG report. Consider the issues and provide a report to the Australian National Council that captures (member) and Circles’ views that do not require formal constitutional change...by the end of the year.”*

## Province 20 recommendations

As part of the process initiated by Central Council, on 14 September 2019 Province 20 endorsed the submission of ten strategies and actions arising out of the SWG global review.

In summary, this submission of strategies and actions appeals to Central Council to empower Provinces and Circles to continue to make decisions in respect to day-to-day operations relating to the conduct of meetings in respect to regional and cultural frameworks.

It appeals for Central Council to develop five and ten-year action plans for the development of the Association globally, including finance and measurable targets. It also requests Central Council to replace the Director Development Areas with an International Council.

It calls for Central Council to confirm Church relationships, endorsing the concept that the gift of Catenianism be offered throughout the Catholic world recognising that the on-going promotion and support of dioceses, parishes, synods and religious orders is a critical factor in furthering and sustaining the Association throughout Catholic communities at circle level and globally.

It appeals to Central Council to endorse the SWG review by members that the traditional structure of the Association be retained with the operation at Province, Area and Circle areas, returning subsidiarity to the Circles.

It appeals for Central Council to approve continuance of globally recognised charitable works including the Benevolent and Bursary Funds as well as its current country, regional and local charitable works, such as the Catenian Charity Inc, registered in Western Australia.

It calls for Central Council to facilitate the development of a global plan for information communications technology (ICT) and social media development throughout the global Catenian Association.

It appeals for Central Council to consider changes to membership criteria to include non-Catholic Christian husbands of Catholic women and lapsed Catholics.

Finally, the submission of strategies and actions calls for Central Council to communicate all changes arising from the SWG to members and that these changes be managed, implemented and monitored throughout the Association.

## Thanks

On behalf of all Catenian brothers of Province 20, Graham Mahony writes: “We thank Peter Woodford who diligently guided the SWG, consolidated the global views of members and presented them to the Central Council as a basis for the current reviews by Great Britain National Council, Australian National Council and the Director of Development Areas, International Council.”

“Membership eagerly awaits the pronouncements of the Central Council guiding our global Association on the pathway of sustainability.”

**Dr. Graham Mahony  
Province 20 Councillor  
Fremantle Circle**



# Where are they now?

## A Province 20 Youth Support Fund update

The Fund has now provided just shy of \$87,000 to 146 young people since its inception in July 2007. Grants include sponsorships and bursaries awarded to undergraduates at the University of Notre Dame and those resident at St Thomas More College in Crawley. There is also a musical performance award at the annual Catholic Performing Arts Festival.

Other grants have been made to over 100 young people attending World Youth Days, “immersion” programs and other various events, seminars and programs supporting their faith development and education.

The personal bonds developed with the recipients do not end there. The Board members of the Fund continue to follow the achievements, careers and personal development of previous grant recipients, including encouraging these young people to attend Catenian meetings as guest speakers.

All members, wives and their families can feel justly proud that their voluntary donations to the Youth Support Fund have served, and continue to help to make such a valuable contribution to the faith and education development of young Catholic leaders in Western Australia.

Previous recipients have provided the following stories:

The Fund sponsored **SARAH HICKS** in 2013 to spend two weeks working with other youth volunteers in Bucharest, Romania.



As a 20 year-old at the time of her working experience in Romania, Sarah was a full-time student at the University of Western Australia studying political science and business management. She, with her family were active members of St Pius X Catholic Church in Manning and Sarah was involved in youth activities at the parish where she served as a Special Minister of the Eucharist.

In response to a recent contact she writes: “Wow, what a blast from the past! I remember my experiences in Romania often and am truly thankful to the Catenians for their financial support all those years ago.”

“After completing my degree at UWA and working in office management for a while, I quickly realised the corporate world was not for me. I headed back to uni, this time at the University of Notre Dame Australia, Fremantle campus and completed a Master of Teaching (Primary Education). I am very blessed to have been called to this challenging and enriching vocation.”

“I graduated from Notre Dame at the end of 2017 and then headed off to France where I spent the majority of 2018 fulfilling a lifelong dream of gaining fluency in French.”

“While in France I went to Lourdes as an assistant on a high school pilgrimage and was also able to travel to Rome in May of that year and participate in their annual *March for Life*.”

“At the end of 2018 I was successful in obtaining a Year 3 teaching post at St Jerome’s Primary School in Munster. They say if you can survive the first year of teaching you can survive anything.”

“I love my job and am fortunate enough to work alongside some of the most passionate, caring and expert staff currently found in Catholic Education. The reward of educating young minds and adding to their formation so they one day become men and women who make a positive difference to our world is paramount to none.”

“Thank you again for your support all those years ago.”

**Sarah Hicks**

In March 2014 the inaugural Fund scholarship of \$2,000 was awarded to a Bunbury girl, **BRIGETTE MACFARLANE**.

Then aged 21, Brigette was reading science at the University of Western Australia in Crawley and law at the University of Notre Dame Australia, Fremantle campus. By then she had been attending university for three years, relying solely on her parents for all fees.



Brigette resided at St Thomas More College in Crawley and was active in the life of the College.

By 2015 Brigette had graduated and awarded both degrees.

She was admitted to practice as a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Western Australia on 4 November 2016 and is now employed as such in the Perth office of the international law firm Herbert Smith Freehills working primarily in construction and commercial disputes.

**Brigette Macfarlane**

In 2016, **JARA LAZARTE**, aged 20, was awarded a grant from the Fund to attend the 2016 World Youth Day at Krakow in Poland.

In response to a recent contact Jara writes: “Given the opportunity to attend the World Youth Day in Poland in 2016 had an enormous impact on my life. At that time I was finishing my bachelor degree at university and had no idea what to do next.”

“I prayed a lot, alone and surrounded by friends, old and new to be able to do something meaningful and to use the skills I had gained to help people.”

“I graduated with a Master of Biomedical Science degree from the University of Western Australia in 2018, then moving to Canberra to work as a policy officer with Safe Work Australia,



which is a government statutory body that aims to help the lives of working Australians become safer.”

“Working as a public servant and doing my part, however small, towards the broader goal of helping millions of working Australians come home safely to their families, is my way of doing exactly what I prayed to be able to do.”

“I would like to thank the Catenian Association for generously providing the opportunity to attend and experience the World Youth Day at Krakow and everything it had to offer. The theme, *‘blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy’*, still resonates with me to this day (four years on) and I hope I am able to continue showing mercy to others just as it has been done to me.”

**Jara Lazarte**

## And, semester reports from current Youth Fund scholarship recipients:

Dear Catenians,

I’m **EMMA JACKSON** and I have just completed my first year of medicine! That feels so exciting to write after all the hard work and effort I have put in this year. It has been challenging, trying,



overwhelming at times, interesting and rewarding all at once and I am so proud of myself for getting through it all.

Semester 2 in 2019 saw me pick up where I left off at the end of Semester 1. I received my mid-year exam results and was very happy with my marks, which reaffirmed my study

strategy, which I continued to follow.

By the time my first exam rolled along at the end of Semester 2 I felt very confident and was ready to go. The exams themselves were tough but fair and I look forward to receiving my results.

I would like to thank my kind scholarship donors for their financial support, which enabled me to dedicate so much of my time towards study this semester. Without it I likely would have had to work long hours in a job to support myself, which would have severely impaired my academic progress.

In Semester 2 I continued my involvement in the Rural Medicine and Sports & Wellbeing subcommittees in the School of Medicine and helped organise various events. I have developed a growing interest in rural medicine and have been elected onto next year’s Executive Committee for SPINRPHX, a club for Western Australian health students that actively promotes and celebrates rural practice. I will be the club’s Promotions and Publications Manager. I look forward to employing all of the marketing skills I learnt in my undergraduate degree to manage the club’s extensive online platform and promote our rural health events to all Western Australian health students. I have also continued my regular singing in the band at church and volunteering at Yalari.

Once again, the generous support of my scholarship donors has allowed me to maintain the varied, balanced lifestyle this year and I am extremely grateful for this.

During the winter break I completed the Cape-to-Cape hike, which gave me a great taste of Western Australia’s natural beauty. This summer I will be hiking over 350 kilometres across Victoria’s coastline. Clearly I’m an avid nature lover! I will also be travelling home to Sydney to spend some quality time with my loving family who has been integral to my success this year through their endless words of encouragement. I look forward to returning back to Perth in January to commence Year 2 of my Doctor of Medicine.

**Emma Jackson**

**Editors note: Emma completed a combined Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Commerce at Macquarie University and has now been admitted to read for a degree in the School of Medicine at Notre Dame Australia (Fremantle campus).**

Dear Catenians,

I’m **DEBORAH BAIKIE** and, as a grateful recipient of the Catenian Association Province 20 Youth Support Fund scholarship (Broome), I am writing to provide an update on how my studies are going.

I have just finished my two-week practical learning block and have successfully completed all the theory and practical learning for Semester 2. I am now waiting to receive my four-week hospital placement.



The workload has certainly increased in this stage of the course and the practical skills are much more complex. There have been a lot of late nights trying to get all theory assessments completed on time and plenty of worry, headaches and fatigue due to my constant strive to perform 110 percent in practical assessments.

As for my ongoing financial strain due to being a long distance student, the continual travel involved in completing the course is certainly becoming a little more difficult each trip, both financially and mentally. I’m spending increasing amounts of time away from home and my fiancé and I know I am very lucky that he is extremely supportive and understanding of my need to travel. I am also fortunate to have a supportive employer who is willing to accommodate all my leave requirements.

Despite the increasing pressure of the course, I’m happy to report that I am still enjoying every moment and love the opportunities to learn new skills. I look forward to commencing my next placement and putting my new skills into practice.

I would once again like to take this opportunity to thank the Catenian Association Youth Support Fund for accepting me as your scholarship recipient. I am very grateful for the assistance it is providing me and I am very excited to complete my upcoming placement and begin Semester 3.

**Deborah Baikie**

**Editors Note: Deborah is an undergraduate in the School of Nursing and Midwifery at Notre Dame Australia (Broome campus).**



# Cricket gaining popularity in Europe

Contributed by Tom Polich  
Swan Valley Circle

My friends and colleagues squinted their eyes and screwed up their faces in disbelief when I told them that I was off to Switzerland and Romania to umpire a few games of cricket," Tom writes.

"However, let me tell you there are quite a number of very dedicated people promoting the game in both countries and they have healthy internal leagues. Teams are predominately ex-pats from Britain, India Pakistan, Sri Lanka with a few Aussies."

Tom is a renowned First Grade umpire (now retired) from the Western Australian Cricket Association. His first destination on his trip overseas in 2019 was to the southern town of Zouz in Switzerland for a 20/20 tournament played on the sporting fields of a renowned private international school. Students come from all over the world and the school fielded two teams in the competition. The teams were made up of both male and female students from countries like Uzbekistan, Russia, China, Greece, Finland, Ukraine, Switzerland, Germany and many other countries.

