

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2017



Review
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**“Be Merciful just as the
 Father is Merciful”**

P r e s i d e n t ’ s M e s s a g e

Dear friends,

It was wonderful to meet with you again at our AGMs, our executive attended all but 2 as dates overlapped. We even made a trip to Lilydale to celebrate the day with Lilydale/Karoola/Georgetown Ladies where we had a delightful day getting to know each other.

Our Baby memorial day at Richmond on 3rd June was a very special day when we participated in a concelebrated Mass and blessing of our gorgeous marble sculpture. An almost full St John’s Church appreciated the meaningful service and the work that had culminated in our lifelike baby sculpture. We are still receiving occasional donations and are so grateful to all those who have supported us over the months. Maintenance of the sculpture will be needed and thankfully we still have monies for this purpose. We were thrilled to meet our new Chaplain, Fr Jaison on that day.

Our little craft shop in Mather’s House, Hobart has had very good sales in June/July and many thanks go to volunteers who keep things running smoothly. Customers are gradually finding us and are so surprised at the quality and variety of our goods.

The Executive hopes to see all branches represented at our Annual General Meeting in the Launceston Parish Centre (where our conference was held) on Wednesday 20th September. We hope to begin proceedings close to 10.30 am to allow travel time. Please keep the day free as there will be much to discuss after the national conference the week before.

Several of our hardworking stalwarts have been in ill health and needed surgery over the last few weeks. Our prayers and thoughts are with them for a speedy recovery.

A number of our precious members have gone to their eternal reward since last review and will be so very greatly missed. Our heartfelt sympathies go to their families and friends. These ladies were such hardworking supporters of the CWL and were instrumental in passing on their passion and faith to us all.

Hoping to see you all again soon and keep warm in this frosty weather. God Bless,

Deirdre Reid

Noel's Prayer

Heavenly Father Send

Your Holy Spirit to renew
our love.

Watch over the stirrings of
life in the womb and
bring it to fruition.

May it suffer no untimely
birth at nature's whim nor
violence at our hands.

Let every human life show
forth the Creator's love and
strengthen the human family.

Made in Your image, let each
child thrive and come to
fullness in due time.

We make this prayer through
Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Noel Roberts

Hello Review Readers



Please start thinking of a suitable theme for our conference and following two years of activities.

Ideas so far:-

1. "Bringing His Light to Our World".
2. "Teach more by example than by word" Saint Mary MacKillop.
3. "Goals To keep our organisation relevant & sustainable in the future".
4. "God loves each of us as if there were only one of us" St Augustine



Date to Remember - 20th September – Tasmanian State A.G.M. Church of Apostles Parish Centre Start - 10 a.m.

State Raffle will be drawn at the above.

1. First Prize - New Sewing Machine
2. Second Prize - Wonderful Double Bed Quilt made by Catherine Marshall.
3. Third Prize Lovely Ladies Handbag made by Wendy Fittler.
4. Fourth - Polar Fleece rugs.
5. Fifth - Baby cot quilt – made by Wendy Fittler.
6. Sixth - Tray
7. Seventh -Single Hammock.

Tickets \$2 each.

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National Conference to be held in Adelaide 11th 12th 13th Sept.



Registrations to be in by 30th August – ask your secretary for details to register.

Urgently Needed: Items For Web Page Please send in an article, photo, item of interest - to Past President Sandra Harvey.

Good news - Updated Handbooks are about to be printed – just waiting on His Grace to do the Foreword!!!

Also new badges are on the way for those who have lost theirs.

Judy Gibbens, State Secretary

A message from the Review production team

Apologies that my home phone has not been working and forgot to include my mobile number in the last edition of the Review under the details for the Review Editor.

Anna Matuszek

Reflection

August/September

As I write these reflective words I am reminded of the Gospel of 'The Sower'. He went out to sow the seeds in the hope that one day he would find that the seeds had grown and he would have a crop to reward his labours. However there are many things that can happen to delay his hopes: rocky ground, birds coming to eat the seeds, unsuitable soil. Yet he lives in hope and rejoices that some of the seeds germinate and give the result of a successful harvest.

We need the virtue of hope today as we ponder on our world and our Church. Reading the newspaper or viewing the daily news on television brings a certain disbelief and sadness. We wonder what can bring healing and sense to our world. How can we help people hear the message given so long ago by Jesus and his disciples through the centuries? We are the ones to whom he has given the words of life in the hope that they will be heard through us. We cannot speak to the whole world, but Pope Francis can and has done so!

