

INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE YOGYAKARTA, INDONESIA

My account of internship experience from March 3rd – May 3rd, pursued us to utilize this program as ing new ideas, skills and experience had a rather specific set of ideas on **my Master's degree in Human Asia Pacific**, we had to take the environment to enhance some of that we might want to relook at and



ence with Anak Wayang Indo-2014. The Internship has an opportunity to try further- es. Before going to Indonesia I what I intended to. As part of Rights and Democratization challenge to work in a different the gaps in policy and practice change in our home country.

My internship organization was its motto: "friendly for children is profit organization that aims to oriented in realizing children's rights in urban Yogyakarta. AWI's vision is "The Community of Cultural Kampong Children". The vision is realized by developing AWI as a learning space about children's problems/issues that empowers children to fully develop their potential in learning within a community.

Anak Wayang Indonesia with friendly for all". It's a local non-strengthen civil society and

oriented in realizing children's rights in urban Yogyakarta. AWI's vision is "The Community of Cultural Kampong Children". The vision is realized by developing AWI as a learning space about children's problems/issues that empowers children to fully develop their potential in learning within a community.

There are about 12 staff members who are very committed and divided in to three divisions. From observation AWI staffs are more relaxed they have fun, crack jokes and eat together as a family but they know when to execute their programs/activities according to their planned schedules. Each division has a coordinator who makes sure activities or programs are runned according to planned schedules and provide monthly reports on their progress. With advocacy work on children's rights, different children's organization like AWI have similar approach to educating the young and those marginalized from the main stream of society.

From experience as an intern, AWI ensures that all children receive quality education they come in contact with, to be child centered and preparing the child for challenges in life and giving them opportunity to develop to full potential not only about learning but also engaging with health, nutrition, wellbeing, safety and protection from abuse and violence in their surrounding environment. AWI also provides parenting workshops that allows parents to understand the different stages of the child's development.

My two months with Anak Wayang Indonesia (AWI) was an inspiring experience! It enabled me to observe and obtain a comprehensive insight into the work and processes of an NGO working as a Civil Society Actor in the area of strengthening and realizing children's rights.

By Chris Lus

Please pray for

Our Deceased:

Br Joe Wabi

Our sick:

Br John Paul Mauro

Our young men in Formation at;

Laumanasa, Madang and MAPAC.



Marist Brothers,
District of Melanesia
Po Box 1881 Boroko, NCD, Papua New Guinea.
Phone +675 3255684 e-mail fmspng@datec.net.pg



Issue 9

2014

from the district leader

Dear fellow Marist

There is only a short time before the District Assembly and Chapter. We are all aware of the importance of this event in the life of the District. It is an opportunity for us to come together as Marists and discern our future together. The Assembly will focus on our future in mission while the District Chapter will focus more on the Brothers life and community. The Chapter will also have to fulfil some official requirements such as elect a new District Council.

On a personal note the District Assembly will be my last official function as District Leader. At the conclusion of the Assembly Jean Marie will take on the mantle of District Leader. I have written the first draft of the District report. This has given me time to reflect over the past years in the life of the District, to understand more deeply that the Marist endeavour is a response to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and despite our stumbling around making mistakes we continue to have an impact on the lives of young people. .

Moving around the District I became acutely aware of the relevance of the Marist mission in all the countries of Melanesia. Making Jesus known and loved among children and young people is crucial for the future of this part of the world. Many children and young people are confronted with difficult circumstances; some miss out on even the most basic education, some are disturbed by family break down and violence and for some limited resources make it difficult to dream of much of a future. Our ministry of education provides us with the opportunity to have a positive impact on the lives of many children and young people in need. It is important that this continues to be central in our efforts in the future.

Many of us have a real commitment to the children and young people that become so much part of our lives as educators. Another part of our Marist commitment is to centre our lives on God. During my time in leadership I have had the privilege of speaking to many people about their relationship with God. Many people struggle with this relationship and it is also a relationship which many people find life giving and sustaining. Prayer in our families or in our communities is important in ensuring that we keep God central to our life as Marists. Giving ourselves time to be silent before God

Continued page 2

also helps in maintaining this relationship. There are many things that can interfere with the relationship. We get tired and find it difficult to find time for prayer. Our prayer can be flooded with the issues of the day and we are easily distracted. We get so involved in our lives we forget. Being such an important part of our Marist commitment calls us to make efforts in our prayer life. It is as important in our Marist future as our commitment to our ministries.

