



SERRA CLUB of MELBOURNE Newsletter

October 2017

SCANZSPAC CONVENTION

A tentative booking has been made at Catholic Leadership Centre, East Melbourne, for 19th and 20th October. The SCANZSPAC Board Meeting would be held on the previous day. Registration is anticipated to be \$300 per person, with a \$25 discount for 'early bird' bookings. Accommodation is available at the Centre at an additional cost. Serrans should remember that this was the venue for the Serra International Convention held in Melbourne in 2015, and what a wonderful occasion this was.

SERRA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 2018

This will be held from 27th June to 1st July, at Nashville, Tennessee, U.S.A.

DIRECTORY

The new Directory for 2017-2018 has been compiled and distributed by SCANZSPAC Secretary, Frank McCulloch. The Directory is a vital part of Serra, in that it provides an up to date listing of members and their current contact details. It also contains a short history of Serra International and Serra in Australia, and the Objectives of Serra International, along with a listing of deceased Serrans.

Frank undertook the compilation of the directory, after the death of Peter Larkins eight years ago, and it is a credit to both of them that it is such a valuable tool, and continues to improve with each issue.

SERRA RETREAT

The date for the 2018 Retreat is Saturday 14th April. It will be at Holy Cross Centre, Templestowe, where it has been held for several years now. This will be the 38th Annual Retreat, and once again will be organized by Neville Hackett. Each year Neville has organized a wonderful Retreat Master, and so it is certain that the 2018 Retreat will be at the usual standard. Make a note of the date.

CHANGE OF MEETING DATES

As Anzac Day in 2018 falls on Wednesday 25th April, the Executive has decided to bring forward the meeting that would normally be on this date, to Wednesday 18th April.

In addition to this change, as some members plan to attend the Serra International Convention, the June meeting, at which the new Board will be installed, will also be brought forward to Wednesday 20th June. Please record these dates.

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC

The Archdiocesan magazine, which replaced 'Kairos' has been approached by the Club President, John Short, to see if they would be interested in printing an article about Serra. They have agreed to this, and John and Anne Larkins will co-operate in putting together suitable information and writing it.

GUEST SPEAKER

Sister Margaret Field O.P., was our guest speaker at the September meeting. She entered the Dominican Convent at Maitland N.S.W., in 1953 and has been professed for 62 years.

In 1953, the only options in the Order were to be a teacher or a lay Sister who worked in the convent, and so she chose to be a teacher. This decision resulted in her going to many places. She taught at Waratah, Mayfield, Bathurst, Moss Vale, Brisbane, Melbourne and the Solomon Islands. Sister also taught in the Order's schools for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired, and the school for the Blind. These two ministries have been very important since the establishment of the Order in Australia in 1867.

Sister Margaret not only taught in both Primary and Secondary schools, but also at various times had charge of Boarders, worked in administration, and was Novice Mistress for ten years, and also spent five years teaching in the Solomon Islands.

She said that she had been very fortunate in that her Congregation allowed her to study in America and Ireland, and to travel to Great Britain, Europe, the Pacific and El Salvador.

The aim of the Dominican Sisters is to be 'Women of the Word in the World' She felt that along with others, the Dominicans are dying out, as they are an ageing Congregation, as their youngest Sister is 61 years old. However, they believe that they are dying, but there will be a resurrection; that a new form of Religious Life will emerge.

In Sister's retirement years she has travelled to Vietnam for several months each year, to help some of the younger Dominican Sisters with their English. Three days a week she tutors in English or teaches English to refugees and asylum seekers, and young Sisters and Seminarians from overseas, and for young Postulants at Nazareth House.

She has also spent 21 years as a Pastoral Associate in the parishes of Good Shepherd, Mulgrave and St Mary's, Dandenong.

RECENT DEATH

Doss Forsyth, a member of the Serra Club of Oakleigh Deanery, died on 3rd October, and her Thanksgiving Mass was celebrated at St Peter's East Bentleigh. Doss' husband, Ron, was also a member of Oakleigh Deanery and he died in 2003. Her brother, Jim Malane, was a member of the Serra Club of Melbourne for many years, and he died in 2006. St Peter's Church was fairly full for her funeral, and it was a great tribute to her.

SEMINARY LUNCH Another date to mark in your Diary for 2018 is Sunday 15th April. Frank McCulloch has confirmed this date with Corpus Christi Seminary, for our annual gathering to celebrate Mass, and to enjoy lunch with the staff and seminarians.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

October 25th St. Catherine's Church, 2 Buchan Street, Moorabbin
 November 22nd Rosary 6.15 pm. Mass 6.30 pm. followed by
 December 13th Dinner Meeting in the Sweeney Centre.

SATURDAY MORNING MASS for VOCATIONS

October Immaculate Heart, East Hampton 9.00am
 November Our Lady of the Assumption, Cheltenham 9.00am
 December St Joseph's, Springvale 8.00am

MASS ROSTER

	Oct	Nov	Dec
Reader:	Anne	Barbara	John
Prayers of the Faithful:	John	Frank	Anne
Offertory Procession:	Dan/Terry	John/Terry	Guests
Minister of Communion:	Barbara/Frank	Anne/Dan	Concelebrants
Meals Clean Up: All Members urged to assist.			