"The location was only 20 kilometres from St. Moritz where the Swiss Federation stage a cricket competition on ice each winter," Tom writes. This year there were five or six guest players who had played Test Cricket."

"The school has four cricket grounds and the location is about 2.3 kilometres above sea level. Due to the severe winter conditions, the concrete pitches are one metre deep to prevent them cracking up in the perma frost."

"After the first day, which was washed out, the weather was magnificent," Tom said. "It was hard to concentrate when I looked down the pitch and saw the batsman, wicketkeeper and slip fielders against a background of mountain peaks still covered with snow and the ringing of cowbells from cattle grazing nearby. Hard to beat when you combine this with the roar of fast flowing waters in the nearby river, carrying the melting snow waters. We only lost two balls in the river; the result of massive hits."



Tom's "terrible" view from his hotel room in Zouz

"After a very scenic journey and an overnight stop at Zurich, the next stop was in Bern, the capital of Switzerland, where I umpired a Swiss League cricket match of 40 overs per team. Boy was it hot and tiring, 37 degrees and about 90 per cent humidity. To top this off, the lunch we were served between innings was prepared by the home team comprised mainly of players from India or Pakistan who presented us with hot curry and rice. The beers we enjoyed afterwards were most welcome."

"Because I had a nine day break between tournaments in Switzerland and Romania, before I left Australia I had purchased a five day rail ticket at half price to travel anywhere in Switzerland. I used this ticket to visit and stay in Interlaken, Geneva, Lucerne and back to Zurich."

"I also visited Mt Pilatus, travelling by bus, train and cable car, which climbed at an angle of about 45 degrees up the mountain. Mt Pilatus is a mountain massif overlooking Lucerne in central Switzerland, providing stunning views of the Swiss Alps and with plenty of snow about, which was a novelty for me."

"A similar experience to this was encountered on my visit to Jungfrau, the highest peak in Europe some 4.2 kilometres above sea level. Reduced oxygen supply was something I had never experienced before, requiring slow steps and frequent rests to make mobility little easier and safer. We were privileged to witness the spectacle of deep snow from the previous night's storm; a truly awe-inspiring sight. The snow lay on top of a glacier, which starts at the Jungfrau peak and stretches as far as the eye can see. There were some very keen skiers who made the return trip down the mountain on skis and watching para gliders hovering above the mountain was an amazing sight. At the mountain-top café we were told by a local that para gliders often were able to hover in the air currents for up to eight hours."



Typical scenery in Switzerland

## Romanian tour

"The short flight from Zurich to Bucharest heralded the start of the Romanian section of my cricket umpiring assignment," Tom continues.

"The Romanian Cricket Association enjoys its own headquarters through the kindness of a businessman who also purchased the cricket ground and built the wicket."

"It was interesting to be told that the Romanians were to host the under 19's international game between Serbia and Romania shortly after the tournament that I was officiating in."

## Cricket gaining popularity in Europe (continued)

"Competing in the Bucharest tournament were teams from Germany, Ukraine, Qatar, United Arab Emirates and three teams from distant parts of Romania."

"The Middle East teams were represented by players from cricket academies in those countries and I have no doubt that at least six or seven cricketers that I saw could easily play in the Western Australian Cricket Association First Grade competition. They were very accomplished players and showed great commitment to the sport."



Far more enjoyable to be playing cricket than watching - young Romanian boys playing on the side of the oval while a game was in progress

"An interesting aside to one game I was umpiring was when I stopped the match to render first aid to a player who received a very hard knock to his thumb," Tom writes.

"Trying to apply ice to the injury I was suddenly surrounded by four people who politely told me 'we will take over now'. These four I later learned were a General Practitioner, an orthopedic surgeon, an oncologist and a radiologist. The injured player turned out to be a plastic surgeon who later told me he was really concerned because he had a full week of surgical operations scheduled in the far north of Romania. When I returned home to Perth I checked out on Facebook and all of the five men had added me to their lists of Facebook Friends."

"It was really a great pleasure to be involved in these tournaments and to be given the opportunity to share cricketing experiences with other umpires," Tom concluded.

Contributed by Tom Polich

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# Sydney calling

## 2020 Australian Catenian Conference



The bi-annual conference of the Catenian Association in Australia will be held in Sydney from Friday 21 to Sunday 23 August 2020; a great opportunity for Western Australians to attend the conference program and perhaps spend extra time sightseeing the city and surrounds.

The conference program will start with a workshop on the Friday designed to allow brothers raise and speak on topics and have them discussed with other members and the Provincial and National Council members in open forum.

On Saturday morning reports will be given from the Australian National Council, Great Britain National Council and the Central Council. The afternoon session will be open to guests and will include keynote speakers on the theme: "The reform of the Association."

The conference dinner on Saturday evening will also be open to guests and will include a guest speaker.

The weekend will conclude with Mass on Sunday morning followed by a farewell luncheon.

This is a wonderful opportunity for members and wives of Province 20 to enjoy the faith based friendship of Catenians of Province 21 and Area Victoria as well as overseas Catenian visitors. It is also an opportunity to spend a few extra days in Sydney and, perhaps Canberra or Melbourne on the way home.

For further details (including home hosting) please contact Ralph and Liana Fitzpatrick by email: [rfitz@inet.net.au](mailto:rfitz@inet.net.au) or by telephone on 0417 941 825.

## Great Britain National Conference 2020

This annual conference will be held in Aberdeen in Scotland from 15 to 17 May 2020.

Ralph and Liana Fitzpatrick will be attending and would welcome some Western Australian Catenian company.

Anyone interested should contact Ralph direct by email: [rfitz@inet.net.au](mailto:rfitz@inet.net.au)



# Letter to the Editor

## Euthanasia

Sir,

Many readers of the *Western Link* concerned about the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill passed by the Western Australian State Parliament in December 2019 could be interested in the following letter dated 25 October 2019 sent to the Leader of the National Party in Western Australia and Member of the Central Wheatbelt, Mia Davies MLA.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Webb  
Avon Valley Circle

Dear Mia Davies,

Thank you for your opinion and copy of Hansard concerning the second reading of the State Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill.

As a retired policeman, I have raised with Government the need to change the title of the Bill as with the connotations of current law, the word 'assisted' in connection with a person's death raises the serious complicity question, MURDER.

That is a fundamental that no legislature has authority over.

We each one of us have no right to plan our own death with the intervention of others or not. Show me the man or woman who had a say in their own birth and you will find the answer. But history records only one man who enters this sphere and willingly gives his life for others.

*(Jesus says, there is no honour in taking your own life, it is killing, which is contrary to the Ten Commandments of God.)*

Whether you accept or reject there is a God looking over creation is immaterial, the fact is unquestionable.

Even Charles Darwin accepted there was a God; he had seen the work of Jesus in visiting nations in the South Pacific and New Zealand he declared returning to England, but the media were not interested and continued to plug his thesis, which had no basis in science. In fact, his thesis was produced to enter a competition, which the media arranged to question the issue raised, by a politician and a businessman who wanted to destroy the authority of the Church. That other papers were presented reinforcing the biblical interpretation that science proved the bible, was ignored as Darwin's theory was radical, yet entirely without scientific proof. Darwin was not a paleontologist or archaeologist. His science was geology.

Daily, archaeologists prove the Bible with findings of ruins all over the world extending back over 5,000 years.

The Ten Commandments given to Moses in the Exodus from Egypt are the foundation of all modern law; even for Shiites, Islam, Hindu and Hebrew nations.

Personally and finally my position with regard to Wheatbelt Men's Health is to reaffirm the sub-title of our Mission; "raising awareness of men's health and wellbeing."

It is not common knowledge to the community that I have suffered watching my parents die painfully, that friends and family and work colleagues all suffered painful circumstances.

My father, Thomas, had two cancers and I sat with him for the last week of his mortal life. It was not until the day before he

died, he would allow staff on the ward of Fremantle Hospital to administer to him any drug stronger than *Panadol Forte*. Was he just stoical or did he have something about taking of drugs? Have no doubt he suffered dreadfully.

Then Frank Budas had a stroke in 2012 and in palliative care for over three years and six months I sat with him often, feeding him in his suffering for which the Residency Manager wanted to give him a psychotic drug, not intended for persons suffering Alzheimer's and ulcers although in extreme pain. I was with him for four days in his final week, his death occurring at noon on Sunday 11 September 2016.

Mum was in her 96<sup>th</sup> year when finally released from her agony. For over 12 months she had been bedridden and in pain with several ailments. I sat with her over weekends sharing the role with my sister in the last week. Mum and I shared many psychic experiences in that time even through her pain, relishing her life, which she could recall with clarity, in and out of a coma for the final six months.

My father-in-law died in agony. We celebrated Father's Day in 1994, picnicking at National Park, when he left encouragingly anticipating corrective surgery on the following Tuesday. Unfortunately, the surgery was not successful and he did not leave Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital dying at 4.00 pm, Friday 30 September with my wife and her sister present with me.

My experience makes me more qualified than most who are reputed to favour Voluntary Assisted Dying. I dispute that media figure, as the question asked had no real bearing on the subject, merely would you be in favour of. The question asked should have been more specific and relevant.

We are not animals, suffering is part of life; an experience that grows our substance and character.

Reading your copy of Hansard, I can only get that the persons who were suffering were the family and friends watching on who felt agony at watching the suffering of the patient. That is hardly worth contemplating let alone using as a reason for euthanasia to become law.

There is no dignity in taking your own life. You and I have no say in what and when and where; we were born and inherently have no say in that life ending.

Yours most sincerely,

Brian Webb

25 October 2019

## Religion rather than spirituality?

Contributed and written by Keith Morgan

**Many Catholic parents and grandparents are puzzled by the fact that a large number of their children who attended Mass regularly and went to Catholic schools, have little interest in their faith as adults.**

Such people are generally somewhat disturbed by the situation, but do not know what to say or do. Young people are idealistic and they are searching for a spiritual home. Many will not find a home in the Church perhaps because the focus of what we are offering is religion, not spirituality. Religion and/or spirituality have the potential to give people meaning in their lives and enable people to develop personal ideals and offer the power to rise above challenges and difficulties. Religion is about practice(s) and spirituality is about a relationship with the Divine. "Man is by nature and vocation a religious being. Coming from God, going towards God, man lives a fully human life only if he freely lives by his bond with God" (44 C.C.C.). Spirituality is the human experience of seeking, sensing and thinking about meaning and purpose in life, which offers interconnectness with something greater than self. The Catholic teaching on vocation teaches that all people have a life calling from God.

