



Pax, a Latin word meaning peace, is the motto of the Benedictine monks of New Norcia.

The Chimes Newsletter October 2015

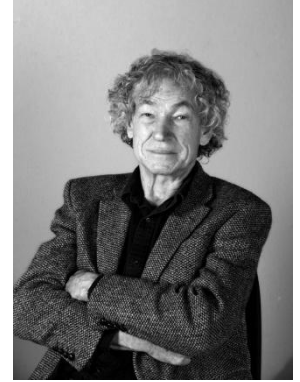


Abbot Placid Spearritt Scholars for 2016.



The Abbot and the Archives Research and Publications Committee are delighted to announce the APSMS scholars for 2016. As in 2013, it was a difficult decision but, in the end, the Selection Committee decided upon Eugenia Schettino and Bob Reece as the ones who best fulfilled the ambitions and goals of the Abbot Placid Scholarship.

Eugenia Schettino is already well known to archives as she was Judy McGuinness' critical reader for the Salvado to Bérengier transcriptions and translations which were completed by Judy during 2014 and 2015. Eugenia was born in Orizaba, Veracruz, Mexico.



Our other Scholar is also well known to New Norcia Archives. Bob Reece is

Professor Emeritus in History at Murdoch University and Senior Honorary Research Fellow at the University of W.A. With an M.A. from the University of Queensland and a Ph.D. from the Australian National University, he taught at Murdoch University from 1978 and at University College Dublin from 1987 until 1989. His interest in New Norcia was sparked by his biographical work on Daisy Bates (*Daisy Bates: Grand Dame of the Desert*, 2005) and her Victoria Plains informant, William Monop, which led him to publish a number of articles for *New Norcia Studies* and *The Invincibles: New Norcia's Aboriginal Cricketers 1879-1906* (2014).

Congratulations to Eugenia and Bob – we wish them well in their research. The Abbot and the Archives Research and Publications Committee would also like to take this opportunity to thank once again all those benefactors who contributed so generously towards the Abbot Placid Spearritt Memorial Scholarship. The Scholarship has permitted us to further research into the holdings of the monastery's archives and this has resulted in the publication of three books (2014), the launch of another book (Salvado's 1883 Report to Propaganda Fide) in November this year and the correspondence between Bishop Salvado and Théophile Bérengier which we hope to publish later next year.

Contributed by Peter Hocking, Archivist

Never a dull moment in the New Norcia Institute for Benedictine Studies



The months of August and September have been busy times for the *New Norcia Institute for Benedictine Studies*. Luigi Gioia osb, Professor of Systematic Theology at Sant' Anselmo in Rome, gave our Annual Institute Day on the August 8. Luigi drew together the fundamental teaching of Vatican II and the Wisdom tradition of Monastic theology in a stimulating and challenging set of lectures.

Later in August the Monastery hosted the Annual General Meeting of the Benedictine Union of

Australia and New Zealand. As part of the Meeting the Union always includes a studies day. This year, the Institute took responsibility for this day presenting a Special Event: "Light and Darkness: Truth and Meaning in the Universe", to mark the 100 years since the publication of Einstein's Theory of Relativity.



During September, Sr Jill O'Brien sgs, was invited by the Liturgical Commission of the Diocese of Auckland in New Zealand, to offer workshops on worship spaces that encourage “full and active participation” in the liturgy. She addressed a variety of audiences, including seminarians, priests and architects of the diocese, school religious educators as well as parish groups.

And most recently, Professor Katharine Massam, from Pilgrim Theological College, presented an undergraduate and Graduate unit, Living the Rule, at the Institute. Fourteen students from Victoria and Western Australia participated in a community of practice which is the method by which Katharine introduces students to the Rule of Benedict as it is and has been lived at New Norcia. This experience gives students a glimpse of how Benedict may speak to the world today.

Contributed by Sr Carmel Posa



We are proud to announce that New Norcia Extra Virgin Olive oil has won a silver medal at the Perth Royal Show. The judges gave the oil 80/100 and said it had “intense guava and banana aromas and flavours with firm bitterness on the finish.”