Thinking about our Church we know that we must allow it to speak to the people of our day. We cannot use the language of the past but must turn to that which will speak to youth, the people of the future! We will be like the sower who must learn to understand and develop the fertile soil suitable for the seed. In this computerized world we can feel out of place yet three year-olds find little difficulty in finding the right buttons to press! There are many practices in our Church that we treasure, but they are meaningless in the "now world". The constants remain: our Eucharistic Life, the Sacraments, Scripture, The Word of God, Prayer. These are like the water and the fertilizer that the sower gives to his growing plants. They are the source of our hope.

Some questions to ask ourselves.

Do I truly listen to people and try to understand their needs?

Do I welcome the newcomer whose view of the world and culture are different from mine?

Do I show by my way of life that my Catholic Faith is meaningful to me?

Sr Pamela Davis OP

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**In Memoriam****Vale to Mary Excell: “Just get on with it!”.**

Mary Excell, O.A.M., born 8th March 1928, daughter of Daniel & Enid Curtain of Maryborough Victoria, passed away peacefully at Freemason’s Home, Lindisfarne on 21st June, 2017. Mary was the eldest of a family of eleven.

She received holy communion for the last time just an hour or two before she died - the sacred meal to take her on her last journey home to Heaven.

Mary was very close to her Lord and church all her life. She was not only an active member of the Cathedral Parish since 1980s, but was associated with St Joseph's and St Theresa's churches as well. Clergy from all three parishes were in attendance along with long-time friends, Father Brian Nichols and Emeratus Archbishop Adrian Doyle.

At a very fitting funeral on Tuesday 27th June, her coffin, capped with blue-gum and wild flowers, was led into the cathedral, by four members of a Highland Pipe band, Arch Adrian Doyle, four priests, deacons and altar servers, followed by Mary's children Maureen, Carmel, Elizabeth, Matthew and Leonie, wheeling the coffin to the beat of the bagpipes. Husbands, partners and grandchildren proudly followed. Through my tears I thought “how wonderfully fitting for Mary”. She was such an organiser, leader and inspiration to all who became part of her world. Mary would have approved wholeheartedly of her farewell and would have enjoyed every minute, watching from above. Leonie's eulogy had been written with such care and love. Mary had spent a lot of time supervising and getting the dates and facts right for the record – she even chose the booklet photo, the one where she was wearing her O.A.M. medal. You did an amazing job Leonie, I was so proud to know you. The Cathedral choir led by Cathy Murrawood, echoed the beautiful hymns and then the words “May the choirs of angels come to greet you - may they speed you to paradise. May the Lord enfold you in His mercy, may you find eternal life”.

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We smiled as Father Brian added, "If I know anything, Mary has already found her room, reorganised Heaven and is telling the angels to get on with it and make a cup of tea!".

We all knew Mary through her active role in, and dedication to, Catholic Women's League Tasmania – serving 20 years as President of Hobart Branch, an enthusiastic contributor to the craft shop, Southern Vice-President of Catholic Women's League for 1999-2001, 2006-2008 and 2010-2012 but she was also CWL Tas. Representative National Council of Women Tas Inc, since 1998, Adviser for Migrants, since 1998 Vice President, Member of Multicultural Council of Tasmania Management Committee since 2002, Member Hobart City Council Networking for Harmony, Community & Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Advisory group since 1999. Life Member City of Hobart Highland Pipe Band, Secretary for 14 years, member since 1972. Life Member to St Mary's College Parents & Friends Ass., Executive member in 1960's and 1970's just to mention a few. Mary was a doer! She gave herself wholeheartedly to the causes she believed in.

She practiced what she preached "She got on with it!" Regardless of the hardship to herself, she did what was needed to be done at the time.

One instance that I know about:

Mary's husband Ron, in order to find work, had to leave the comfort of his new Hobart home, built after the loss of their other home in 1967 bush fires. The five children were small, Leonie was just three. The older ones were involved in their schools and activities. To Mary THIS could have meant disaster, having to cope alone, on a daily basis, with five little children. Instead she managed and made the MOST of the holidays and weekends, joining Ron at the farm house that he had rented for his new job at the Oatlands Council. That farmhouse belonged to my parents and so on holiday time my girls got to know the Excell children very well. They still talk about whose pet lambs were they?? And whose Granny was she?? Mary made it fun for them all. (Leonie has her first memories at that farm).

Mary was sad when she was told that she could no longer live at home. However she was philosophical and knew "she had to just do it – get on with it, and so she did." She was cheerful and made the most of her days until the end. The day she died, Father Brian, brought her the meal to take her home. She received communion peacefully, was still for a few minutes, then commanded to her lovely children standing round, "Brian you must have a cup of tea! Somebody - get him a cup of tea".

Now Rest In Peace Mary! You have been an inspiration to us all.