This calling from God is built upon the foundation of gifts and talents a person has, as well as their values; this is known as meaning. The meaning a person obtains leads them to action, to live out their calling or purpose. A person who values equality, for example, will find purpose in standing up for human rights. In order for a person to find their vocation or meaning and purpose they need to look beyond themselves to something greater. This is the role of religion, which provides a set of beliefs and practices. Religion offers discernment processes such as prayer, scripture and spiritual directors that may enable a person to find and live out their meaning and purpose. Thus, there is hopefully a direct relationship between a person's spirituality and the guidance offered by their religion. "In many ways, throughout history down to the present day, men have given expression to their quest for God in their religious beliefs and behaviour: in their prayers, sacrifices, rituals, meditations and so forth. These forms of religious expression, despite the ambiguities they often bring with them, are so universal that one may well call man a *religious being*" (28 C.C.C.).

It must be understood that it is possible to undertake many religious practices but to have a very insignificant relationship with God. There are Christian people who attend Church, fast when appropriate, give up things for Lent, but ignore the two great Commandments given to us by Christ, i.e. to love God and to actively love others. Such persons may be racist, ageist, sexist or they follow a mentality of which says this is a fantastic idea, but not in my street. Religion tells one to follow an ideology and obey certain rules. Spirituality lets one follow one's heart and what one feels is right. However, as Catholic Christians once we accept Christ, we are obliged to also follow his teachings and the Magisterium of the Catholic Church. "Since you have accepted Christ Jesus as Lord, live in union with him. Keep your roots deep in him, build your lives on him and become stronger in your faith, as you were taught. And be filled with thanksgiving" (Colossians 2: 6-7). Religion teaches what must be avoided and explains the consequences. Catholic Church 1216 "because those who receive this [catechetical] instruction are enlightened in their understanding..." Having received in Baptism the Word, "the true light that enlightens every man," the person baptised has been 'enlightened,' he becomes a 'son of light', indeed he becomes 'light' himself."

Spirituality makes one aware of the consequences but doesn't focus on fear or failure. Spirituality shows one how to stand despite being afraid, how to move on doing what one feels is right despite the consequences that may come. It shows one how to act on love and not on fear, it shows one how to control fear and use the best of it. Religion tells one what to believe and what is right and suggests possible consequences for poor actions or inaction. Spirituality lets one discover it by one's self and understand it in one's own unique way. It lets one connect with a higher self and a higher being to see with one's own mind what is the truth. It lets one believe in one's own truth (discernment) through the perception of one's heart. Through our world there are many religions and they all preach that their story is the right story. Spirituality sees some truth in all of them, acceptable in a general sense for Catholics after Vatican II.

In *Nostra Aetate* (Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions) this document "released" a theological revolution in 1965 when it stated the human family is one community sharing a common destiny in God. Uniting us because part of the truth is the same for all of us despite our differences and uniqueness. Spirituality focuses on the quality of the Divine message they share and not on the differences in details of the stories they speak. If one attends religious events one is seen as a religious person and someone who is worthy of happiness. Spirituality shows that one needs only God to be happy. Happiness is always found deep in ourselves and only we are responsible for it; as Catholics this should come from our personal relationship with the Holy Trinity; especially the Christ. We are always where we need to be (God's plan for us) divinity is in us and that is why we are always worthy; Saint Paul's notion of the body as a temple for the Holy Spirit. Given that our bodies are temples for the Holy Spirit they should not in any way be abused. Religion says that if we don't obey certain rules there are consequences for us to face. Spirituality lets one understand that every action has a reaction and realise that the consequences of our actions will be the reaction coming from the actions we set in motion. It relies solely on the fundamental forces of the universe and it doesn't need one to believe in that force for it to be true. The chances are that those who are mean will be meanly treated, but those who are loving will often receive mean treatment as well; a fact the Gospels warn us about.

Many of us tell the young what not to do; i.e. lie, steal or commit sexual sins. We tell them to go to Church each week and to take part in the Sacraments of the Church, but how many of us take it to the next stage? Do we tell them to unconditionally love everyone as we do (if in fact we do) or just those we like? Do we explain that because we have a close personal relationship with Jesus we are bound to follow his commandment to love God and others and ourselves? Although the gift of eternal life is free to anyone who asks (John 3:16), the asking requires the giving up of possessions (Luke 9:23; Galatians 5:24). In following Christ, we cannot simply follow our own inclinations. We cannot follow Him and live a secular world's way of life at the same time. Following Christ may mean we lose relationships, dreams, material things or even our lives. Luke 9:23, "And He (Jesus) said to them all, if any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." Are we guilty of just loving those who love us? Christ declares in Luke 6:32 "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them." Do we just love those we like?

Jesus did not like everybody, but he loved everybody. Are we guilty of only loving those we like? There is a joke about a dirty, old, smelly tramp who is pushing his shopping trolley around the streets of a large western city. As it is Christmas he tries to go to



church only to be rejected at a number of churches by the ushers on the door. He goes to a nearby park to pray and he explains to Jesus that he had been to a number of churches, but they would not let him in. Jesus appears to him and says do not worry because they will not let me in either. How, for example, do we stand on following the Church's social justice teachings first formulated at the end of the First Vatican Council? These principles include: the dignity of the human person; the common good; solidarity, subsidiarity; the universal purpose of goods; the preferential option for the poor; and the care of creation (supported strongly by Pope Benedict and recently by Pope Francis in *Laudato Si*, 18 June 2015). We expect our young to live chaste lives, marry, go to Mass and bring up their children in the faith, but how many of the principles listed in the previous sentence are we applying to our own lives. Do we just tell the young to keep the Ten Commandments without explaining the need to love all humanity and Mother Earth without counting the cost?

In Australia, the Lowy Institute Poll on Australian attitudes to the world and global issues for 2018 showed support for climate action and renewable energy continue to grow. In response to the survey's questions on climate and energy, 59 percent of respondents agreed with the statement: "Climate change is a serious and pressing problem. We should begin taking steps now, even if this involves significant costs." There are similar sentiments to be found in the U.K. In a recent survey undertaken by YouGov almost two-thirds of people thought the UK Government is not doing enough in adapting to climate change and limiting global temperature increases. This is relevant because as one descends down from the older to the younger age groups one finds it is people in the younger age groups that are the most concerned about environmental issues. I find it ironic that the young so often say the Church is out of touch, it does not understand what concerns us, yet on this issue the Pope is right out there with the young; it is in general the older Catholics that are denying this is an issue of concern. The more one does what is good, the freer one becomes. "There is no true freedom except in the service of what is good and just. The choice to disobey and do evil is an abuse of freedom and (it) leads to 'the slavery of sin,' (C.C.C. 1733).

At the beginning this article suggests that we only offer the young religion and not spirituality. We tell the young what not to do without explaining who Jesus is in our lives, what our relationship is with him, and what are the obligations of such a relationship. Or is that relationship very faint? One of my heroes the Venerable Dorothy Day when challenged by a Cardinal during the Great Depression over her political views, told him when we (her organisation) feed the poor we are called saints, when we ask why they are poor we are called communists. At the end of the parable of the sheep and the goats Jesus clearly tells the goats: "Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me". "Then they (the goats) will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life (Matthew 25: 45-46)". We can only inspire the young if we ourselves are doing inspiring things. If we are loving others as Jesus expects then we can ask the young to do the same and we can also lovingly encourage them to have an appropriate personal life. Most of us grew up in a world where Christian values were largely accepted even if they were not supported by strong spirituality. Today Christian values are constantly challenged (abortion, divorce, same sex marriage). We are called to be in the world, but not part of it. This cannot be successfully done without a close relationship with Jesus and a disposition that constantly reaches out to love our neighbours and in today's world the whole of humankind are our neighbours.

Contributed and written by Provincial President, Keith Morgan

## Vale Geraldine Merchant

Geraldine Merchant, wife of Dianella Circle Terry, passed away at the age of 84 on 21 March 2019. She was a gracious lady, blessed with many virtues and, along with Terry, shared a long, ideal and loving marriage.

Terry and Geraldine met in 1955 over the Easter period while both were holidaying on Rottne Island. At that time Geraldine was a nurse and Terry a schoolteacher. Romance blossomed and they married in 1956 at St Mary's Cathedral in Perth. They began their married life in a rented flat in Mt Lawley, later moving to Nedlands and then in 1959 built their first family home in Maylands. Unfortunately they could not have their own children so in 1963 they adopted their daughter, Stacey and son, Jeremy.



In 1967 the family moved to Margaret River where Terry and Geraldine became involved in the blossoming wine industry. They worked and lived on the Vasse Felix property until 1971 before purchasing their own property where they planted vines and bred cattle. They also became successful with property development.

Whilst living at Margaret River, Terry and Geraldine became heavily involved with the formation of the Democratic Labor Party (DLP). Terry was also a member of the DLP State Executive and twice, with the strong support of Geraldine, stood unsuccessfully for the Perth and Swan seats in Federal elections.

In 2008 they moved to their current home in Mt Lawley, becoming parishioners at St Paul's Church. They were both strong in their Catholic faith. In August 2009, Terry joined the Dianella Circle, stepping up to become Vice President in April 2011. Unfortunately he could not accept the position of President in the following year because of family illness. Again misfortune occurred in 2017 when Terry and Geraldine lost their daughter, Stacey.

When asked to identify a special achievement in Geraldine's life, Terry did not hesitate in telling this story: While living in Margaret River they identified the urgent need for Home and Community Care Service for the elderly and disabled in both Margaret River and Augusta.

Geraldine took up the cause and without any support from the local Shire or Government she started the service and they personally paid for the delivery and service from their own home. Terry said that Geraldine would pick up the clients in their car and he would travel behind in the utility and transport the wheelchairs and other supporting equipment.

After the service had been going for about two years, the Shire provided a hall to use and then the Government funded the purchase of a bus and the delivery of the service. Geraldine became involved with the design of this special bus, which was built by Kevrick, a firm owned by Catenian Brother Terry O'Neill (Swan Valley Circle) who had the Government contract; a major achievement to help others by Geraldine and Terry.

Geraldine and Terry's friend and Parish Priest, Father Tim Deeter celebrated her Requiem Mass, attended by many Dianella Circle brothers later adjoining to their Mt Lawley home to celebrate the life of a wonderful lady.

## Raymond (Ray) Skelton 1939-2019



Ray Skelton was a committed and well-respected member of the Catenian Association, honoured by a large number of brothers from all Province 20 Circles who attended the Mass of Celebration of his Journey to New Life with family and friends at St Thomas More Catholic church in Bateman on Friday 26 July 2019 celebrated by Father Phong Nguyen His family was appreciative of the Catenian Guard of Honour formed after the Requiem Mass.

Ray joined Fremantle Circle in 2011, serving as Welfare Officer for three years. He regularly attended monthly meetings, dinners and social functions until failing health prevented him from doing so.

Ray was born in the east of London to his loving parents, Violet and Fred, growing up fairly quickly in the trauma of the Second World War sharing many adventures with his younger brother, Barrie. As a young lad he went to sea school on the training ship *Vindictrix* at Sharpness in Gloucester. From there he began a career in catering, trained at Scotts Seafood Restaurant in Mayfair, London and then at Simpson's in the Strand, Trafalgar Square in London.

