

Volume 136



THE MORE YOU HONOUR ME
THE MORE I WILL BLESS YOU

THE COMMUNICATOR



Please visit our Thrift Shop.

The Little King's Movement for the Handicapped

President's Report 2018

This year, our AGM falls in the season of Lent, a season of renewal, of growth, of self-assessment, prayer, fasting, and penance. So, it is fitting that we, as a Movement, sit down today to pray together, to look back over our past activities, and to assess how we can renew and grow this vital organisation in the future.

Last year, we looked back to the beginnings of LKM, 50 years ago. Today I'm only going to cover the last 12 months.

Pat Mackie reports that Fellowship Days are very special. The combination of Mass, lunch and entertainment remains popular with our guests and the numbers attending remain reasonably constant from month to month. Our sincere gratitude goes to Fr John Begg s.m. for faithfully returning month after month to say Mass for these days.

The Ipswich Unit has about 18 guests each month and Imelda wrote in her report, that the 8 LKM members and 3 carers who attend the day are able to look after them quite comfortably.

Brian writes that Tuesday afternoons with the group from Moorooka and Darra continues, but he would be glad to see some fresh faces join them for the afternoon as there is plenty of room for extras. Unfortunately, Nursery Road State Special School did not renew their invitation to visit during 2018, but Mt Ommaney Special School continues to welcome visitation from LKM volunteers.

The Wednesday visits from Halwyn Residential Care Facility continued throughout 2018. Marge and a small group of volunteers including boys from Marist Ashgrove joined together to welcome them.

The Young Adult Group's expeditions to various pleasure spots on the first Saturday of the month are great fun for all concerned and they enjoy visiting their favourite lunch and picnic spots during the year. Ann writes feelingly of her gratitude for the prayers and support she received during the final illness and passing of her much-loved Rita.

The Golden Years Unit, and indeed our Movement as a whole, were deeply saddened by the death of our much-loved Bill Rogers in June. Marge has kindly taken on the organisation of the days and writes that his shoes are very hard to fill.

The Thrift Shop had a very successful year and Sandra states that the shop has never looked better. Packed with a very wide range of items for sale ranging from clothing and accessories to household items and even plants, the shop has quite a regular customer base and hopes to expand that base with the help of their new advertising signs for the footpath and, sometime in the future, the introduction of EFTPOS.

Imelda reports that the Arts and Craft Unit enjoyed another year of working and praying together and helping where they were able. Between making morning tea and lunch on Tuesdays, looking after the plants and providing a wonderful array of knitting and craft for Golden Years days, our annual Fete and for other special occasions, the ladies have kept very busy indeed.

The Appeals Unit also had a big year organising and finalising the annual Church Appeal and the Door to Door Appeal. Karen writes that they would be glad of a few extra volunteers to assist with counting money and writing receipts. If you have a few hours to spare, perhaps you might like to volunteer.

During the year, LKM continued to reach out to other organisations involved in the care and support of those in need. An approach was made to Seton College to discuss the possibility of assisting with the secondary education of children with a disability. Two scholarships have been offered starting this year.

We have also donated to Young Care, an organisation that assists young people with a disability to live independently through the provision of purpose-built accommodation.

We continue to support Marist Solidarity's LaValla School in Cambodia provide education and training to children with a disability. Our donations have helped build and now maintain the 32 boys currently living in the Little King Dormitory while they attend the school.

Our Respite housing was in demand again during 2018 with several families seeking crisis accommodation. After some deliberation, the Board decided that in future, we will have people seeking accommodation sign a lease agreement, so that we are able to ensure that such terms as the length of their stay are fully understood before they take up residence.

Our fete this year was less well attended than we had hoped, due to several other fetes being held in the neighbourhood. However, as a venue for members of the Movement to socialise together, it was, as always, a great success. The fete is one of the three days of the year when all members are encouraged to come together. Today is the second, and the feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, our Feast Day, is the third. We celebrated that day with Mass, said by Fr Begg, where we welcomed 7 new Members into the LKM family and continued the celebration afterwards with a catered luncheon.