Judith Gibbens

MRS. ELAINE MILIC.

Elaine went to her eternal rest on 11th May followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Mary's Cathedral on 17th May celebrated by Father Gerald Quinn.

Elaine was beautiful both in person and personality and totally devoted to her family and her faith. She was also involved with the community and her warmth and friendly disposition was shown very clearly when the temporary refugees from the Balkan conflict arrived in Tasmania and were housed at the Brighton Detention Centre. Elaine had special responsibility granted as she was able to communicate and was trusted. She wrote an article for the CWL 'Review' on the work at the Detention Centre, and as a result CWL Tasmania was asked to contribute to a National Catholic Forum on Refugees in Sydney. Although Elaine did not make the presentation, much of the information came from her experience. She was also a gifted craftswoman and her lovely knitted dolls and woolen toys were a great favourite with customers of the Craft Shop.

We extend our prayers and sympathy to Nino, her devoted and supportive husband, and to her children – who were friends with our own children and are remembered with affection and admiration.

MRS LUDOVIC COOLEY

Father Gerald Quinn officiated at the Funeral Mass at St. Joseph's Church Hobart, for Mrs. Ludi Cooley, a long time members of the Hobart Branch and remembered by all for her joyous contribution to the Hobart Branch meetings.

Ludi was born in the Phillipines in 1948 and worked in an auditor's office in Manila before marrying Ken Cooley in 1975 and coming to Tasmania – they had 42 happy years together. Ludi worked in hospitality at the Royal Hobart Hospital where she made many friends. Ludi had an outgoing personality and enlivened every room she entered – she exuded joy and love of life. She also excelled with crochet and created many beautiful items – some of which were exhibited in the Archbishop Guilford Young Memorial Trophy for Craft.

We miss her very much – and extend our prayers and sympathy to Ken – Ludi's two brothers predeceased her.

Eris Smyth

From the Southern Vice-President

We are already half way through the year and so much has happened. I recently attended a luncheon with the Lindisfarne Branch which was held in lieu of the monthly meeting. It was a happy occasion with some members from Richmond and Sorell attending and also other invited guests.

Heaven had a party, like it hadn't had before,
There was such a celebration
When Mary knocked on the door
"Come in dear friend, you're welcome
We have been waiting here for you
We've heard of all the good deeds and things that you did do
A mentor to your family, and friend to one and all
And when someone was needed, you answered to the call
Now your time on Earth is over,
Your work down there is done
So come into my presence dear
Because you are a special one.

Roseanne Way

Northern Vice-President

Well, winter seems to have come with a bit of a vengeance! I hope everyone is keeping well and able to fight off winter ailments.

This is usually a bit of a slower time of the year for the branches but this year it seems that we are ploughing on with gusto.

George Town branch held a social get-together in June, beginning with Mass and followed by a soup and sandwich luncheon. Members from Launceston branch and some ladies from Scottsdale attended. Scottsdale has no CWL but we like to keep them in the loop of Catholic friendship and regularly share events with them. Twenty-two ladies attended, including a number of ladies from the George Town parish. We had plenty of beautiful food and all had an enjoyable time. We love these gatherings, which we hope will become a regular feature of our branches, where members who rarely get the opportunity to catch up with each other can have a friendly social day.

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Northern Project. We are putting together some care packs for young children who find themselves in emergency care situations. These will be distributed on an as-needed situation through St Vinnies conferences in Launceston and George Town.

Members of the Launceston Branch of C.W.L. will be attending the Annual Fellowship Day Service on 31st July, 2017 at the Balfour Street Uniting Church for the Winifred Keik Scholarship Annual Award. The Award is given to women in third world countries for theological training to better equip the scholar to provide leadership in her own country, church and community. The Scholarship has been awarded every year since 1965. Women from various Christian denominations will take part in the Service, which celebrates the memory of Rev. Winifred Keik the first Congregational (now Uniting Church) Woman Minister in Australia.

St Leonards members are not meeting at present due to illness, but we try to keep in touch, and keep them in our prayers.

I am sure I speak for all Northern members, when I say we were saddened by the passing of Mary Excell, OAM. Many have fond memories of her and of the monumental work she did as a C.W.L. member. Rest in peace, Mary.

We were also saddened when we heard Sr Campion Luttrell had entered eternal life. She was a great friend and spiritual support to the Lilydale-Karoola branch until she moved to Launceston and then Hobart. We offer our prayers for both these wonderful women.

Wendy Fittler

Social Issues and Bioethics Committee

The following letter was submitted to the Mercury by Pat Gartlan:

It is of concern to learn from the Minister that the anti-bullying program to be implemented in Tasmanian Schools will include input from "Working it Out". This organisation promotes radical gender ideology which teaches children that they decide whether they are a boy or a girl, irrespective of their anatomical makeup.