He then joined the Merchant Navy to satisfy his passion to travel, visiting many places around the world. It was on one of his deployments on a P & O liner on its run to the Far East that he met Gloria. They were married in 1963 and have remained side-by-side ever since.

Ray and Gloria were blessed with three children, Heidi, Mark and Felicity, all born in the early 1970s. Ray embraced his family responsibilities wholeheartedly. Everything he did had the family at its core. He held various positions in industrial catering and hospital catering, his last job in England as General Catering Manager at Commercial Union.

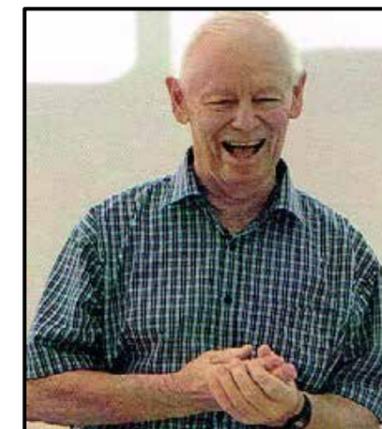
In 1980 Ray and Gloria migrated to Western Australia with their young family. Ray worked at the mines in Newman as Catering Manager before moving to Perth where he had several jobs in the catering industry including Catering Manager at Fremantle Hospital where he worked until his retirement.

Ray was extremely proud of his three children. He could see very clearly where their strengths lay and always had time for them in good times and not so good times. He was a devoted grandfather to Jayden, Taysha and Yasmin.

Ray will always be remembered as a strong, loving family man, completely devoted to his wife, Gloria who he loved dearly.

**Extracts from a Eulogy presented by his daughter, Felicity at  
Ray's Requiem Mass held at  
St Thomas More Catholic Church, Bateman  
26 July 2019**

## Francis (Frank) Humphris 1939 - 2019



Frank Humphris was born on Anzac Day in 1939 in Maryborough, Victoria the second child and only son of Thomas and Lorna. His elder sister Marie is currently living in Ballarat and his younger sister, Kath passed away in 2013. The Humphris family was one of the first to settle in South Australia when Frank's great grandfather arrived from England in 1850 with his parents and some of his siblings on the ship *Woodbridge*.

Frank started school at St Joseph's Brigidine College in Maryborough, but when the family moved to Castlemaine for his father's work, he attended the Convent School and then the Castlemaine High School.

His ambition was to study accounting, but due to the death of his father in 1955 he left school and began work as a junior clerk at the State Electricity Commission in Castlemaine. He was proud of the fact that he was the youngest stores' accounting officer for the southwestern region of Victoria that the SEC ever had.

Later Frank took to farming in Victoria in the 1960s; purchasing a property he named the *Ponderosa* (after the TV show) with about 100 head of dairy cows. When the drought hit Victoria in 1968 he was forced to sell the farm, working with his uncle for a few months before heading across the Nullabor in 1969 on a working holiday in Western Australia. Although he only planned on staying a short while, it was at a Catholic social club that he met Judy Bourne and they were married on 3 April 1971. Their daughter, Joanne was born in 1973 followed by Sharon in 1975.

Frank worked in a lot of different fields in Perth as a storeman, insurance salesman, council worker but was happiest when self employed as a lawn mowing contractor, gardener and reticulation fitter. He loved gardening and the freedom that came from working for himself.

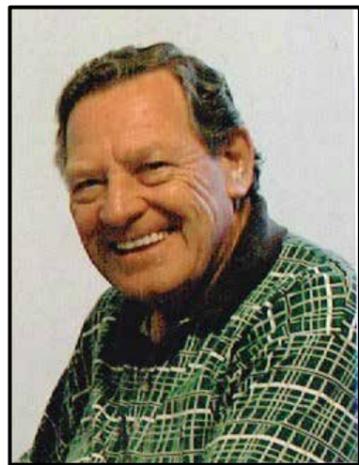
Frank and Judy have been parishioners at St Benedict's Catholic Church in Ardross since the 1970's. He joined the Fremantle Circle of the Catenian Association in 1982 serving as President for two terms, Vice President for four years and Provincial Councillor for six years. He has always been a devout and faithful Catholic with a high degree of commitment to the Fremantle Circle and his parish.

After suffering poor health during the last few years, Frank passed away peacefully in hospital on 18 August 2019 surrounded by loved ones. He was the loved husband of Judy for 48 years, cherished father of Joanne and Sharon and son-in-law Stephen and adored poppy of Imogen and Georgia.

**Extracts from a Eulogy presented by his daughter, Joanne at  
Frank's Requiem Mass held at  
St Benedict's Catholic Church, Ardross  
27 August 2019**



## David Jays 1936 - 2019



Liwara Circle brothers and wives together with Catenian members from other circles in Province 20, family and friends attended the Requiem Mass of David Jays at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Scarborough on Tuesday 15 October 2019 celebrated by Father Grant Gorddard.

David joined the Catenian Association in 1977 as a member of Lusaka Circle in Zambia, where he served as

President, Treasurer and Secretary, then President and Secretary of Copperbelt Circle also in Zambia. Moving to Perth in 1992, he then joined Liwara Circle where he held many positions, culminating with his appointment as Provincial President of Province 20 in 1998/99. He was also the inaugural President of the Province 20 Youth Support Fund when it was formed in 2007. He was a valuable servant of the Association for over 40 years.

David was born in London in 1936 and was educated at St Mary's primary and secondary schools. He left school at the age of 16 and joined the Standard and Chartered Bank head office also serving for six months in Hamburg, Germany. After completing two years National Service in the Royal Armoured Corp David joined the Bank of Africa serving with distinction for 33 years in several branches in Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia.

In addition to his successful career in banking, David was also a keen sportsman representing his school, regiment and bank in cricket and rugby union. It was cricket that led him to meet Sheila Walsh, playing in Kisumu where Sheila was nursing.

David and Sheila were married in St Austin's Church at Nairobi in Kenya in 1962 and were later blessed with three children, Alice, Laura and Paul and subsequently two grandchildren, Greg and Tamar.

In 1992 David and Sheila moved to Australia and settled in Sorrento in Perth to live close to their daughter, Alice and family. They became Australian citizens in 1995.

David's sporting interests continued in Perth, joining the Wanneroo Golf Club and the Western Australian Cricket Association to watch first class cricket. He was a strong supporter of all Catenian Association golf days playing at various public courses around the metropolitan area and later organising the annual Liwara Circle golf day.

David and Sheila moved to the Regent Gardens Retirement Village when their home at Sorrento became too big to handle. When David became ill he was lovingly cared for by Sheila for some time until when he needed professional care and entered the Regent Gardens Nursing Home in Scarborough.

David will be remembered for his good sense of humour, kindness and generosity of service, particularly to his Catenian brotherhood. Although he enjoyed various sporting and other interests, his first love was always Sheila and his family, a love that was returned in full.

He was highly respected by all and will be sadly missed.

## Alan Hall 1928 - 2019

The brothers of the City of Perth Circle of the Catenian Association in Western Australia offer their prayers and support to all of the offspring and extended family of Alan Hall. Alan was a much-loved friend to all brothers and a stalwart supporter of the circle for 37 years. A large gathering of City of Perth brothers and other members of the Catenian Association in Western Australia were present at the Requiem Mass to celebrate the entry of eternal life of Alan Hall held at the Redemptorist Monastery on 4 November 2019 and celebrated by Father Brian Russell.

Alan was born in South Perth on 22 December 1928, almost 91 years ago. Four years later along came his sister Bernice who now lives in Queensland followed six years later by his sister, Pauline. He attended the local primary school and then went on to Aquinas where he made some lifelong friends, learnt to row and ended up being an 'old Aquinian' attending various get-together events for many years.

He met Margaret, who sadly passed away just five months earlier, at the wedding of friends and they were married in September 1954 with a honeymoon on Rottne Island. Nine months later Kate the first of their eight children arrived followed by Alison, Julie, Paula, Andrew, Laura, Sheelagh and, as a last surprise, Bridget.

Alan worked as an accountant for the Western Australian State Government in a variety of different departments, including the Public Works Department, Land and Surveys, Public Transport, Public Health and State Housing amongst others. He was well respected in his work, right up to his retirement at the age of 55 as Secretary to the Minister of Health as Legislation Officer.

Alan's passion for rowing which began in his school days at Aquinas, was rewarded in 1955 when he represented Western Australia in the State's winning team in the Kings Cup 8's held in Melbourne. It was only the 6<sup>th</sup> win for WA since 1878. As a result, the team was invited to row in Athens at the Olympics, but Alan declined because Margaret was at that time expecting their first child, Kate.

Later Alan crewed on racing yachts at the South Perth Yacht club, continuing until his early 70's.

In her eulogy at Alan's Requiem Mass, Kate recalled when the family purchased a share in a beach house in Point Peron near Rockingham. Kate said that she and her siblings have fond memories of holidays spent there, when it was a time of few restrictions; a time to run free and wild and have adventures while their mother, Margaret chilled out with a good book and their father, Alan enjoyed his favourite pastime of boating and fishing.

Alan and Margaret enjoyed travel in their retirement, visiting almost every country in the world on their annual trips.

Alan was a gentleman, charming, kind, funny and very sociable; very proud of his eight children.



# CIRCLE ROUNDUP

CONTRIBUTED ITEMS & PHOTOGRAPHS

## Avon Valley The power of prayer



*Eva Richter (right) pictured with her Catenian friends, Roslyn Paul (left) and Genny Budas*

Members of Avon Valley Circle have renewed hope that, with faith, prayer can be successful.

Eva, the wife of circle President, Clinton Richter suffered an aneurysm in the brain in the early hours of Thursday 26 September 2019.

Clinton rushed her directly to the Northam Hospital at 6.00 am and the alert staff immediately arranged treatment and a helicopter ambulance to transport her to QE2 Hospital in Perth where she was admitted shortly after 1.00 pm.

Prayers for her over the next week of crisis and extensive care were rewarded when three weeks later Eva was transferred to St John of God Hospital in Mt Lawley for rehabilitation. Twelve days later Eva was released to home care.

Then, to the complete surprise of parishioners at the 9.00 am Mass at St Joseph's Catholic Church in Northam on Wednesday 23 October, Eva walked in unannounced ahead of Clinton and their daughter Tracey. Equally surprised, the Parish Priest offered the Mass that day for thanksgiving. Eva attended Mass the following day and on her birthday on Friday 25 October.

Brian gave thanks to Our Lady and Infant Jesus in front of Eva on her birthday.

