

# Marist Champagnat Family Newsletter

Marist Brothers New Zealand Province

September 2011

28 Dunstall Place, Mangere Bridge, Auckland 2022

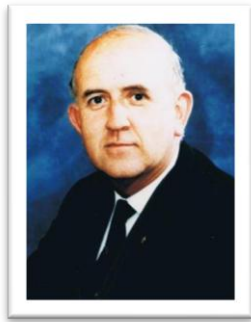
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Dear Champagnat Marists,

Welcome to another newsletter and hope this finds you all fit and well as can be expected as we, hopefully, head into warmer weather.

## **BROTHER GILES WATERS R.I.P.** from a tribute by Brother Romuald

Brother Giles died at Selwyn Heights Village Hospital on June 4<sup>th</sup>, aged 83, in his 65<sup>th</sup> year as a Marist Brother. Born Kevin Giles in Hamilton on April 26<sup>th</sup> 1928, he was the ninth of the eleven children of Thomas and Grace Waters.



In those hard Depression days sport was a welcome relief to the Waters family, and young Kevin developed a passion for rugby that lasted all his life. He represented Waikato in the Roller Mills tourney while at Hamilton Marist, and it was there that he decided to enter the brotherhood. He was 14 when he entered the Juniorate, and 19 when he received the Habit, and the name Brother Giles.

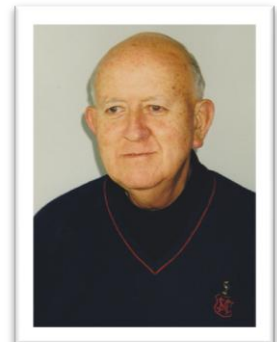
He began teaching full-time in Whanganui in 1948. Then came 13 appointments to our primary schools, including terms as headmaster in Invercargill, Greymouth and Christchurch. In these appointments Giles' enthusiasm and growing skills shaped him into a teacher and headmaster who was highly respected and trusted. He was demanding and set high standards, yet was always

scrupulously fair and understanding, with a special care for the underdog. He really enjoyed coaching and administering junior rugby, selecting and coaching numerous junior representative teams. For many years he represented the Marist Brothers at the New Zealand Marist Rugby Clubs executive meetings.

From 1986 he lived in active retirement at Sacred Heart College, helping with the Alternative Education programme, the College's Sports Foundation, and the library. In 2006 ill health caused him to move first to Onslow Avenue, then to Selwyn Heights Village. He enjoyed living there. He would often say how well he was looked after, savouring the company of fellow-residents and staff, as well as generous spiritual support especially from Father Matt Brady and Brothers Peter Henderson and John Paul.

We admired a certain endearing simplicity about Giles. We recognised his searching love of God, his warm-hearted sense of Mary as one who walked with him, an unwavering belief in the need for prayer and the Eucharist, with hard work and fidelity as normal expectations. He was an excellent community man with a genuine love for his companions, a ready laugh and an abiding interest in sport. Even in advanced illness he gave everyone a gracious welcome and put them at their ease.

The final whistle found him full of acceptance, patience and contentment – a splendid way to leave the field. He is buried at Waikaraka Cemetery, Auckland.





## NEW HOME FOR VOCATIONS PROMOTION the FM Connection

The new start for the FM Connection in Auckland has finally come about, with Brothers Kevin Dobbyn, Peter Henderson and Borerei Katarake moving from Budock Road to their gracious old 1920s-era home at 4 Beatrice Rd Remuera in late May, just in time for a May 22<sup>nd</sup> combined house-warming and farewell to Borerei, who left for MAPAC on May 27<sup>th</sup>. Brother David thanked Borerei for his cheerful presence among us and wished him every blessing in his studies in Manila. Borerei thanked all who helped him with his language studies and for the warm welcome he experienced in all our communities he visited.



Brothers Borerei, Peter and Kevin on the front porch of their new home.

### MELANESIAN ASSEMBLY

Brother Siasoi Ioane from Samoa and Ms Ana Luvena from Fiji joined the Brothers of the District of Melanesia for their recent assembly in Port Moresby. Brother Richard Dunleavy was there at the same time attending to the writing of the Statutes for the new Districts that will come about when the new Administration Unit in the Oceania Region is promulgated.

### NEW BISHOPS



We have sent congratulations to new Bishops Charles Drennan (Palmerston North) and Paul Donoghue (Rarotonga). Richard Dunleavy knows Bishop Drennan

from their time together in Rome; he and Humphrey attended the ordination in Palmerston North. Bishop Donoghue, former Society of Mary Oceania Provincial, is well known to our Suva Brothers, having often offered Mass at Vatuwaqa. Bishop Paul's mother, from Waiterimu, is a Ngaruawahia parishioner and a friend of Roger and Joe. Both bishops have sent us their thanks and support.

### A TRIBUTE FROM THE LATE FRANK FISCHER (BR LUCIAN)

In a recent letter from the trustees of Frank Fischer's estate they wrote:

With sadness we report the death of Frank Fischer. Frank requested us, as trustees of his estate, to "write a letter of thanks to the Provincial, Marist Brothers of New Zealand, for the glorious years I spent in their Institute." From time to time Frank would speak very fondly of the fellowship and camaraderie whilst he was a Brother, and we thank you on his behalf for those "glorious years". His family and trustees appreciated the Marist Brothers taking part in the funeral Mass, and hosting the gathering in their residence after the burial.



