



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

# The Chimes Newsletter

December 2013



## Commemorating an inspiring life

*Rosendo Salvado - missionary and advocate for Aboriginal people, abbot, bishop, educator, landholder and a major figure in the history of Western Australia.*

In 2014, the monks are planning to commemorate the bicentenary of the birth of their founder, Dom Rosendo Salvado.

The bicentenary will provide a wonderful opportunity to encourage a range of voices and a variety of perspectives, especially those of Aboriginal people, who also wish to commemorate this important milestone.

Currently, a year-long programme of events is being developed, focusing on the man, his work and his legacy. Planning so far includes a major exhibition at the New Norcia Museum, Ecumenical Vespers to be held at St Mary's Cathedral, a 'Salvado' display at the WA Museum and a symposium and photographic exhibition at the State Library featuring rare photographs taken in the Salvado era.

Drawing heavily on the most recent research in the New Norcia Archives, the monks hope that, in addition to the important opportunity to share Salvado's story and to hear new perspectives, the bicentenary activities will provide for the conservation of significant artifacts relating to him; to the provision of new methodologies for the reinterpretation of the existing Salvado era display at the New Norcia Museum; and to an improved understanding of, and access to, the Salvado era photographic collection in the New Norcia Archives.

A detailed schedule of events will be included in the next *Friends Magazine* or you can go to the Community's website ([www.newnorcia.wa.edu.au](http://www.newnorcia.wa.edu.au)) where a dedicated section on the bicentenary and planned events will be launched in February, 2014.

For more information on the bicentenary, please email Michelle Ebbs, 2014 Salvado Bicentenary Project Manager - [michelle.ebbs@outlook.com](mailto:michelle.ebbs@outlook.com) or call Lucy Nicholson, BCNN Communications Officer - (08) 96 548018.



## THE 2014 APMS SCHOLARS ANNOUNCED...

The Abbot, the Community, and the Archives Research and Publications Committee are delighted to announce that, once again, we have felt obliged to appoint two scholars in view of the outstanding proposals that were submitted to the Selection Committee. Two years ago, the Selection Committee had the unenviable task of deciding between two exceptional final candidates. It was deemed unfair to choose one over the other so Prof Joshua Brown (University of Western Australia) and Dr Stefano Girola (Australian Catholic University) were awarded joint scholarships to transcribe and translate the letters of Canon Raffaele Martelli and to translate Bishop Salvado's 1883 Report to Propaganda Fide, respectively.

This year, again, the choice came down to two excellent candidates, Dr Liz Conor and Judith McGuinness and, as before, the decision was made to award a joint scholarship.



Liz Conor holds a PhD from LaTrobe and is currently a lecturer in print history at Monash University. Her interest lies in the monastery's Works on Paper Collection but with a particular focus on the series of engravings which were published in the original edition of Salvado's *Memorie Storiche dell'Australia* in 1854 now referred to as *Salvado's Memoirs*.

Liz' project will examine how these engravings brought Indigenous Australians into the print workshops of Europe as well as investigating the engravings' significance in the printing developments and technologies of the time, with particular relevance to colonial print culture.

Judith McGuinness is a linguist with expertise in French and Spanish. She has had over 30 years' experience in teaching and examining French in Western Australia and she is a member of the Examination Panel for WACE (formerly TEE) French.

In addition, she holds proficiency qualifications in Spanish and has travelled extensively throughout Spain. Judith's project will see the completion of the archives' collection of letters from Théophile Béréngier, the Abbot of Marseilles and good friend of Bishop Salvado. She has already assisted in the transcription and translation of Béréngier's letters to Salvado, so she is uniquely



qualified to tackle Salvado's letters to Béréngier. The completion of these letters will not only mark a significant milestone in New Norcia's archival research programme (in conjunction with Joshua Brown's completion of the Martelli correspondence) but, together with Martelli, will also provide a significant resource for Western Australian colonial history. Furthermore, Judith hopes that by illustrating the linguistic richness of the Mission through these letters, greater stimulus to the teaching of Spanish, in particular, will be encouraged.

Congratulations to you both – we look forward to seeing you here and to working with you. The Abbot, the Community and the ARP Committee would also like to take this opportunity to thank Joshua and Stefano for their outstanding contributions and to acknowledge the significant advancement in our knowledge and understanding of Salvado's New Norcia that their work has made.