## Arriving in pairs

Congratulations to Avon Valley Secretary, Brian Webb and his wife Maxena on the arrival of yet another set of twins, bringing the total in the family to four sets. Already with three sets of twin grandchildren, Brian and Maxena are now the proud great grandparents of twin boys, the family tradition being carried on by the eldest grandson.



*Maxena and Brian hold their twin great-grandsons, pictured with their three sets of twin grandchildren*

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# Bouvard

## The race that stops a nation

The annual Melbourne Cup luncheon has become a milestone event on the Bouvard Circle calendar, eagerly looked forward to by Catenian brothers and their wives together with parishioners of St Damien's Catholic Church at Dawesville. This year on Tuesday 5 November 2019 the event was held in the St Damien's Parish Centre overflow area and courtyard, very well suited for the occasion providing an intimate atmosphere for the day's activities.

Following long-established Bouvard Circle tradition, the ladies went to an enormous amount of trouble to display the very latest in cup fashion.

There were numerous sweeps for the big race, which were well patronized and the traditional Cup day raffle with an array of appealing donated prizes was a total sellout.

A 'sausage sizzle' provided a welcome change of menu, supported by volunteers' contributions of salads and dessert to round off a most enjoyable meal.



"Fashions in the field" contestants, left to right: Penny Farrell, Vicki Green, Kathy Italiano and Glenys Barker



Left to right: Tom Mulcahy, Peter Brown, David Farrell, Toby Harries, Ken Barker, Dominic Italiano and Con Schaper

## Vale Priska Zemp

13 July 1956 to 15 March 2019

Family, Catenian brothers and wives and parishioners attended the Requiem Mass to celebrate the life of **PRISKA ZEMP** at St Damien's Catholic Church in Dawesville on Thursday 28 March 2019. Priska is the wife of long-standing Bouvard Circle Brother, Joe Zemp, a Founder member of the circle when it was inaugurated in February 2005. Their son, Lukas and daughter, Helen were present.



The eulogy was very professionally prepared and compassionately presented "from the heart" by Lukas on behalf of his father, sister and family.

"Mom was born in Switzerland where she had a well established life," Lukas said in his eulogy. "Being one of six children she always made sure to maintain the close relationship she had with her family."

"And how can I forget the mountains. Mom loved the Swiss alps. She loved spending the weekend skiing and didn't mind driving too fast to get to her skiing destination."

"But, despite her love of her birth country, when Joe came along with the idea of moving across to the opposite side of the planet to Australia, she said 'yes'."

"One of the first challenges in our new country was building our house. Mom went from a comfortable lifestyle to living in a shed and from a well-equipped kitchen to cooking outdoors on a gas burner. Showering meant walking to our neighbours at night with racehorse goannas speeding by, from a life without spiders to all the spiders. Mom really missed home, but it was still a time of many laughs, making new friends and learning the new language."

"Mom was always very supportive as Helen and I grew up, making sure we were well fed and her involvement in all the little things too, like dentist appointments, basketball, soccer, camping and events with our family and friends. The list goes on."

"She made many new friendships which led to new hobbies; painting, arts and crafts and going to markets to find those special pieces she just 'had to have'. Mom also enjoyed travelling, local, State, national and international, despite her dislike of flying. She just loved getting out there."

"What I have learned through all of this, is that when life inevitably changes, through death or otherwise, you forget about the busy times, the drama and the little disagreements. But you do remember the little, simple moments that mightn't have seemed all that big a deal at the time. It's tough to accept that I can't enjoy any more of these times with Mom, but I finally get what she meant when she used to say to 'live in the moment'. We will always treasure these moments and memories."

"So, from Helen, Dad, all our friends, our family and me, thanks Mom for these memories and all the best for your next journey."

Extracted from a eulogy delivered by Lukas Zemp at the Mass celebrating the life of Priska Zemp

## New brother welcomed

**GERRY MARSHALL** is a very welcome new addition to Bouvard Circle. Gerry and his wife, Bernie have been very committed and active in the community of St Damien's Catholic Parish at Dawesville, positively responding to any requests to volunteer to help out when and wherever required. Since Gerry was inducted into the Catenian Association, they have also been very supportive and heavily involved in circle activities.

Gerry was born in Yorketown on the Yorke Peninsula in South Australia. After completing his primary and secondary education, he worked as a farmer before joining Hamersley Iron in 1973.

Bernie's brother was a friend of Gerry and that was how they met. They were married on 21 September 1968 at St Brigid's Catholic Church in Warooka on the Yorke Peninsula in South Australia and now have three children and two grandchildren.

During their married life they have lived at Paraburdoo, Clifton Park, Boddington and Perth before retiring in Mandurah.

Gerry is interested in football, fishing and gardening and looks forward to the fellowship that membership of the Catenian Association offers.



Bernie and Gerry Marshall

# City of Busselton

## Numbers low, but spirits high

Attendance at the Busselton *Koffee Klub* has been lower over recent months, mainly due to the poor health of many brothers and their families including Peter and Judith Ball, Jack Stretch, John Van Beek, Michael Tonks, Geoff and Ann Young and George and Elizabeth Bazzica.

Nevertheless, the *Koffee Klub* continues to meet at 11.00 am on the fourth Sunday of every month at the popular *Goose Restaurant* on Busselton's redeveloped foreshore. Visiting brothers and wives are always welcome.



Stalwarts of the Busselton Koffee Klub, left to right around the table: Mary Ann and Terry Shine, Elizabeth and George Bazzica and Bill and Kaye Middleton

## Provincial Commemorative Mass

Despite now being "in recess", Busselton was well represented at the Province 20 President's luncheon held on Sunday 3 November 2019 at the Mt Lawley Golf Club in Inglewood by two former members (now Central Circle brothers) and wives and former joint members of the previous City of Busselton Circle.

The buffet lunch followed a Commemorative Mass for deceased Province 20 brothers held at St Mary's Cathedral in Perth celebrated by the Most Reverend Archbishop of Perth, Timothy Costelloe.



Standing left to right: Elizabeth and George Bazzica, Bill Middleton and Peter Johnston  
Seated, left to right: Terry O'Neill, Margaret Dau, Kaye Middleton and Maree Johnston



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# Canning

## Mass for vocations and recruitment drive

On Saturday 10 August 2019 Canning brothers attended the circle's traditional Mass for Vocations at Sacred Heart Church in Thornlie as part of a recruitment drive for new members.

The Parish Priest invited a representative of the circle to speak to the congregation and again at the Sunday Mass the following day about the Catenian Association in general and the Canning Circle in particular.

On Saturday President, Russell Godsall gave the address and on Sunday morning Provincial President, Keith Morgan officiated.

Canning Circle brothers Sean O'Hara, who is a member of the Sacred Heart Parish Council, and Cliff Chalton, who is a leading member of the music ministry, facilitated the initiative. They approached the Parish Priest and arranged not only the participation in the Masses, but also for the circle to sponsor morning tea after the Sunday morning Mass.

The music and singing at both Masses was superb. Cliff Chalton, who is known as an excellent singer, revealed another musical talent when playing the drums.

At the morning tea on Sunday circle members took the opportunity to talk to those parishioners who expressed an interest in the Catenian Association.

Canning's Welfare and Hospitality Officer, Doug Williams, in his usual style was on hand with abundant gifts and prizes to make sure no one, including guests, went home empty handed.

The Church of Saints John and Paul Parish Priest, Father Thai Vu thanked Canning Circle members on behalf of his brother priests for an enjoyable evening.



*Left to right: Father Simeon San (Assistant Priest St Thomas More Parish, Bateman), Father Daniel Boyd (Parish Priest St Vincent's Catholic Parish, Kwinana), Father Thai Vu (Parish Priest The Church of Saints John and Paul, Willetton), Father Anibal Leite da Cunha (Our Lady Help of Christians, East Victoria Park), Doug Williams (Canning Circle Welfare and Hospitality Officer), Russell Godsall (Canning Circle President), Father Hyginus Ebede (The Church of Saints John and Paul, Willetton) and Father Paul Manickathan (Parish Priest Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Riverton)*



*Left to right: Nalin Perera (Canning Circle Vice President), Father Thai Vu, Ken Patterson and Father Paul Manickathan*

## New brothers enrolled at joint meeting

Liwara Circle generously allowed visiting members of Canning Circle to enroll two new brothers at the beginning of a joint meeting held on Thursday 3 October 2019 at Croatian House in Gwelup.

In the absence of Canning Circle President, Russell Godsall who was overseas attending a conference in Canada, David Beverly and Caesar Nicholas were enrolled by the Canning Acting President and Membership Officer, John Sutton.

Parishioners of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Thornlie, David and Caesar were recruited from weekend masses where the Parish Priest, Father Minh-Thuy welcomed a number of Canning Circle brothers at a Saturday night Vigil Mass and the morning Mass the next day. President Keith Morgan spoke about the Association and circle after the Sunday Mass and brothers met parishioners at the

morning tea that followed. These initiatives led to the enrolment of David and Caesar and two other gentlemen have also expressed interest in joining the Association.



*David Beverly, Caesar Nicholas and John Sutton*

**DAVID BEVERLY** writes: "I've been a parishioner of Sacred Heart Catholic Parish in Thornlie for about ten years and I must say that it is a parish where I've finally set down roots after attending numerous parishes before without really finding somewhere where I felt at home."

"Sacred Heart is truly a very caring parish with a lot of young children and teenagers and is growing with a bright future. It's a very welcoming parish, especially to new attendees."

"I help out at Sacred Heart with some of the maintenance and gardening after sort of falling into the role with a few other guys who also enjoy being involved in this way."

"I work for the Health Department of Western Australia at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital in a trade related role, painting."

"My wife and I enjoy travelling, a good game of any sport and socialising with family and friends."

"I look forward to forming new, long-term friendships with the Catenians."

**CAESAR NICHOLAS** has lived in Perth since 1971.

He writes: "My parents Ralph and Margaret (Marjorie) migrated from Madras, India to provide a better life for my brother, Charles and me. The Nicholas family were based in India since the days of the British occupancy."

"My wife, Suzie and I were married at Sacred Heart Catholic Church 23 years ago by Father Charles O'Malley and have a wonderful son, Brandon who is 21 years old and now a student at Murdoch University."

"In my spare time I enjoy gardening and playing drums and bass guitar. Suzie and I have found travelling overseas one of our favourite interests."

"I was first introduced to the Catenian Association by Cliff Chalton and Sean O'Hara, both also parishioners at Sacred Heart, and I now look forward to the opportunity to be part of a group of people who call each other 'brothers' and have similar beliefs in Christianity, believing God's promises and trusting in His faithfulness."

"As a member of the Catenian Association I hope to strengthen my belief in God and the teachings of the Holy Bible and to develop a loyal bond with my Catenian brothers in Canning and other circles."

"Lastly, I hope to bring fresh ideas to my Canning Circle and support the Association when needed."

# Darling Range

## Provincial Commemorative Mass

Darling Range was well represented at the Province 20 President's luncheon held on Sunday 3 November 2019 at the Mt Lawley Golf Club in Inglewood.