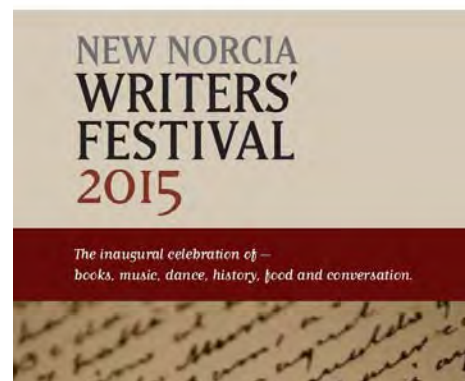
The oil is available online or at the Roadhouse and Museum shops.



New Norcia Writers’ Festival 2015.

In conjunction with the West Travel Lounge, New Norcia held its first writers’ festival on September 12th.

Guests were treated to five sessions, a monastery tour, a viewing of the Abbey Press in action, a rare book display, champagne tasting and a delicious buffet lunch. Feedback from the day seems to indicate that it was the unique combination of reading, writing, dance and music, the use of different venues and the quality of the sessions that made the 100 or so participants so glowing in their reviews. From the very beginning, Festival Director, Will Yeoman, wanted it to be a festival that had literature at its centre while embracing other arts too, a collaboration as it were. Below are a couple of examples of the feedback we received;



“Thank you for your efforts in organising the writers’ festival last Saturday. We thoroughly enjoyed it. Neither of us has ever been to a writers’ festival but it was very different from what we expected. It was more like an arts festival based on writings. It was a very rich and rewarding experience, not only in the arts, but the opportunity to meet artists, participants and monks, as well as the tours (beautiful music room in the monastery, printing press, and library), rare book display, books for sale etc. It was wonderful that the festival was spread over different venues – a great way of showcasing the beauty of the architecture/interiors of New Norcia.”

And

“This is simply an expression of thanks and appreciation for your presentation of the Writers’ Festival at New Norcia 12 September 2015. Maybe it was the compact group size but, somehow, each of the presentations, dialogue, dance and music, connected to a very emotional strand and certainly left me with a feeling which I can only describe as “a moist heart. Full marks - A great learning experience - Keep up the good work.”

The day’s success has ensured that it becomes an annual event; we have begun planning next year already.....so look out for updates!

Contributed by Lucy Nicholson



Monastery News.... Dom Brian and Ian Grossman have recently reworked the monastery veggie garden with great results. There are now eight new garden beds overflowing with turnips, broad beans, silver beet, potatoes, snow peas, cabbage, garlic and cauliflowers. The produce goes to Marlon and Rose in the kitchen who make sure the monks get their daily greens in abundance!

HR Outlook - Farm Safe in WA.

Representing New Norcia, I attended a Farm Safe meeting held in Calingiri on the 7th September; it proved informative and useful in the identification and management of safety issues here at New Norcia.

The details below highlight the concern in relation to safety in Agricultural related activities with 27 deaths in 2015 across Australia so far in comparison with the figures for both Mining and Construction. It can be argued that both Construction and Mining employ significantly larger numbers of people than agriculture.

Agriculture, forestry & fishing	27
Construction	16
Mining	10

Taken from the safe work Australia website

Worksafe WA have developed and released an Agricultural Strategic Plan 2014 -2016. In alignment with the Worksafe WA mission statement to 'inspire employers and workers to ensure workplaces are safe through partnership, education and enforcement', they have developed a strategy for improving safety in farming related activities.

OHS legislation is relevant and binding for all farming enterprises whether a small family run business or a larger commercial enterprise. The Legislation applies when the farm is a 'Mum & Dad' operation as much as it does to the business employing other people.

Worksafe WA have prepared an Agriculture safety and health checklist and with the planned announcement of random checks being conducted on broad acre farms throughout West Australia, this is a welcome aid in the identification and subsequent management of safety risks and hazards in the farming environment.

New Norcia is unique in that it is not only a farm, but home to the Monastic Community, the employees who live on site, the New Norcia Hotel frequented by locals and visitors alike, hosts numerous events through the year and is visited by thousands of tourists and others seeking a place to reflect and gain peace. A focused effort is being made to ensure New Norcia is compliant with Worksafe WA across all areas of our operations so we can ensure the safety of our visitors and employees alike.

Contributed by Coralea A'Court, HR Manager

Recently a group of about 40 Street Chaplains came to New Norcia to visit the Museum and do a special town tour. The "street chaplains" are an Australia wide organisation of volunteers working in the nightclub districts of many towns and cities in Australia from 11pm until 4 or 5am offering pastoral care to those in need. The volunteers come from a wide variety of Christian Churches and have had huge success. The police chief in Busselton stated that street crime has dropped by 45% since the street chaplains started their work there.