Contributed by Peter Hocking

## ST ILDEPHONSUS' COLLEGE CENTENARY REUNION

In mid-October, 150 alumni of St Ildephonsus' College gathered in New Norcia to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> year of the building which housed their former school. Whilst no longer operating as a school, it is still used for educational purposes through the many school camps it accommodates each year.

Past students and their families, travelled to New Norcia from all over Australia to pay tribute to a place that has strongly influenced their lives.

The Marist Brothers taught and operated the College from 1913 until the mid-60s. It was a tough existence for the 200 or so students but for many there are fond memories...

***"St Ildephonsus' College was home to us."***

***"The Marist Brothers were our mother, father, teacher and nurse. They were the only family that we knew."***

***"When I finished school at New Norcia, It was one of the saddest days of my life. Driving home with my family, I suddenly realised that I wasn't coming back again."***

The monks and their staff worked with the Reunion committee throughout 2012 to prepare a weekend packed with activities for the 'old boys' to enjoy.



The reunion programme started on Friday evening with *Ales and Tales*- wine and beer tasting at the New Norcia Hotel. All enjoyed hearing the story of New Norcia wine from the New Norcia Vintner, Nick Humphries. This was followed by a welcome speech from Abbot John Herbert who officially opened the event.



To close the evening, Steve Blaine a representative from Lion Brewery, gave a presentation on the beer fabrication followed by a tasting of the famous Abbey Ale. The evening event was a great icebreaker for the past students as many had not seen each other for 60 years!

Saturday morning saw a visit to Wyening Mission located near Calingiri where some of the students



had lived and worked during their time boarding at New Norcia. The Young Family, who now own and run the mission farm which was originally established by the monks, led tours through the mission house, the impressive wine cellar and the farm. Another group had the chance to visit a local export hay producer, Mackie Hay.

After lunch, the monks opened up their home and offered a tour of the monastery. Guests had the chance to see a number of rooms that are normally hidden from the public eye. The Spanish Chapel, Library and Common rooms were some of the rooms included.

New Norcia volunteer, David Ashfold, has spent many years volunteering his time and expertise in the cleaning and maintenance of the unique Ruston Engine. He travelled to New Norcia especially to help with the centenary celebrations and to show the guests the engine which was 'fired up' on both Saturday and Sunday.

Dom Robert and the Community's Liturgy Co-ordinator and Organist, Joshua Valstar, also treated guests with an organ recital in the Abbey Church.

Mass of course was a feature of the weekend. The guests prepared for Mass in St Ildephonsus' Chapel where the monks then joined them, evoking strong memories and emotions for many of them.

After Mass everyone gathered for the unveiling and blessing of a plaque donated by the 'old boys' to commemorate the occasion and pay tribute to the founder of the Marist Brothers, St Marcellin Champagnat.

The Benedictine Community of New Norcia would like to thank the organisers of the event, John Stott, John Monkhouse and Ambrose Depiazzi, for their hard work and support during the past year to make the event a success.



## LIBRARY LECTURE.....

New Norcia Library Lecture 2013: often held on a Friday in September – fortuitously for all, was held Friday, 04 October. Unlike the preceding wet, cold month, the sun shone all day. Lavender, irises and roses bloomed spectacularly adjacent to St Gertrude's College and St Joseph's Hall and participants had all been blessed with a good journey from Perth to New Norcia. The welcome *cuppa* after a very early start soon facilitated collegial networking.



Abbot John Herbert welcomed the Group, followed by keynote speaker, Claire Bolton. Her interest lies in production - the layout of the text. As such, the Bible reflects the development of the written word and the transition in modes of production – manuscript formats that ranged from clay tablets to papyrus scrolls, through to the use of vellum and paper. The printing press produced amazing professional challenges and the Bible richly represents the printer's challenges and achievements.

Margaret Allen, CEO, State Library of Western Australia, led participants through some of the implications, opportunities and challenges the State Library is tackling on behalf of today's community, and tomorrow's information seeker. Listeners came away with a much more comprehensive understanding of copyright problems as diverse as accessing electronic books through our public libraries, and providing access to oral histories and photographs held by the State Library.