The buffet lunch followed a Commemorative Mass for deceased Province brothers held at St Mary's Cathedral in Perth, also attended by several brothers who were unable to attend the luncheon that followed.



*Gerard and Carmel Tonks at the Provincial lunch*

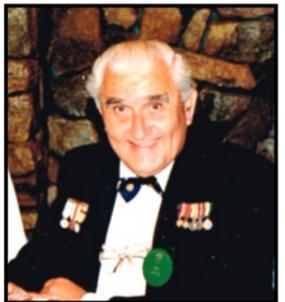
## Darling Range Catenian bursaries

For many years Darling Range Circle has had a large pool of money invested in an interest bearing term deposit, the result of initiatives taken by Founder Brother **DICK ROSAIR** who passed away on 8 June 2005.

In the first 10 to 15 years following the circle's inauguration in February 1981 Dick had the ingenuity of inviting many prospective members into his home about an hour before monthly meetings, at that time held at the old Pinewood Lodge, less than a kilometre away from where he lived. This personal approach of familiarizing men to the attraction of becoming a Catenian was most successful and played a big part in lifting circle membership to over 60 by the late 1980s.

Dick was also a very genial individual who loved to organise social events attended by the rapidly increasing number of members, but with the added benefit of raising money for the investment account. These functions included dinner dances, evenings out to the Garrick and KADS theatres, quiz nights, Chinese banquets, curry evenings at his home, wine and cheese evenings, car rallies and tours to the Swan Valley and Karri Valley resort near Pemberton to name just a few.

During these years the circle's investment funds grew steadily, aided by the extremely high interest rates being earned at that time. The original intention of the term deposit was to use the funds to subsidise membership fees of all circle brothers, but in particular retired brothers. This meant that retired brothers paid less than those still working, a practice that was stopped quite a few years ago when the circle decided to apply the funds to help with membership drives. It has also been used to top-up the amount donated through the circle's annual President's Charity.



*The Canning Circle team who attended the Saturday evening Mass at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Thornlie with Father Minh-Thuy*

## Clergy night was well supported

A departure from the traditional practice of Canning Circle to welcome and entertain clergy resulted in an outstanding night at RAAFA Bull Creek on Thursday 22 August 2019. During the past few years parish priests have attended singly or, on one occasion two, but since 2011 the circle has not had a large group of priests attend a dinner meeting together.

This year it was decided to get all brothers on behalf of circle President, Russell Godsall to personally invite their own priests to attend on the same night; a change of strategy that resulted in six local priests attending a very successful meeting and dinner.

The Assistant Priest of The Church of Saints John and Paul Parish, Father Hyginus Ebede had visited the circle earlier in the year as a guest speaker and members were delighted to welcome him again.

An apology was received from the Parish Priest of St Thomas More Parish, Bateman who was unable to attend because he had surgery on his right hand the day before the meeting.



Named the *Dick Rosair Fund* in 2012, the amount invested has reduced steadily as money was put to use funding membership drives, but now that funds have been set aside for this purpose by Central Council, Australian National Council and Province 20 to help circle's with the recruitment of members, it has been decided by members that the *Dick Rosair Fund* would no longer be used for this purpose.

Instead members have set up *The Darling Range Catenian Bursary* to help students in need at schools within the circle's region. Brothers of Darling Range have developed a strong affinity with the Catholic schools in the area as many of them have had direct associations with the schools where their children have been educated. As it happens, Dick Rosair's wife, Barbara was a highly respected teacher at Mary's Mount Primary School.

At the present time, both St Brigid's College and Mazenod College receive money from the Fund to help students and the plan is that this will be extended to other primary schools in the area into the future.

Circle members are absolutely sure that Dick and his wife, Barbara would be thrilled to see the money that he so enthusiastically raised for the circle is being used in this way.

### Recovery stories at sons and daughters night

Heartwarming stories about young girls experiencing difficulties and recovery in their lives was a feature of the well attended Darling Range sons and daughters night on Wednesday 14 August 2019 held at the Kalamunda Hotel.

Guest speakers at the dinner were two young ladies from the Esther Foundation in Kalamunda where they occupy the former St Emile's residential Convent. The Esther Foundation has for some years been supporting young girls who have rejected their former lives of drugs and vice, firstly at a venue in South Perth and recently in Kalamunda. Esther provides safe communal accommodation, training and work opportunities.

The two guest ladies told their personal stories of difficulties and recovery. One, a lady in her twenties, is now a staff member conducting work training and the other, a 15 year-old girl is now successfully turning her life to positive outcomes.

The talks by the two young women were well received. They said that they had found the Hills communities to be very welcoming in contrast to those in the centre of the Perth city.

Esther operates a coffee shop and clothes boutique in Haynes Road, Kalamunda where the young girls serve the public and improve their work skills. It is a popular place for locals, including Catenians, because of the positive "buzz" about the place.



**Darling Range President, Patrick Carney with the two guests speakers from the Esther Foundation in Kalamunda**

### Joint meeting with Canning Circle

No one can remember with any certainty how many years Darling Range has been holding joint meetings with brothers from Canning Circle, but the annual event has been held for a long time and is still a looked-forward-to feature of the calendar of both circles. Apart from the hospitality, Darling Range also manages to keep their visitors entertained with the number of venues that have been used over this time.

Gone are the days that the circle could rely on the trusted venue that Darling Range Circle began with in Maida Vale, the Pinewood Lodge, which has now been rebuilt and is the home of the local Presbyterian Church.

The joint meeting held on Wednesday 13 November 2019 was held in the Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall in Lesmurdie. Darling Range has been using this venue for a few years catered by a local parishioner who prepares a two-course meal or when the circle holds its popular soup night where three or four brothers bring along soups.

The downside of this venue is that the brothers need to set-up, wash and dry the dishes and clean up afterwards. Not ideal, but it has been supported by excellent numbers at normal "men's only" meetings and dinners.

The Canning Circle members came along to the recent meeting/dinner all prepared with BYO drinks without realising that their Darling Range hosts had provided wines for the tables for the occasion. There was a great atmosphere and all enjoyed the meal that was provided.



**Joint meeting with Canning Circle**

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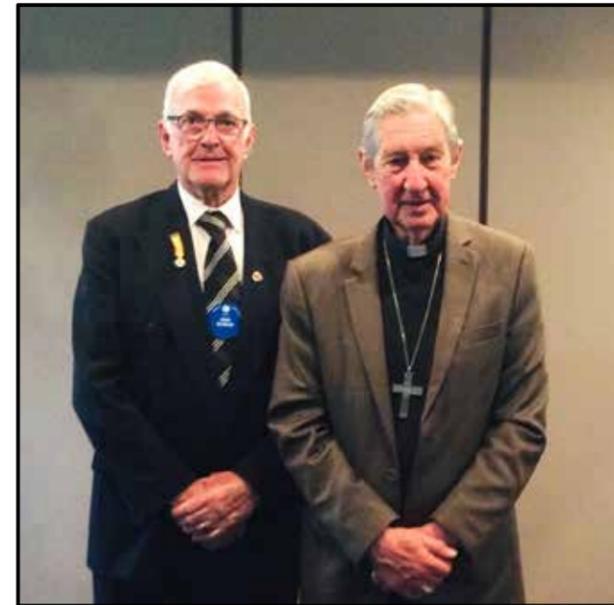
## Dianella

### Clergy night another great success

Brothers hosted their ladies and the clergy at the lunchtime Dianella Circle meeting and dinner held at the Mount Lawley Golf Club on Friday 26 July 2019.

Once again there was a positive response from clergy with circle members this year very privileged to welcome Emeritus Archbishop of Perth, Barry Hickey, a very strong supporter of the Catenian Association in Western Australia over a long period of time. There was excellent interaction with guests who were very appreciative of the special menu provided for the occasion.

The ongoing strong support of parish priests for the Catenian Association has played an enormous part in the success of Dianella Circle's outstanding results in recruiting new members over the past few years.



**Dianella Circle President, Vern Scanlan with Emeritus Archbishop Barry Hickey**



**Left to right: Sister Eileen Johnson and Sister Dora Maguire (both from Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart), Dianella Circle President, Vern Scanlan and Nigel McBain (Seminarist), Monsignor Nigel Harry Entwistle and Father Joseph Yamaoka, all from The Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of the Southern Cross**

### Another Dianella 25-year milestone

Dianella Brother **STEVE YERKOVICH** was honoured at the circle's meeting on Friday 2 August 2019 with a presentation in recognition of his 25 years of membership of the Catenian Association. Dianella Circle President, Vern Scanlan, presented the certificate.

Steve has been a committed member of the circle, including serving as Treasurer for the past few years.



**Acknowledging Steve's 25-year membership milestone, left to right: Peter Kora, President Vern Scanlan, Steve Yerkovich, Gerry Butler and Lou Daily**

### Sons and Daughters night another great hit

Dianella members had a wonderfully successful evening on 25 September shared with a pleasing attendance of 25 sons, daughters and a few grandchildren, along with 45 circle brothers.

As usual, Ken Durnin had a standout attendance with a total of 12 of his family members attending, pictured below:



**Standing, left to right: Michelle Snadden, Gerard Snadden, Nicola Snadden, Andrew Durnin, Alex Snadden and Martha Middleton  
Seated, left to right: Matt Snadden, Brother Ken Durnin, Stephen Durnin, Emily Hunt, Thomas Hunt, Brendan Hunt and Saskia Bouwhuis**

There were four absent members of the Durnin family: Ken's eldest daughter and child, Maureen Hunt and her husband Lorne who were holidaying in Europe, his granddaughter, Rebekah Snadden who has moved to work and live in Canada and Andrew's fiancée, Gemma Greenaway who had a prior engagement and could not attend.

*Other family photos taken at the Sons and Daughters night are included on the next page:*





Brother Greg Haydock (second from right) pictured with his son-in-law, Greg and daughter Barbara (left) and grandson, Luke (right)



Brother Leon Dique (right) with daughter, Avril and son, David



Left to right: Brother Steve Yerkovich with daughter, Tania and son-in-law, Todd

## Another new brother for Dianella Circle

MARK TINDALE was enrolled at Dianella Circle's monthly meeting in October 2019. Mark is the father of two children and attends the St Paul's Parish in Mt Lawley.

He was born in Paddington in Sydney and spent most of his younger life in New South Wales, attending the Christian Brothers School, St Patrick's College in Strathfield in Sydney. After completing his secondary education, Mark went to university where he studied and qualified as a geologist.

"In this profession you get the opportunity to work in many countries," Mark said, "so I was able to advance my career by working in countries such as North America, Europe, Africa and Asia."

Mark has been back in Australia since 2012 still working as a geologist in his now home State of Western Australia.