The Benedictine Community invited the Chaplains to an afternoon tea in the monastery parlour to learn about the marvellous work they do. Learn more about them at <http://www.streetchaplain.com/>

New Catholic College opening soon in Byford



Catholic Education WA is proud to advise that our newest College, Salvado Catholic College is nearing completion and will open to the students of Byford in 2016. Places at the College are continuing to fill, and Foundation Principal Santino Giancono is encouraging families to enquire about enrolments soon if they would like to join the College community in its foundation year. Salvado Catholic College will provide a supportive faith-filled learning environment, supporting students to develop as contributing members of society informed by a Catholic world view. Principal Giancono said the College would nurture the “development of the whole child, supporting them in their spiritual, academic, physical, cultural and social development in partnership with parents as the child’s first educator”.

Integration of Information Communications Technology in teaching and learning spaces, and a specially designed nature play area will also contribute to a dynamic learning environment.

Enquiries can be directed to Principal Santino Giancono on 6380 5115, or emailed to admin@salvado.wa.edu.au. For further information, building progress and all the latest College news please visit our website at www.salvado.wa.edu.au

Contributed by Lucy Searle, Marketing officer, Catholic Education.

New Norcia Library - Australian Garden History Society visit

Saturday 19 September 2015: New Norcia Library was proud to host a visit by members of the W.A. branch of the Australian Garden History Society. Along with the Society’s enthusiastic members came spouses and visitors, both eastern states and overseas.



From its inception and in keeping with Benedictine monastic tradition, New Norcia has always had a library. While much of the emphasis was and remains religious and theological, the

library’s collection is wide ranging and eclectic. From the point of view of the AGHS members, the botanical, general gardening, and allied topics represent a varied and invaluable trove of books and information, many of which are long out of print. The condition of many of these books evidences their usefulness -- these books were gardening and orchardist tools as much as any water bucket and shovel. From a librarian’s point of view, it was wonderful to interact with the Society’s members. They reviewed garden history through an Australian lens, whilst focusing on the books’ direct relationship to the New Norcia farming endeavour that to this day sustains the Benedictine community. Amidst the books selected for the Society’s members to view were a number of publications that are testimony to the development of Australian publication of books – gardening and agriculture.

Carolyn Talbot, Librarian, New Norcia Library

Permission to use the photographs kindly granted by Leon Tang and Ray Forma.

Contributed by Carolyn Talbot, Librarian



The 2016 Wildflower Calendar is now for sale! All the photos were taken on the New Norcia farm by Nigel Cooper from the Grounds and Maintenance department. The calendar is available on the Museum web shop as well as available at the roadhouse, the guesthouse, the Hotel and the Museum.

A great stocking present!

ONLY \$10.95

The Guesthouse has been busy with retreat groups and individuals on retreat. Some of those who have joined us in the last few months are; The Unitarian Association, Ladies Bible Study Group, The Benedictine Union, The Mount Pleasant Baptist



Church for their annual silent retreat and the Anglican Diocese of Perth Ministers. There were also two retreats run by the Monastery as part of the Spirituality Programme for 2015 and the Institute for Benedictine Studies. In amongst this the monks managed to have a week off for their own retreat. Fr Luigi Gioia OSB led the

monks retreat and was guest speaker at the Institute Theology Day.

A group from the Pilgrim College in Melbourne has stayed at the Guesthouse for a week "Living By the Rule" as part of their graduate course.

The next retreat on the programme for this year is fully booked but there are still places available for the December retreat. (11-13th December), "The Season of Christmas". Book now to avoid disappointment! Twin share rooms with ensuite and air-conditioning are available. To book phone the guesthouse on 96 548002 or email; guesthouse@newnorcia.wa.edu.au

Contributed by Bernadette Taylor, Guesthouse Manager

PILGRIMS

Perhaps life itself is a pilgrimage, to the future we can't see, from a past we carry with us; but the quest is the aim.

Recently well-known WA ceramic artist and teacher Albie Herbert donated his terracotta sculpture 'Pilgrims' to the collection of the Museum and Art Gallery of New Norcia. Modelled as 3 interlocking pieces, the artwork embodies the *camino* or journey undertaken since mediaeval times as a pathway spiritual enlightenment and personal growth. Made after seeing documentaries on the mediaeval pilgrimages to Canterbury, also regarding



the more-recent *camino* to New Norcia and re-reading Chaucer's 15thc. Canterbury Tales, Albie "was fascinated by the spiritual bonding that occurred on the trek and the hardship and happiness they experienced."