There was no after lunch snoozing – the 120 participants divided into two groups. Erica Persak of the Kerry Stokes Collection launched the Kerry Stokes Medieval Manuscript Exhibition *twice* at the New Norcia Museum and Art Gallery. Participants alternately rotated through the Exhibition and met Charles Zika, co-author of Celebrating word and image 1250-1600. Charles graciously signed copies and quite possibly had to rest his writing hand after the Museum reported that it had sold the 100 copies it featured as part of exhibition launch.

Returning for the final lecture of the day, Erica Persak provided the audience with an appreciation for the magnitude of the behind these scenes activities which the Kerry Stokes Collection engenders, including but not least the ethical and philanthropic aspects such collections represent to the nation.

“My husband and I enjoyed the day immensely. Each of the presenters was interesting and informative and the launch of the book with the display in the museum just topped off the day nicely,” Alison Shaw

*Contributed by Caroline Talbot.*



### ED CENTRE FEEDBACK.....

This was such a wonderful healing weekend that we are definitely going to come back again next year, and do another relaxing weekend with more new things to try. Thank you New Norcia, and the caring staff, who shared your energy with us.

[Kerryn Belle, Crystal Heart Energy Centre.](#)

## Gallery News....



The Kerry Stokes Collection's special manuscript exhibition, *Celebrating Word and Image 1250- 1600* has been attracting a quality crowd at the Museum and Art Gallery over the last few months. Since its opening by Collection Administrator, Erica Persak, on New Norcia's annual Library Lecture Day in October many hundreds of people have seen this rare and precious display. Special visitors have included the Very Reverend Dr Chris Lewis, Dean of Christ Church, Oxford who came with his host and New Norcia friend, Dr John Shepherd, Dean of St George's Cathedral and Mr John Kollosh. Catholics spotted

have included Monsignor Kevin Long, Rector of St Charles Seminary and Rev Gordon Howell, Chaplain at St John of God Hospital, Subiaco. Monsignor Long is an expert on the medieval monk, Aelred of Rievaulx and did post-graduate studies at Trinity College, Dublin, home of the Book of Kells. *Celebrating Word and Image*, which is only showing at New Norcia, will be on display until mid March 2014 and is accompanied by a lavishly illustrated catalogue which sells for \$45.00. We were chuffed when the Getty Museum in Los Angeles ordered a copy!

Contributed by Dom Christopher Power

### *NNIBS – Studying and Relaxing in an Atmosphere of Prayer and Reflection.*

The New Norcia Institute for Benedictine Studies commenced offering its first



Graduate units for accreditation and audit in 2013, marking its formal association with the United Faculty of Theology (UFT) and its affiliation with the MCD University of Divinity. During this year two new units were offered as intensive study weeks at New Norcia with the

aim of giving students, not only excellence in academic education and access to outstanding research facilities, but also the unique experience of studying within an atmosphere of prayer, reflection and community life in the Benedictine tradition.

While studying units in early monastic wisdom, literature and the Rule of Benedict, students found that the atmosphere of New Norcia both enhanced their learning experience and deepened their desire for spiritual formation and growth.

Two of our students commented on their time here at New Norcia during the June intensive. Ruth Bakogianis, a teacher from Ballarat in Victoria undertook the unit as part of her Graduate Diploma

in Theology through the United Faculty of Theology in Parkville. She described her experience as follows:

*"I undertook an intensive unit at the New Norcia Institute of Benedictine Studies. The unit was 8 days long and included a historical study of the first five centuries of Christianity with an emphasis on the practice and belief of the community.*

*While the course itself was fascinating and delivered in an informal but very professional manner, it was the environment in which it was undertaken that made it so special. I felt privileged to be able to participate in the life of a monastic community in such a meaningful way. There were only three of us doing the course, and we were*



*overwhelmed by the hospitality. We were invited to pray and eat with the monks and we were also granted a special audience in order to ask questions pertinent to our studies. The peace and tranquility of the environment, coupled with the tangible spirit of Christian love within the community made this course an unforgettable experience."*

Elizabeth Dale from Tasmania, who is just beginning her Theological Studies through MCD University of Divinity also wrote about her experience:

*"The intensive study at New Norcia was a wonderful experience – one of the best in my life. The course content was well-organised and stimulating, with plenty of opportunity for student-lecturer discussion. The evenings were generally left free for self-study, reflection, or just enjoying the New Norcia environment. The Institute Library – a rich resource – was at our disposal. It was ideal for a*

*post-graduate student. The Monastery Guesthouse was a comfortable and quiet place to stay. We were warmly welcomed by the monks and the nuns and invited to participate in their daily liturgies.*

*The physical environment at New Norcia – ranging from the historic buildings, to the river, to the olive groves and sheep paddocks – added immensely to the experience. It was all so peaceful and nourishing." "I wholeheartedly recommend a New Norcia study intensive for those seeking a deep theological experience."*

In 2014 the Institute will be offering the unit on the "Wisdom of Benedict" again as both a Graduate Unit through UFT and an "audit" reading unit for general interest and retreat. We will also be offering a unit in Melbourne on Medieval Monastic Wisdom. As we expand our offerings into the future we welcome suggestions from those interested in participating in

the variety of experiences for faith development and pastoral ministry which we have on offer here in New



Norcia. As part of this project we are also developing a scholarship programme which will support students in covering both transport and accommodation costs. We hope to see the New Norcia Institute become a lively centre for Benedictine retreats, sabbaticals, reading courses as well as study and research here in Australia and beyond.

For further information contact; Carmel Posa sgs at [carmel.posa@newnorcia.wa.edu.au](mailto:carmel.posa@newnorcia.wa.edu.au)

## Guesthouse....

A few words from the Guesthouse to end another year!

The last retreat of the Spirituality Programme 2013 was held in the Monastery Guesthouse last weekend, Nineteen participants joined Dom Michael to explore the advent themed retreat **"On the first Christmas Jesus came begging hospitality of a shelter for his birth among us"**. The feedback from this course was very positive. 2013 has been a busy year with many parishes and groups holding retreats, the Benedictine Institute retreats and study weekends as well as the Guesthouse Spirituality Programme. The programme for 2014 has now been finalised and can be viewed on the web-site ([www.newnorcia.wa.edu.au](http://www.newnorcia.wa.edu.au)).

Although the quiet season is now upon us we do still have a few busy days to look forward to. The Ecumenical Ceremony of Carols is being held on the 28<sup>th</sup> December. All the ensuite rooms have been booked already for this event but there are still a few single rooms available.

Best wishes to all for a Happy Christmas and safe holidays. We look forward to seeing you again in 2014.  
Contributed by Bernadette Taylor.

## Archive News.....



On Monday November 11<sup>th</sup> New Norcia's archives played host to the third meeting of the newly formed Religious Archivists' Group. The group grew out of the former Catholic Archivists but has become more inclusive since we welcomed the Anglican and Uniting Church archivists as well archivists from church schools, notably Scotch College, Wesley and Penrhos.

In all, twelve archivists representing the Sisters of Mercy, the Sisters of St Joseph, the Pallottines, the Catholic Archdiocese, the Girls' Friendly Society, the Anglicans, the Uniting Church, New Norcia, and Iona and Scotch Colleges descended on

New Norcia for a tour of the archives and library, lunch and a visit to the Kerry Stokes exhibition.

We were also joined by Dr Deb Rosser from the Find and Connect group (they direct people who had experienced care in state run child care institutions to the appropriate institution), and our Librarian, Carolyn Talbot.

The visit started in the archives at 11.00 where we were welcomed by Fr David, followed by a tour of the archives. A wonderful lunch was held in the Big Parlour and supplied by Nicky from the hotel. Over lunch, weighty issues were discussed from how to fireproof your archives to ASA (Australian Society of Archivists) issues which included a move to change our name from the Religious Archivists' Group to CoFT (Committee of Faith Traditions). After lunch, we visited the monastery library, where Carolyn showed us some beautiful works from the locked collections in the General West library.

A perfect day was rounded off by a visit to the Kerry Stokes Collection, facilitated by Katie Carter and, I believe, that was followed by some spirited shopping in the Museum Shop.

Contributed by Peter Hocking

## Education Centre - *Booklengths Project Group...*

The retreat to New Norcia was a blessing in unexpected ways. True, I was expecting peace, I was expecting quiet – and it was provided in full. I was expecting impressive architecture and interiors filled by paintings and objets d' art and had the pleasure of viewing it. But I also found the vibe was friendly, on Saturday night the pub was a revelation of steaming life. There were check shirts and cowboy hats dancing to Joe Cocker, truck drivers at their regular stop, and happy young backpackers behind the bar.