For fun, Mark enjoys traditional darkroom photography as a hobby. He has toured many places in the world by bicycle, starting with a trip through France and Italy with his father almost 20 years ago. He has cycled across Mongolia, where there are often no roads, as well as the highest roads in the world (5,417 metres) in the Himalayas. You could say that he is a very physically fit person.

Dianella brothers welcome Mark into their circle.



## Fremantle

### Enjoyable joint meeting with Canning Circle

A pleasing crowd of brothers attended the Fremantle Circle joint meeting with Canning Circle held at the Swan Yacht Club in East Fremantle on Thursday 19 September 2019. The gathering also included four brothers from Swan Valley Circle.

The three participating circles elected to donate proceeds of a raffle amounting to about \$100 to the Province 20 Youth Support Fund.



Left to right: Alex Munut (Canning) and Graham Mahony (Fremantle)

### Harnessing the wind

On a recent holiday in Western Australia's southwest at Albany, Fremantle Brother Kevin Hefron and his wife, Denise visited the wind farm located on the south coast not far off the road leading to the Gap, Natural Bridge, Blow Holes and other scenic sights.

Kevin and Denise were fascinated with the dramatic sight of the turbines spinning in a stiff breeze, supplying the City of Albany with clean energy and satisfying most of the town's needs.

Kevin was impressed to learn of the millions of tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions that are saved through the estimated turbine lifetime of 20 years.



Denise, pictured with the wind turbines in the background

The wind turbine towers are 65 metres tall with a 50 tonne generator on top driven by three 35 metre long blades. Quite startling, Kevin writes, when compared to the size of the playing surface of Perth's Optus Oval, 165 metres by 130 metres.

He explained that the turbines face the wind and the blades pivot to maximise the energy produced. Winds as low as seven kilometres per hour will turn the blades, however when the winds reach 120 kilometres per hour, the turbines shut down to prevent damage. At top speed the blades appear to move very slowly; one

revolution every three seconds, however the tips at the end of the blades travel at 290 kilometres per hour.

"The coastal platform on the cliff tops in that area offer spectacular views. It's a great place to watch whales in spring or just pause and contemplate the southern ocean," Kevin writes.

### Honoured for outstanding service



Ged and Margaret Kerrigan

GED AND MARGARET KERRIGAN were honoured at the Provincial luncheon held at the Mt Lawley Golf Club in Inglewood on Sunday 3 November in recognition of the outstanding contribution they have made to Province 20 and Fremantle Circle. In the absence of Ged who was suffering poor health, Provincial President, Keith Morgan presented the Certificate of Appreciation Award to Kevin Hefron.

Ged joined Fremantle Circle in October 2005 and has served as Vice President, President, Provincial Councillor, and Registrar and has been the circle's Membership Officer since April 2016 and still serves in that important capacity.

Although no longer on Provincial Council, Ged and Margaret continue to put their whole-hearted effort into the Catenian Association, Provincial functions and their circle, despite periods of poor health.

Keith Morgan said that the certificate would be presented to Ged and Margaret in person at an appropriate occasion.

### Not the same as it used to be

Fremantle Brother IAN HANDCOCK was a surprise, but very welcome visitor to the Province 20 Provincial Council meeting at St Thomas More Catholic Parish in Bateman on Saturday 23 November 2019. It brought back some fond memories for Ian, who was Western Australian's first Catenian Association Provincial President in 1984/85 when Province 20 was formed, having operated for its initial four years as Area Council - West.

Ian was a quiet observer for most of the November Provincial Council meeting, but at the end of proceedings he spoke up and said how much he appreciated being able to attend after so many years.



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“The meeting wasn’t much different from the old days, “ he said, “except we didn’t have all those black things in front of us to read our papers from”, referring to the line of lap-top computers that adorned the tables in front of most of the Councillors.

Ian was a Founder Member of the City of Perth Circle when it was inaugurated on 8 February 1977 and then, four years later he was also a Founder Member of Fremantle Circle when it was inaugurated on 28 February 1981. He is still an active member of Fremantle Circle.

Another Fremantle Brother, **CLIFF HOLLOWAY** was a prime mover in the formation of the Catenian Association in Western Australia and a Founder Member of the City of Perth Circle. He was President of Liaison Council – West in 1981/82 and Area Council – West in 1982/83. He was then Provincial President in 1985/86, taking over from his friend, Ian Handcock. In 2007 he was awarded Honorary Life Membership of Province 20 for his outstanding service to the Association, along with Brothers Laurie Shervington and Brendan McGurk (both deceased) and also Founder Members of the City of Perth Circle.

Cliff, who celebrated his 97<sup>th</sup> birthday in December 2019, is no longer able to attend circle meetings, but remains strongly committed to the Catenian Association and its members. In November 2019 Kevin Hefron and Graham Mahony visited Cliff and his wife, Vivienne at their home in Alfred Cove and spent some special time reminiscing about the old days and updating them about how the Association and, in particular, Fremantle Circle is progressing.

## Christmas by the Swan River

On a hot 40 degree summer evening where better to spend it than on the banks of the Swan River in East Fremantle?

The refurbished Swan Yacht Club was the venue for Fremantle’s Christmas party on Thursday 12 December 2019, attended by 35 brothers and wives including widows and visitors from other circles. Cliff and Lorraine Chalon and Warren and Lynette Everett from Canning Circle joined Provincial President, Keith Morgan and his wife Colleen, and Joondalup Circle were represented by John Frost and President, Peter Johnston and his wife, Maree.

A warm welcome was also extended to Fremantle ladies, Jan Bourne, Jan Coffey, Patricia Hanrahan, Judy Humphris, Yvonne Lowe and Gloria Skelton.

*“Father Christmas”  
Dick Finucane and  
Gloria Skelton*



*Vivienne and Cliff Holloway with Kevin Hefron (centre)*

Following in the footsteps of Ian Handcock and Cliff Holloway, other Fremantle Brothers who have served the Association as Provincial President were Alex Banovich (1988/89), Kevin Brady (1990/91), Joe Coffey (1999/2000), Jeff De Silva (2002/03) and Kevin Hefron (2017/18 and 2018/19).



*Theresa Williams, Mary Golding and Denise Hefron*



*Lynette and Warren Everett, Lesley Sutton and Muriel Mahony*

## Joondalup

### Elliott celebrates a birthday milestone

**ELLIOTT LEVITT** celebrated his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday with a commendable number of Catenian brothers visiting him at the Bethanie Aged Care facility in Yanchep over a few days before and after the actual date of his birthday on Monday 22 July 2019.

Elliott was born in New York City on 22 July 1939. Educated at the Christopher Columbus High School, Bronx, New York and the University of New Mexico he worked as an airman in the United States Air Force from 1957 to 1961, Welfare Officer for the City of New York from 1964 to 1965 and Employment Officer for the State of New York from 1965 to 1966.

Following his migration to Western Australia in 1967 he was employed as a Probation and Parole Officer in Perth from 1968 until his retirement in 1991.

He met Anne-Marie Moss in Perth and they were married at St Columba’s Catholic Church in South Perth in 1973. Sadly, Anne-Marie passed away several years ago.

Elliott joined the City of Perth Circle in 1981 and was a Foundation Member of Liwara Circle in 1982, serving as Welfare Officer, Membership Officer and Secretary. He joined Joondalup Circle when he moved to Bethanie at Yanchep.

Although now almost totally paralysed, permanently bedridden and unable to attend circle meetings, he has established many loyal and supportive friendships with fellow Catenian brothers from City of Perth, Liwara and Joondalup Circles who regularly visit him at the aged care facility.



*Elliott, pictured with Joondalup brothers John Monkhouse and John Frost a year or two ago*

### Celebrating his 88<sup>th</sup> birthday in style

Another Joondalup brother recently celebrating a milestone birthday was **JOHN FROST** who turned 88 on 21 August 2019. John started his big day in fine style, taken out to lunch by his son, Michael and daughter, Geraldine. Then he was honoured again on the same evening by his fellow brothers .at the Joondalup Circle monthly dinner at the RAAFA Retirement Village at Cambrai.

John was born on 21 August 1931 at Sacred Heart Hospital in the farming town of Young in New South Wales, the youngest of five children. He was educated at St Patrick’s College in Goulburn run by the Christian Brothers. He finished his Leaving Certificate in 1949 and became an apprentice pharmacist in 1950 working two years in Goulburn. In 1952 he went to Sydney to obtain his degree.

He married Judeth Ryan at All Hallows Catholic Church in Inglewood on 31 October 1959, having met on a holiday to Perth in 1957 accompanied by his mother, Margaret. He worked as a pharmacist in the city for a short time before opening a pharmacy

in Lake Grace followed by another in Northam. Their first child, Geraldine was born in 1961 and Michael was born in 1965. John’s wife and the love of his life, Judeth passed away on 30 April 2004 after a blessed marriage of 44 years.

John joined Fremantle Circle in 1989 serving as Treasurer, then as President for two years. He transferred to Joondalup Circle in 2007 after relocating in the northern suburbs at Kingsley after his retirement.



*Standing left to right: Mike Wright, Andrew Swanson, Barry Webb, Vince Sinagra, Wayne McKay, Michael Finch and Jim Doherty.*

*Seated: Guest of honour, John Frost, Rolf Bank and John Monkhouse (photo by Peter Johnston)*

### Joondalup Circle welcomes its new Brother

Joondalup brothers were delighted to welcome **MIKE WRIGHT** as a joint member of the circle at its meeting on Thursday 21 August 2019. Mike has been a member of Liwara Circle for 30 years, but recently moved with his wife, Carol to live at Cambrai, literally just across the road from the RAAFA recreation and dining centre.



*Mike Wright with President, Peter Johnston*

Mike will continue his “home” membership at Liwara Circle where he was enrolled in the 1988/89 Catenian year and served as Registrar for three years, was Vice-President in 1994/95 and President in 1995/96.

Mike emigrated from England in 1970 planning a short holiday in Darwin for two months. He finished up staying in the Northern Territory capital city for nine years before transferring to Perth.

Mike and Carol have two children, Michael and Sarah and are the proud grandparents of two.

After arriving in Perth from Darwin they were active members of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Parish in North Beach and are now members of Our Lady of the Mission Catholic Parish at Whitfords.



## Provincial Commemorative Mass

Joondalup was well represented with five brothers and wives attending the Province 20 President's luncheon held on Sunday 3 November 2019 at the Mt Lawley Golf Club in Inglewood.

The buffet lunch followed a Commemorative Mass for deceased Province brothers held at St Mary's Cathedral in Perth, which was also attended by several brothers who were unable to attend the luncheon that followed.

*Sheila McBride and Neal Garswood pictured at the Provincial luncheon*



*Barry and Elizabeth Webb*



*Mike and Carol Wright*

## Supporting Liwara's golf day



*Left to right, Mick Doak, Andrew Swanson and Peter Johnston were among only five players from visiting circles that competed in Liwara Circle's annual golf day at Marangaroo on 14 November 2019*

## Croquet tops the popularity list

Once again, the annual Joondalup Circle croquet afternoon held at the Cambridge Croquet Club in Floreat on Sunday 17 November 2019 was an outstanding success with a good crowd of Catenian brothers, wives and family members turning up to enjoy the social occasion.

