

Recent Development at Macedon

Br Gerard

After almost twelve months of planning, submissions, and waiting for permits, these past few weeks have seen considerable activity occurring on our normally quiet property here at Macedon. In mid-September a bobcat cleared and levelled the site for the unit, and a few days later the foundations were concreted. Two of the stone gate posts and a section of the front fence also had to be removed to provide access. Our dog, Bianca, and the four hens were briefly at a loss as to what was happening, but new smells and plenty of worms and insects soon had them all occupied.



Foragers, after the excavation work ...

On Wednesday, 5th October we received word that “The Unit” had left Bond Homes in Ballarat and was finally on its way. Measuring 9.36m by 3.78m, it was gradually manoeuvred down the driveway before



East view

the 40-tonne crane lifted it gently from the semi-trailer onto the blocks. The unit consists of a spacious lounge / kitchen area, a bedroom with bathroom and laundry next door, and with a verandah on the front.



Installation

Gas, water, electricity, etc, are yet to be connected before the unit will become ready for occupancy.



View from the back door of the house

In the not-too-distant future, the back verandah of the Brothers’ house will be extended to include a ramp, and a concrete pathway wide enough to take a wheelchair will connect the two buildings. **MN**

The Third Age Course at Manziana, Italy

*Brothers James Norton and Bill McCarthy
Saturday 29 October 2011*

Manziana is a municipality in the Province of Rome located about forty kilometres northwest of Rome. Its position is elevated about 400 metres above sea level, and therefore it is cool in these autumn months. Approximately 7000 souls inhabit this very old town with no resident tourists and no postcards. On October 15, Manziana was the destination of fifteen Marist Brothers and five Marianist Brothers who arrived from various parts of the Globe. The Marianists are from the USA while the Marist Brothers come from Sri Lanka, Nigeria, Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

We are fortunate to have Marist Father Anton Verbraeken as our chaplain. Anton has been an assistant-general, provincial and missionary in Oceania. More importantly, he brings a wonderful sense of simplicity and celebration to our liturgies in which he is aided by the Marist Manziana team of Brothers: Barry Burns of New Zealand, Antoine Kazindu of Rwanda and Anthony Hunt from Australia. Each of these men has gone out of his way to make us



Fr Tonny Verbraeken (Netherlands)



*The Manziana Team - Br Barry Burns (NZ),
Director, Br Antoine Kazindu (Rwanda) and
Br Anthony Hunt (Sydney).*

feel welcome and at home.

Our first few days were spent in a process of getting to know one another by listening to the history of each individual taking part in this two-month program. All of us would agree that the story-telling was an integral part of our learning about who we are and where we come from, not only geographically but also from our family backgrounds and Marist and Marianist histories. The varied personal stories and the challenges encountered in living out our vocation were humbling and inspiring.

Since our arrival, Marist Brother Don Bisson, a Jungian psychologist and spiritual director, flew in from USA to spend four days with us, exploring the psychology of ageing. Don's insights from his years of experience helped each of us to examine and explore the issues related to this significant period of our lives. His insights were invaluable and will assist us in the years ahead.

Fr David Glenday MCCJ, a Comboni Missionary of the Heart of Jesus, Secretary-General of



Australian Marists: Brs Kelvin Canavan, Gerry Steele, Terry Orrell, Joe Hughes, Bill McCarthy and Don Newton.

the Union of Religious Superiors, has been with us for the past three days, providing input and leading some lively discussions on 'Religious Life Today' and 'Praying in the Third Age.'

We have had visitors. In our first week, Marist Vicar-General Joseph McKee and Councillors General, John Klein and Michael De Waas, were with us for a meal. Three Marist Missionary Sis-

ters, Pauline Gresham (NZ), Loloahi Tautalanoa (Kiribati) and Shiela (UK), who reside at their Generalate a short distance away, also made a brief visit.

There has been a recreational side to our time at Manziana. Our first Sunday together had some of us visiting the main street of the local town of Manziana for the annual Chestnut Festival where we saw the traditional chestnut roast over a roar-

ing fire in the town square, heard bands playing typical Italian music and saw actors entertaining and engaging the crowds by performing tricks as they walked about on stilts.