I wasn't really expecting the unrestrained flow of conversation, not just about writing, but about the life behind writing that informs and shapes it for each one of us in our own time and space. I wasn't really expecting to learn so much about my fellow writers and their journeys toward writing. If anyone remembers the show on SBS called 'Front up,' it was a bit like that. Scratch any ordinary person on the street and find a fascinating story underneath. We read to each other and the feedback was intelligent and informed. It's true I didn't do as much writing as I'd planned, but I was probably having too much fun!





## New Norcia Studies 21 Launch

On Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> November, The Hon. Neville Owen, a former student of St Ildephonsus College, launched the 21<sup>st</sup> edition of New Norcia Studies Journal.

The Archives Research and Publications Committee thank Neville for his excellent speech and Mayor Heather Henderson too for her address. The Committee is also deeply grateful to the City of Subiaco for their continued support of New Norcia and the Studies Launch, and would like to thank the Mayor for providing not only the venue but the music performed by *Très Classique* and for the wonderful refreshments.



Copies of the Journal may be obtained by contacting the archivist on 9654 8018 or by completing the accompanying order form and sending to the archivist. Back issues of most of the Journals are also available from the archivist. Please ring for further information on availability and price.



### News from the Monastery:

Abbot John is pleased to inform all our friends that the Conventual Chapter recently approved the solemn profession (2<sup>nd</sup> February 2014) of Dom Brian Horlock and the simple profession (28<sup>th</sup> January 2014) of Dom Robert Nixon. Please keep these two very fine monks in your thoughts and prayers as they continue their monastic journey.

### *Save the Date.*

### **Ecumenical Vespers at St Mary's Cathedral Perth.**

**6.30pm on Tuesday 4 March**

In addition to the very beautiful and sacred traditions of Vespers there will be storytelling and music featured. Please consider including this date in your 2014 calendar.

**All most welcome!**

# Liturgical Calendar - January 2014

<b>Wednesday, 1 January 2014</b> Thursday, 2 January 2014 Thursday, 2 January 2014	<b>MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD, SOLEMNITY</b> <i>Holiday Horarium Begins</i> <b>Ss Basil the Great &amp; Gregory Nazianzen, Memoria</b>
<b>Sunday, 5 January 2014</b> Friday, 10 January 2014	<b>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, SOLEMNITY</b> <b>St Gregory of Nyssa, Optional Memoria</b>
<b>Sunday, 12 January 2014</b> Wednesday, 15 January 2014 Friday, 17 January 2014 Friday, 17 January 2014	<b>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD, Feast</b> <b>(FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME)</b> <b>Ss Maur(us) &amp; Placid, Memoria</b> <i>Normal Horarium Resumes</i> <b>St Anthony, Memoria</b>
<b>Sunday, 19 January 2014</b> Tuesday, 21 January 2014 Friday, 24 January 2014 Saturday, 25 January 2014	<b>SECOND IN ORDINARY TIME</b> <b>St Agnes, Memoria</b> <b>St Francis de Sales, Memoria</b> <b>The Conversion of St Paul, Feast</b>
<b>Sunday, 26 January 2014</b> Monday, 27 January 2014 Tuesday, 28 January 2014 Friday, 31 January 2014	<b>THIRD IN ORDINARY TIME (AUSTRALIA DAY)</b> <b>Ss Timothy &amp; Titus, Optional Memoria</b> <b>St Thomas Aquinas, Memoria</b> <b>St John Bosco, Memoria</b>





On behalf of the  
monastic community  
and everyone at New  
Norcia,  
I wish you a very  
happy and holy  
Christmas, and  
abundant blessings for  
the New Year.  
Fr John Herbert, Abbot.