The competition was keenly contested in fine, sunny conditions. Everyone played four games comprising about 30 minutes each with Mick Doak winning the afternoon. The sporting activities were followed with a few drinks, an informal meal of chicken and salad topped off with ice cream and fruit salad and more drinks.

Thanks to the Cambridge Croquet Club for providing use of the excellent facilities and to Joondalup Brother, Vince Sinagra for organising the afternoon. Vince is a long-time member of the croquet club.



*The players*



*Mike Wright, Pat Winton, and Maree Johnston anxiously wait while John Monkhouse attempts a challenging shot*

*Vince Sinagra presents the coveted trophy to the 2019 winner, Mick Doak*



## Celebrating Christmas

An excellent turnout of 50 brothers, wives, family members and special guests enjoyed a traditional Christmas lunch at RAAFA Cambrai on Saturday 7 December 2019. The departure from celebrating the festive season self-catered by members and wives was a welcome change and is sure to be repeated in future years.

Special guests at the lunch were Provincial Vice President, Lou Daily, Province 20 Director and Central Council Vice President, Ralph Fitzpatrick and his wife, Liana and Immediate Past Director of Province 20, Gerry Barton.

Members were also pleased to welcome widows of deceased brothers; Merle Reid and Jenny Rae who regularly attend Joondalup Circle functions.



*Left to right: Gerry Barton, David Chatel, Jim Murphy, Vince Sinagra, Andrew Swanson and Martin Colgan*

*Liz Webb with Michael and Gail Finch*



*Jim and Pat Doherty*

## Liwara

### Clergy night strongly supported by wives

Liwara Circle's clergy night held at Croatian House, Gwelup on Thursday 1 August 2019 was special for two reasons: The circle was delighted with the response and support given by the local clergy with six in attendance and the evening coincided with one of the occasional meetings and dinners at which wives, partners and friends are invited.

Twenty-four ladies attended, including Vivien Bowler and Tanya Ford, the wife of an invited guest and potential new member, Brad.

Overall, it was a pleasant evening to express appreciation to the priests who serve the parishes at which Liwara members are parishioners. It was also an opportunity for brothers to meet and mingle with the wives and friends who are met here and in the parishes and around about and to involve new Catenian brothers and their wives.

#### Members of the clergy at the dinner were:

Father Emil Ciecieroga, St Lawrence Parish, Balcatta/Gwelup  
 Father Adan Babinski, St Dominic's Parish, Innaloo/Karrinyup  
 Father Emmanuel Dimobi, Holy Spirit Parish, City Beach  
 Father Elver Delicano, All Saints Parish, Greenwood  
 Father Cyprian Shikokoti, Our Lady of the Mission Parish, Whitfords  
 Marist Brother Terry Orrell



*Father Emmanuel Dimobi with Paul Cranley*



*Father Emil Ciecieroga with Alan Rose*



## Young brother warmly welcomed



*The installation of Liwara's new, young member, Brad Ford (left) pictured with Neal Miranda at the November 2019 meeting of the circle*

## Visiting guest from Melbourne

The Secretary of Boroondara Circle in Melbourne, Tibor Puhl was a welcome visitor at Liwara's Circle's November meeting. He is no stranger to Western Australia, visiting Perth on a regular basis, on this occasion the guest of Ralph Fitzpatrick.



*Left to right: Geoff Storey, Vice President, Terry Dwyer, Tibor Puhl drawing the raffle and Paul Chabrel*

## Revival of the popular 'wooden spoon'

Liwara Circle has reintroduced its "wooden spoon" award, customarily presented to the 'most disputatious Catenian brother' on meeting nights. The November 2019 recipient was Chris Stevens. In his case he had complained that the circle should provide nibbles when the bar is open prior to meetings.

His request was granted, but when only a very small number of brothers took to the nibbles when provided, Chris was most unimpressed, qualifying him for the award.



*Chris Stevens with the coveted wooden spoon trophy*

## Provincial Commemorative Mass

Liwara Circle was well represented at the Province 20 President's luncheon held on Sunday 3 November 2019 at the Mt Lawley Golf Club in Inglewood.

The buffet lunch followed a Commemorative Mass for deceased Province brothers held at St Mary's Cathedral in Perth, also attended by several brothers who were unable to attend the luncheon that followed.



*Jean and Anna Prosper*



*Laura and Tony Ryall*



*Mary and John Carey*

## City of Mandurah

### Good turnout at early Christmas celebration

The Christmas festive season was off to an early start for the City of Mandurah Circle when 60 brothers and wives and guests gathered at the refurbished clubhouse of the Mandurah Country Club in Halls Head on Saturday 23 November 2019.

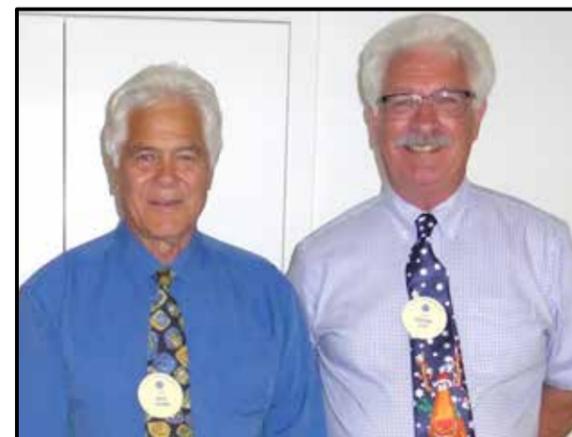
Guests enjoyed a delicious two-course meal in picturesque surroundings with a spectacular view over the adjoining golf course. Special guests included Provincial President, Keith Morgan and his wife, Colleen and the Parish Priest and members of the clergy of Our Lady's Assumption Catholic Church in Mandurah.



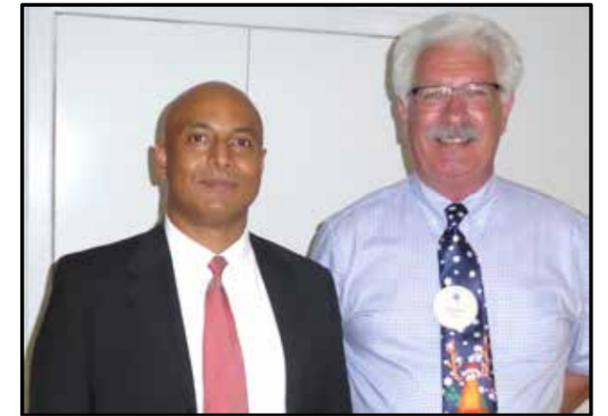
*Guests enjoying the surrounds of the refurbished Mandurah Country Club*



*City of Mandurah President, Colin Purcell in his spectacular Christmas attire with Provincial President, Keith Morgan*



*Newly installed City of Mandurah Brother, Mike Thoms pictured with Membership Officer, Gerard Ots*



*Prospective new City of Mandurah member, Richard Geddes pictured with Membership Officer, Gerard Ots*

## Swan Valley

### Provincial Commemorative Mass

Swan Valley Circle was well represented at the Province 20 President's luncheon held on Sunday 3 November 2019 at the Mt Lawley Golf Club in Inglewood.

The buffet lunch followed a Commemorative Mass for deceased Province brothers held at St Mary's Cathedral in Perth, also attended by several brothers who were unable to attend the luncheon that followed.



*Carol and Vince Debono*



*Lorraine and Kevin Parker*



## Special visitor from Harare Circle, Zimbabwe



*Patrick Munyaradzi (left) pictured with Swan Valley President Jim Schelfhout and Jim Miolin*

**PATRICK MUNYARADZI**, the Immediate Past President of Harare Circle in Zimbabwe was a special guest at Swan Valley's meeting on Wednesday 4 December 2019. Patrick, a qualified engineer, is also a member of Southern Africa Virtual Area Council (SAVAC). He gave a brief presentation to the meeting about Harare Circle and developments in Africa. The circle has 39 members, proudly winning the Catenian Association International Membership trophy in 2015.

Patrick is encouraging his younger brother, Justice, who migrated to Perth six years ago and lives in the area, to join Swan Valley Circle. Swan Valley members were very supportive, both at the circle meeting and at the Christmas function, which included invitations to both wives.

Swan Valley members were informed at the circle's December meeting that the Catenian Association Director for Development Areas, John Rayer (a past Grand President) toured African circles in October 2019, spending two days in each city attending meetings and local events in Johannesburg, Bulawayo and Harare. During this tour John presented 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary certificates to Bulawayo Circle 187 and Harare Circle 188, the first circles inaugurated outside the United Kingdom. He also presented a 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary certificate and medallion to Brother Arthur Douie a Founder Member of Harare Circle.

Two delegates from the central city of Morogoro in Tanzania also attended the respective meetings in Bulawayo and Harare with John Rayer. Their participation in the tour was to assess whether Catenian membership would appeal to over 30 Catholic men from Morogoro who have expressed interest in joining the Association. Early days, but if successful, Morogoro would be used as a template for further expansion in East Africa, which has a large population of Catholics.

It is of interest that Tanzania is an East African nation with a population of about 52 million people with Roman Catholics making up almost a third of the total population.

To assist the membership growth, SAVAC seeks the support of Australian brothers to provide names to Gerry Barton (Liwara Circle) of potential members living in major cities in Southern Africa. Gerry can be contacted by telephone on 0438 928 881 or by email at [glbarton25@bigpond.com](mailto:glbarton25@bigpond.com)

Financial support for the very successful Rosary project, which provides rosaries and pamphlets to schoolchildren in Harare, is always welcome with donations payable to the Provincial Treasurer, Paul Chabrel (Liwara Circle).

## Christmas in the valley

The Swan Valley Circle's Christmas party held on Sunday 8 December 2019 was once again hosted by Brother Richard Taylor at his home in the heart of the Swan Valley nestled among the vineyards and fruit trees on his sprawling 15-acre property. Sixty people were in attendance, including visitors, Kevin and Denise Hefron from Fremantle Circle.

The Christmas feast comprising beef, lamb and pork was professionally prepared by the circle's long-time, experienced barbecue team of specialised cooks with salads and desserts provided by members. Peter and Paula Hoffman donated a range of Swan Valley wines.

The evening was filled with love, warmth and much chatter with some brothers adjoining for a Bocce challenge on Richard's manicured lawn, vigorously competing for a coveted trophy of a jar of home grown honey donated by Colin Broun.

The party concluded with Christmas carols, capturing the special feeling of the season.



*The hardworking cooks in action*



*The dishwashing team, left to right: David Martlew, Ross Scarfone and Andy Yukich*