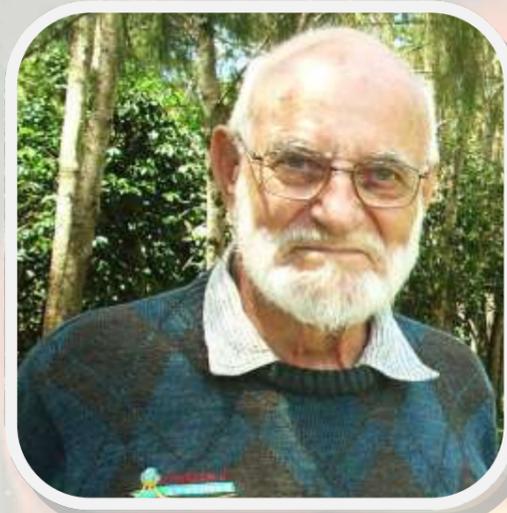
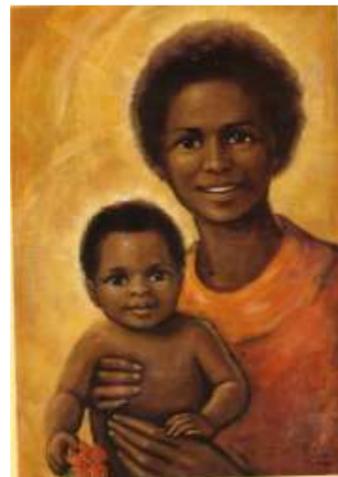
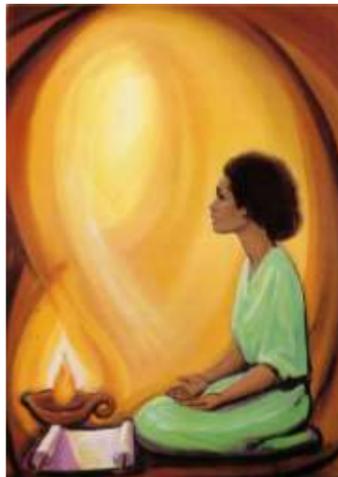
We all deal with our own limitations and sinfulness and its impact on others. During the past nine years I have many conversations with people who are dealing with the consequences of mistakes. It is important that we develop ways to ask for and to offer forgiveness. This is not always easy and it takes time. Often there are very strong emotions associated with these situations and overcoming takes time. Asking for and offering forgiveness is a way we evangelise each other and the young people. It reflects our belief that God continues to invite us into a loving relationship despite what we have done. This is central to what we profess. God's grace continues to work in each of our lives.

I am continually surprised by the developments in the relationship between Marists in particular the working together of brothers and lay Marists. I understand there is still some need for all of us to grow in our understanding of this relationship. There are many healthy signs that we are developing. The more this relationship develops and the more we see ourselves as committed Marists the more we become a sign of what is possible.

I would like to finish by expressing my gratitude to you all. I will leave the District after thirty years of ministry. For thirty years I have been a guest in your culture. Your welcome and acceptance has been a real privilege for me. Also my own culture has been deeply challenged by my experience of living in Melanesia. There have been many important relationships over the thirty years I have been in Melanesia. There are many people who have offered me their friendship. They have shared their lives at a very personal level. They have talked about their work with young people, their lives as Marist and their relationship with God. I appreciate your trust very much. All this has given me an experience that very few have.

Thank you and God bless

Ken



Br Patrick Howley (1966 - 2014)
Contribution to PNG

Born in 1926 in Chinkapook a small populated area in Victoria, Australia, Br Patrick Howley was one of the eleven children raised during the Great Depression period. He joined the Marist Brothers Congregation during the Second World War and for more than forty years, the strong willed and independent thinker left home and served as a teacher, mentor and missionary in the coastal regions of Papua New Guinea.

His first mission began in 1966 Kairuru Island, Wewak Province as a teacher and headmaster for St. Xavier High school for thirteen years. Then he became the Director of student affairs in Divine Word Institution in 1986 after serving as the Principal of Passam National High School for five years. Before returning to Divine Word University in 2004 to lecture in a Senior position, in 2003 he worked for Peace Foundation Melanesia and the Foundation of Law Order and Justice in Port Moresby.

The determination to make a difference in the lives of people had driven him to make critical changes in the education and legal system of Papua New Guinea, despite the challenges faced as a foreigner in the land of the unexpected. The toil of a dedicated heart had made sure that people were taught the core values of life and to be assertive in their lives and careers.

The spirituality of Marcellin Champagnat was and continues to manifest to the young and old people who have shared moments with a Marist Brother through teaching and other services. For some teaching is just another job however a few have passionately given their heart to it, to make a difference in the lives of people they have met in life. Br Pat Howley is no exception of a true missionary, fully committed to serve the people of Papua New Guinea regardless. As a missionary he had given up his life for others through teaching, mentoring and sharing the charisma of Marcellin Champagnat. Therefore, the characteristic of simplicity and humility is given through his passion and desire to live and work amongst the people of a different culture and ethnicity.

In 1976 Br Patrick's contribution to the school policies was a turning point in the development of higher education in Papua

New Guinea. It was influenced and inspired by the difficulties and problems faced with students whilst been the headmaster of St. Xavier's. The skill and knowledge was again transferred to the communities he engaged in to bring peace and reconciliation. At the retired age of 65, an initiative to promote peace and justice sparked the establishment of Peace Foundation Melanesia in 2003, a Non-Government Organisation committed to working for justice at the grassroots level. The exquisite dedication to change the mindset and attitude of people is evident in the published books, journals and articles.