A vintage photo of the Brothers gathered in Samoa with Frank 4<sup>th</sup> from the left in the back.

### WAIKATO CHAMPAGNAT DAY CELEBRATIONS

Ngaruawahia (June 12<sup>th</sup>) and St John's College (June 14<sup>th</sup>) held very successful celebrations. Eight Brothers, with some Sacred Heart College senior boarders, attended Ngaruawahia proceedings in St Paul's Church.

Former Principals, Bernard Blewman and Terence Costello, along with visiting Brothers, were present at St John's celebrations in the cathedral, with first-day pupil Monsignor Frank Eggleton a concelebrant.

### **BUDOCK ROAD COMMUNITY, HILLSBOROUGH**

Now that the 2011 Hillsborough community of Brothers Peter Thompson, Peter Brown and William Lawley have been able to take possession of their home, we look forward to an invitation to their house-warming. RSVP to or [marist18@xtra.co.nz](mailto:marist18@xtra.co.nz) or (09) 625 8019.

### **GENERAL COUNCILLORS TO VISIT THE PROVINCE**

Brothers Michael de Waas and John Klein from the General Council in Rome arrive on August 14<sup>th</sup>. During the five weeks they are with us, they hope to visit all parts of the Province, and all the different ministries of the Province.

### **NEWS FROM KIRIBATI**



**Not Kiribati we know but at the gathering of the Fiji, Samoa and Kiribati assembly - members came together for a photo**

Brother Donald is enjoying his new role as CEO of Catholic Education, and is about to visit the school on Christmas Island, as far from Tarawa as Apia is from Auckland. Brother Chris is working a full programme, teaching five periods a day. Brother Jone leads a number of "Come and See" programmes, with five young men showing interest in our Marist life. He plans to have them come in for some weekends in twos and threes. This means, to

Brother Terry's relief, that there will be some young muscle to help tidy up the place now that welcome rain has brought fresh green growth again after a long dry spell. Terry is at present in Auckland for some medical attention. We do hope that all goes well for you, Terry.



**The Brothers in Kiribati with a "Come and See" weekend for prospective candidates.**

### **NEWS FROM MULIVAI, SAMOA**



**Marist Mulivai pupils preparing for Independence Day celebrations this year.**

This year's community is Brothers Mark Oliver (leader), Iulio Suaesi (Principal), Edward Danielson, and Bernard O'Malley. Taiga Moanriba lives at Alafua and teaches here, while Kevin Hore lives at Sinamoga and teaches here – so we have five monks working in classrooms, Edward being retired. We have 20 classes and 705 students. Four of our teachers are Champagnat associates/Lay Marists. There is only one more year to

Samoa's Golden Jubilee of Independence – and to Bernard's 65<sup>th</sup> birthday. Our Parish Church and Cathedral, dedicated in 1905, has been demolished recently as an earthquake risk; work on a new Cathedral on the same site is going well.

### CONGRATULATIONS, MARCELLIN COLLEGE AND SACRED HEART COLLEGE!



In a recent METRO magazine survey, our Marcellin College and Sacred Heart College were listed among the top six schools in Auckland for preparing their students for state examinations, and their students the most likely to improve their academic standards. Of the top six schools, five were Catholic, the other being Dilworth School. A grand achievement by all these schools; their staffs and students deserve our admiration and our congratulations



### LOMERI 40 YEARS ON



The Lomeri novitiate opened on February 2<sup>nd</sup> 1971. Brothers and friends who sweated for the cause in Stride Out 71 will be pleased that their contributions are being remembered and sustained, as local workmen have

been spending the last ten weeks on extensive maintenance and painting, restoring the buildings to their pristine state. Best of all, our eight novices are as bright and shining as their surroundings.

### A NEW NOVICE MASTER FOR LOMERI

Our Provincial, Brother David, is pleased to announce that Brother Afaese Afaese has accepted his appointment as novice master at our Lomeri novitiate, starting in 2012. Afaese

has extensive experience as a classroom teacher and in Formation-Training, more recently in Kiribati, where for four years he ran the pre-novitiate centre. This year he is doing formation training in Sydney. He will succeed Brother Dennis Cooper of the Melbourne Province, whose term of outstanding service not only to our novices but also to the wider Catholic community of Fiji, finishes at the end of this year.



### SOME ADDRESSES

**Brother Kieran O'Sullivan:** Gillies Court Rest Home, 245 Gillies Avenue, Epsom, Auckland 1023.

**Brother Jordan McCormick:** St Winifred's Hospital, 10 St Winifred's Place, Bryndwr, Christchurch.

### SOME NEWS FROM CAIRO

As many of you are aware there has been a lot of turmoil in Egypt lately. Taxi drivers in Cairo are noted for blowing their horns as often as possible, at intersections, at pedestrians, at one another and so. Great fun for all.

The Government decided to let the people know that things are getting back to normal

and to help relax and encourage them to get out onto the streets again instructed the taxi drivers to get back to blowing their horns again. They decided to call this special new programme: "Toot and calm 'em".



Best wishes and thank you for your wonderful support. God Bless and warmest regards,

*Brother Humphrey O' Connor*