# CHRISTMAS *at* NEW NORCIA

## CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, 24 December 2013

6.30pm Vespers

8.15pm Vigils

10.30pm Midnight Mass

## CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, 25 December 2013

7.45am Lauds

9.00am Conventual Mass

12.00noon Midday Prayer

5.30pm Solemn Vespers  
with Exposition & Benediction

## ECUMENICAL CAROL SERVICE

Saturday, 28 December 2013

4.00pm Afternoon Tea in the Parlour

5.00pm Service of Readings and Carols



Great Northern Highway, New Norcia WA 6509

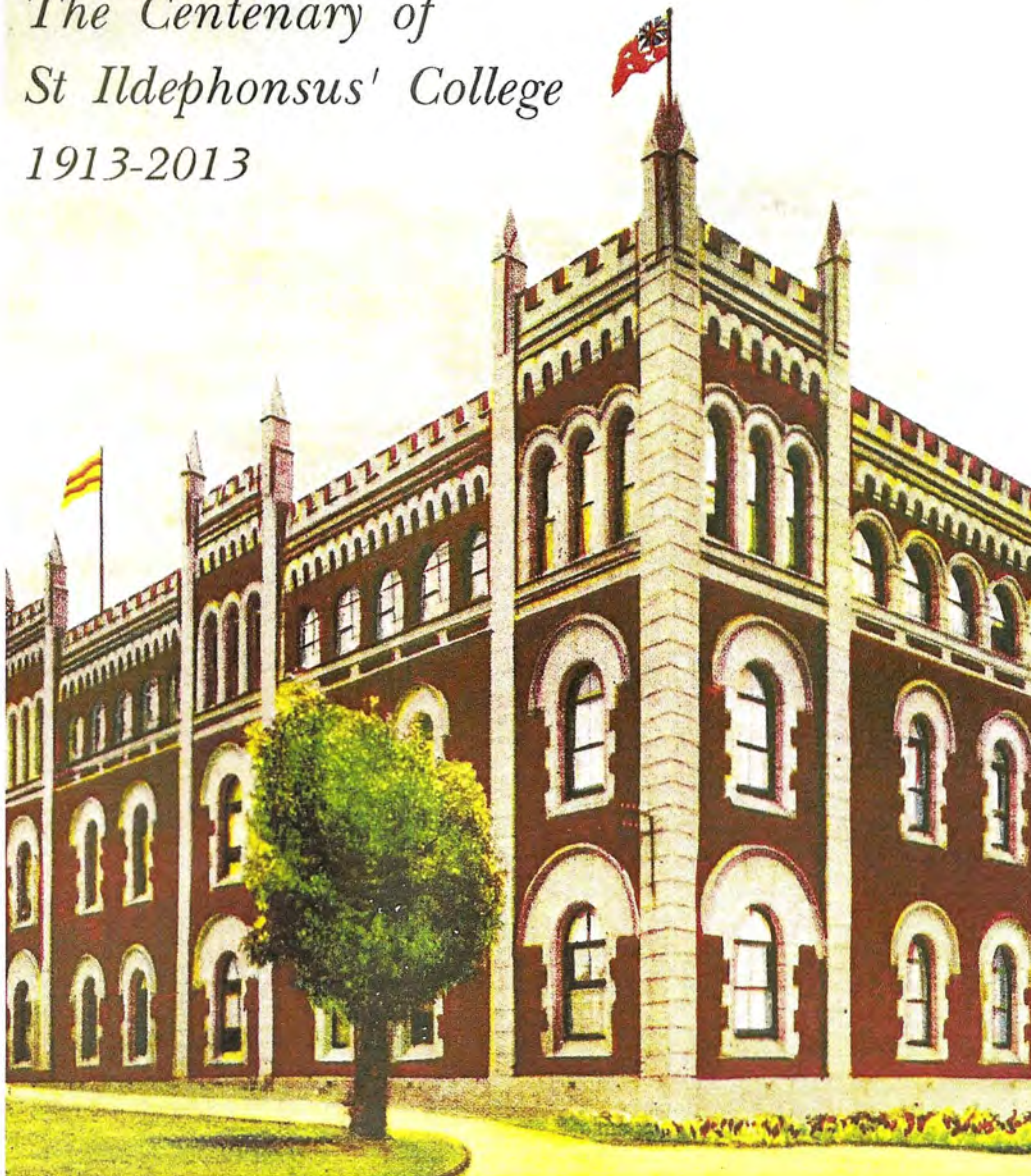
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# NEW NORCIA STUDIES

NUMBER 21  
2013

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Please note, most back copies are available from the archivist  
or the Museum Shop (08 9654 8056)

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