The students were taught to be responsible and committed towards their daily activities and lives.

Because of his experience of the Bougainville crisis which had damaged the older authority structure of the village life and brought trauma and pain to the people. The methods of mediation, reconciliation and restorative justices are important processes to settle disputes and unite communities as outlined in *Breaking Spears and Mending Hearts: Peacemakers & Restorative Justice in Bougainville*. His book was published in 2002.

Br Patrick Howley is not only a teacher and headmaster but an advocate for peace and justice. Therefore, through his humble deeds he has touched many lives and displayed God's love and care to each of us. Henceforth, the Lay people and Brothers of the Marist Brothers Congregation are more than to know, share and lived with a man of great knowledge and passion who has done so much for the schools and communities in Papua New Guinea.

He left the soils of Papua New Guinea on the 29th May 2014. He will be missed by everyone that he has worked with and interacted with through the past 48 years.

Article provided by Robyn Borausiki- Marist Brothers AU



Paita 2014

Lycee Marcellin Champagnat 2014

On June 6th, a new building was opened at Lycee Marcellin Champagnat at Paita. The new building will cater for the students who finish their BAC. It is a first building of this kind in the school that will give the opportunity to the student to do their engineering studies at the same school. The building was funded by the French government.



Marcellin Feast Day at Paita

The Feast of Marcellin was celebrated in Paita on the June 7th. The day began with a very beautiful Eucharistic celebration at the Sainte Marie College's chapel. The singing was led by the Vanuatu students who are studying in different schools in Paita. The main celebrant was Archbishop Michel CALVET and was concelebrated with Father Francois GROSSIN, SM. There were also SMSM Sisters, the Petite



Fille de Marie Sisters, teachers and friends of the Brothers.

After the mass, everyone came to the Brothers' community where they share a delicious meal prepared by the Brothers' cooks – Marie and Charline, and helped by the students and some friends who are part of the Vanuatu Student Association in New Caledonia. While people were eating the students put up some entertainments. It's good to see the initiative, the energy and the enthusiasm that the students have put in organising such feast like St Marcellin Feast Day.

As in many parts of the District, I believe that the celebration was a time where we came together as a family, to share, to celebrate and to

live what Marcellin and his first Brothers wished us to live. And that was to form a single family where Christ is the centre. This was to be also a time of witness, where the young people who are present could experience a deep sense of belonging, and a time of invitation to look at and choose their future life.

So thank you very much to the Brothers' Community, the students, the cooks and all those who have contributed to the celebration. And may we continue to support one another, to walk and promote together the Marists life in the District of Melanesia.



Jean Marie



OUTGOING DISTRICT LEADER
BR KEN MCDONALD



Br Ken's term as the District Leader for Marist Brothers will come to an end in July. As many have known Br Ken and his works in the District, he first came to Papua New Guinea in 1984 and taught at St Xavier High School in Kairuru Island, E.S.P. He then moved to Wabag High School around 1986 before moving to Buin high school for a year. After the Bougainville Crisis Br Ken returned to Bougainville as the Deputy Headmaster for Bishop Wade High School from 1993-1996. With his wealth of experience there was a need to rebuild St Joseph's Rigu and the aftermath as many young men were affected by the crisis. St Joseph's Rigu was moved to Mabiri where Br Ken became the community leader and Headmaster from 1998-2004. Before his appointment as the District Leader in 2005, Br Ken helped a lot of young Bougainvilleans teaching and providing Counseling to affected students. Serving three terms as the District Leader from 2005- July of 2014, he worked and visited most schools and ministries where Brothers are present in Tenaru, Vanga Point, St Mitchel, Paita, Madang, Mabiri and not forgetting schools in E.S.P. We thank Br Ken for his work and experience provided to Brothers and young men in the formation in taking the District to a new level. The work, accompaniment and friendship shared across the District of Melanesian especially the Marist tradition among the Brothers and Lay is very much appreciated as we welcome Br Jean Marie as the new District Leader.

Article from District Admin Staff, Chris Lus

News of the Brothers

Brendan Sinei Perpetual Profession

On the 28th of June Brendan Sinei celebrated his final profession at Tuneru Parish in Central Bougainville. It was a great celebration for the local community; not only of Brendan's decision to commit his life to the Brothers' life but also of the faith of all those present. Bishop Bernard Unabali spoke about the need for all people to grow their vocation in life, Vocation is a life long journey. it is not stagnant and needs to be nurtured. This is an important message for all of us to think about.

It was also a great family occasion for Lucy Sinei, Brendan's mother and her family and the family of Henry Sinei. it was obviously an

important celebration for a family who lives the Marist charism.

It was also an important cultural celebration. The local community celebrated with cultural practices that were part of their heritage. it was explained "em i kultur tru tru". these were carried out to ensure that Brendan would be cared for where ever his life as a Brother leads him.

let us remember of pray for each other, the strength to live out our commitments, the ability to forgive each other and the understanding to care for each other.



Our Ministries Around the District



Br Brendan's Final Profession



New Caledonia Building opening