The nine figures modelled in clay express all the individual characteristics of class, role and reason present in the mediaeval European community, led by the nobleman with his Bible, crucifix and page, followed by men and women carrying the barest essentials, and accompanied by a monk with his cross and staff. The artist was keen for his work to be seen by like-minded people in a context where the pilgrimage is

understood. We thank Albie for his kind and thoughtful donation.

Contributed by Marina Baker, Collections Manager.

The New Norcia Hotel has a number of events running as we move into the warmer months. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon on the deck while listening to some local musical talent or make a night of it and come for some fun and banter on quiz night.

As a result of the success of the previous **quiz nights**, the New Norcia Hotel is holding another one on Friday 30th October at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend and fancy dress is also welcome, after all it is Halloween season! Get into the spirit and start off your evening at New Norcia with some tasty bar snacks during happy hour, which kicks off at 5:30pm before the quiz starts. Put your thinking caps on as there will be a number of prizes to give away on the night.

Back by popular demand, local singer/song-writer **Kate Linke** will be performing at the New Norcia Hotel on the 28th November. We hope everyone will show their support for our local girl and enjoy a fun filled evening at New Norcia whilst listening to some wonderful country music.

Enjoy our new summer dishes, along with all the usual favourites on the menu...and our range of New Norcia Wines and Abbey Ale. We look forward to welcoming you soon!

Contributed by Nora McGee



WELCOME.....

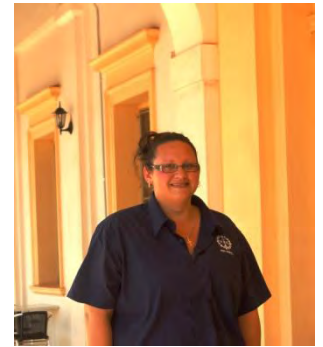


Rosemarie Taylor is joining the team in St Ildephonsus' Kitchen. It's really a "welcome back" as Rosemarie first came to work in New Norcia in 1978 when she started in the Hotel kitchen, where she met Tom Taylor (Tucker), fell in love and married him. Since then she has lived all over the Shire of Victoria Plains, worked in several departments at New Norcia, had a spell up in Port Hedland and cooked for shearing teams, hotels, and hospitals and probably more besides!



Denise Myles has joined the Group Cleaning Services. Denise moved to Moora after living near Coorow for many years. She has been working here for a couple of months, and loves the history, peace and tranquillity of the town.

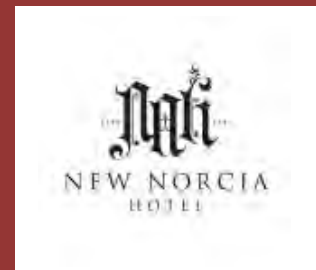
Lisa Taylor is joining the team at the New Norcia Hotel as an all rounder. Lisa is a familiar face in the area, having been brought up here for part of her childhood. Rosemarie and Tucker are her parents.



Local Event News

A colorful poster for a "Country & Western Family Night" event. The poster features a cartoon horse and a windmill. The text on the poster includes:

COUNTRY & WESTERN FAMILY NIGHT
SATURDAY 31st OCT
SUICIDE FUNDRAISER
SAT 31ST OCTOBER
HAY FLAT RD (Wannamal Gun Club)
LIVE BANDS
FREE CAMPING
FREIGHT TRAIN
KATE LINKE
MAL RUSSELL AND MORE
BYO AUCTION
HOT FOOD - COFFEE - ICE CREAM
SOFT DRINKS - WOOD FIRED PIZZA
BRING A CHAIR, BRING THE ESKY & HAVE SOME FUN!!
- ADULTS \$25.00
- CHILDREN \$5.00
- FAMILY PASS \$45.00
Phone: 0499 858 394



Friday 30th Oct, 7.30pm – Quiz Night

Saturday 28th Nov, 5pm – Kate Linke

Happy Hour every Friday night from 5.30pm

DON'T FORGETLocal Government Elections, Saturday 17th October.

Polling booths are located at;

Yerecoin Hall 8.00am - 6.00pm

New Norcia Education Seminar room 8.00am – 6.00pm