On two free days members of our group have had the opportunity to visit places such as Rome and Viterbo. An outing together, travelling through the local area, took us to the picturesque town of Anguillara, the castle of Bracciano and the trattoria of Ceri where we had a meal to remember, especially the truffles. What a delight it was to be in a bus, following



USA Marists: Brs James Norton, Steve Kappes, Don Bisson (visiting speaker), John Malich and Eladio Gonzalez.



Sri Lanka Marists: Brs Ephrem Obris and Noel Fonseka.

Next Monday both Marianists and Marists will depart for their places of origin, with the Marists going to France and the Marianists to both France and Spain. We Marists are looking forward to seeing the refurbished Hermitage, but more importantly we will approach this pilgrimage with a sense of gratitude for all that we have received from our founder, Marcellin, and from the early Brothers who were also responsible for the founding of the Congregation..

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***New Zealand Marist:
Br Doug Dawick.***



Nigerian Marists: Brs Mike Oruche and Isaac Ali.

narrow, winding roads, rather than forgettable freeways. From time to time trees reached out to touch us gently as we passed without haste through undulating country, clothed with vineyards, olive groves, vegetable patches and fields lying fallow, waiting for the winter rains to bring to life crops of wheat, oats and barley. Our first two weeks have come to an end and we move on to the next stage of our journey.



USA Marianists: Brs David Murphy, Philip Aaron, David Quigley, Chester Burnog, Lawrence McBride.

Pics taken by the *editor-at-large*

Br Tony Clark with Flaviano outside the *Oasis Centre* in Upper Baucau, East Timor, where free English lessons and use of computers is offered to young people. It is supported by MAPS.



Br John Horgan at the beach below Baucau.



Pre-dinner drinks on the front verandah of the Brothers' rented house in Baucau: *Br Terry Orrell, Br John Horgan, Sr Diaane Stuart (Loreto), Christine and Terry Timms – friends of Margie (next) who works as the ACU rep at the College, and Br Tony Clark.*

Manatuto, between Dili and Baucau, East Timor

Br Paul Kane

In early October, two Marist Brothers from Brazil, Br Pedro Ost and Br Bene Oliveira, joined with Brs Fons Van Rooij and Br Paul Kane to consider the establishment of a secondary school in Manatuto, a town approximately mid-way between Dili and Baucau in East Timor. The visit included meetings with the East Timor Minister for Education, the Bishop of Bau-



The visiting Brothers with the Minister of Education on site in Manatuto. Note the ocean just over the road from one of the potential sites! From left: The Minister of Education, Br Bene Oliveira, Br Paul Kane, Br Pedro Ost and Br Fons Van Rooij.



The visiting Brothers visit the Teachers' College, Instituto Católico para Formação de Professores, at Baucau. From left: Br Pedro Ost, Br Fons Van Rooij, Sister Natalie (Loreto from Australia and member of ICFP staff), Br Paul Kane, Assis, Constantino (both Lay Marists) and Br Bene Oliveira.

cau, the priests at Manatuto and Salesians involved in secondary schools. The Brazilian Brothers are considering their options for future involvement in East Timor. As with all visitors to East Timor, the visiting brothers enjoyed the hospitality of the local Marist community in Baucau.

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Marists relaxing over the evening meal at Baucau. From left: Br Tony Clark, Br Paul Kane, Br John Horgan, Br Bene Oliveira and Br Pedro Ost.

Volume 42 * No 10 * November 2011

Contents

3. From the Provincial.
4. Province News.
10. To pray for the living and the dead - Br Mark O'Connor, FMS.
12. An Invitation to an Advent Reflection.
13. Pondering Tomorrow ...
16. Griffith - St Brendan's: 50 Year Reunion - Br Des Hornsby, FMS
18. I believe in the Resurrection - Ronald Rolheiser, OMI.
20. 13th Macedon Reunion - Terry O'Brien.
22. International Finance Committee Meeting at Lilongwe, Malawi.
24. Recent Development at Macedon.
25. The Third Age Course at Manziana.
28. Pics taken by the *Editor-at-large* ...
29. Manatuto, between Dili and Baucau, East Timor.



"I'm updating *The Wizard of Oz*. In this version, the Scarecrow gets a smart phone, the Lion finds courage in a bottle before going into rehab, and the Tin Man is recycled into a hybrid car with a heart for the environment."