Dr John Whitehall, Professor of Paediatrics from the University of Western Sydney, who visited Tasmania recently, reported that children are being harmed physically and psychologically by the prevailing campaign to promote this ideology.

It is for this reason that Federal funds for the Safe Schools Programme were not continued Australia wide, following an outcry from parents in several states.

It is unsatisfactory, therefore, that promotion of this ideology has been retained in Tasmania's programme.

It is wrong to allow such a programme to tamper with our children's minds.

Current Issue – Gender Ideology

In June Mark Brown from the Tasmanian Director of the Australian Christian Lobby organised a forum at Parliament House. Mark introduced the two speakers, Dr John Whitehall and Dr Elisabeth Taylor and spoke about how people have pushed the real issue into the back ground.

WHERE GENDER IDEOLOGY IN A SCHOOL ANTI-BULLING PROGRAM TAKES OUR CHILDREN

Gender dysphoria - Distress occurring when a person believes that their biological sex and gender identity do not align. A girl might feel she is really a boy, and a boy might feel he is really a girl.

Professor John Whitehall is foundation professor of Paediatrics at University of Western Sydney with many years of experience in his specialty. He claims that this is a behavioural fad and children are being harmed physically and psychologically by having their delusion supported and substantiated in the name of compassion.

Incidence in adults

The Diagnostic and Scientific Manual of Mental Health records the incidence in adults to be 0.0003 to 0.0005%. This is 3-5/10.000.

Professor Whitehall believes that with loving care and support, the distress and confusion will be overcome when hormones begin to flow at puberty.

How common is gender dysphoria? He has contacted 28 paediatricians with cumulative experience of 931 years Total - 12 cases, 10 associated with severe mental illness, 2 with history of prolonged sexual abuse. Near to 1/100 years.

Present situation - With 1 child presenting with gender dysphoria at Melbourne's Royal Children's Hospital in 2003 to 60 in 2014, and rising each year since, confusion among children is increasing, fanned by sensationalist and uncritical media and given direction by carefully scripted websites that feed this confusion.

Child's future

If their delusion is reinforced, especially at school where they may be regarded a kind of hero, the child becomes locked into a public position from which is very difficult to extricate themselves.

Resources

Gender dysphoria and surgical abuse. John Whitehall, Quadrant Dec 15 2016

Childhood Gender Dysphoria and the Law, John Whitehall, Quadrant May 10 2017

For audio file of ABC Radio interview of Professor Whitehall

Contact Pat Gartlan pg.gartlan@hotmail.com

The following is an extract from Dr Elisabeth Taylor's introduction to her executive summary on safe schools:

“Safe Schools was proposed to promote inclusion for LGBTI youth in Australian schools, ensuring this vulnerable group of students was not denied access to the same educational and social outcomes available to other students. It has very quickly polarised public opinion. While many praise the program for succeeding in its aims, concern has centered to extent to which the program exceeds its stated mandate.”

Safe Schools has definitely exceeded its mandate and has been realised by many to be a harmful program to our children. Although 'safe schools' has not been implemented in Tasmania, 'working it out', which celebrates and encourages children who are experiencing gender dysphoria (which is part of 'safe schools'), has been included in the current program.

Walt Heyer, a former transgender, equates affirmation of transgender identity for children and the subsequent withholding of psychotherapy with child abuse.

Please pray a Rosary for our Education Minister so his eyes are opened to the harm caused by the 'working it out' ideology.

Anna Matuszek

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Anima Catholic Women's Network - Morning Tea

On the second Saturdays of the month (**12th August** and **9th September**) at **10:45am** at St Francis Xavier Church Hall, South Hobart (Crn of Anglesea and Adelaide Streets).

You are cordially invited to join us for our regular monthly morning tea for Catholic ladies to share a cuppa, cake and make Catholic connections.

Please bring a plate to share or \$5 towards the kitty for tea/coffee and milk. It would also be appreciated if you could bring a gold coin to contribute towards the hire of the hall.

Children are welcome and there is plenty of room for them to run around.

Entertainment Books for sale

Entertainment Books will soon be available at the Craft Centre.

CWL receives \$13.00 from each sale.

Mass Crusade

August: Lindisfarne/Risdon Vale

Universal: **For Artists.**

That artists of our time, through their ingenuity may help everyone discover the beauty of creation.

September: Launceston

Evangelization: Parishes at the service of mission.

That our parishes, animated by a missionary spirit, may be places where faith is communicated and charity is seen.

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