To me, trying to knit together the strands of the past year into a whole garment, what stands out in each of the Unit reports is the way our Members and volunteers come together with a cheerful heart to support the activities of the various Units. We may be few in numbers, but we are mighty in attitude and very much a family. We have members still volunteering in their 90's, members continuing to make lunch for others while waiting for knee or hip replacement, members who take things home to wash or repair, or make trips to the dump or to other charities or who drive to Buranda from Ipswich just to collect people to take back to Ipswich for the monthly Sundays. You are all amazing and I thank God for each, and every one of you.

We have also been blessed by the support of the Augustinians, Fr Saldi, Fr Dang, Fr Brian and Fr Joe who have said Mass for us on Golden Years days and when Fr Begg was unavailable on Fellowship days. Our gratitude and thanks also go to Sister Annalissa and Sister Salvacion who continue to assist with Mt Ommaney and on Fellowship Days.

In thanking the various members of Little King's Movement, I cannot let the day pass without adding my own very grateful thanks to the members of the Board. Joan, Marge, Pat, Moira, Karen and Brian, thank you for the hours of time you have devoted to the business side of LKM. We have been ably helped this year by our office manager, John Schneider, who is trying his best to update us all on 21st Century management.

So that was the last 12 months. What is to come?

One of my favourite Easter hymns is called "Love is Come Again". The first verse reads:

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,

Wheat, that in dark earth many days has lain;

Love lives again, that with the dead has been:

Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

It's a hymn that speaks of Resurrection, of renewal and of growth. It is a call to Discipleship, a call to celebrate the presence of the Lord in our lives.

Today we have met to look back on 2018, but we also meet to look forward to 2019 and beyond. Let us be "like wheat that springs up green" and make this year one of renewal and growth

Helen Deakin

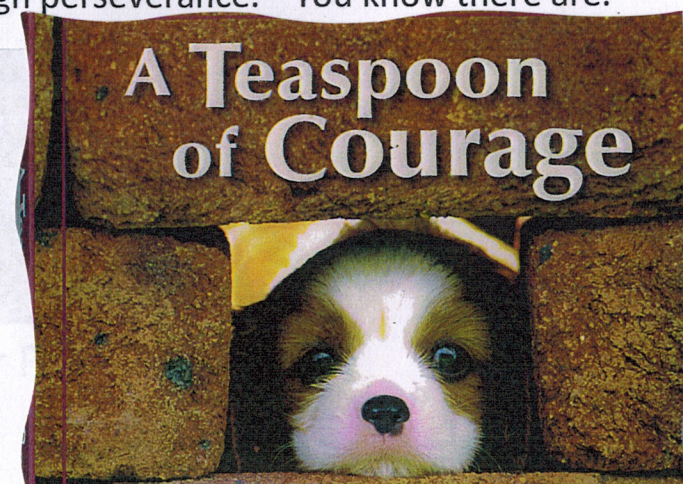
Hon. President



GIVE YOURSELF SOME CREDIT.

Most of us do not live our faith in amazing, eye catching ways. We simply do the best we can, day after day, from one day to the next. We do our best to hear the word of God, regardless of where it comes from. We hear the word of God in a special way in the Scriptures, of course. But we also keep alert for the word of God as it may come to us from other people, sometimes even from a child. Sometimes we miss it, of course. But when we do recognise the word of God, from the life and lips of another person, in the news of the day, in a book or television program, in the work of an artist, then we do our best to "embrace it with a generous and good heart."

Give yourself some credit. You're not perfect, no one is, but there are plenty of times when you have "a generous and good heart," when you recognise the word of God, embrace it, and thank God for it. There are days when you "bear fruit through perseverance." You know there are.



Craft Ladies.



Thrift Shop Ladies.



It's not very often we see all these
Treasured Ladies so relaxed. God bless them.



Helen, our President, and Elaine, our not able to "Do
Without Lady" in the kitchen.



Prayers Requested:

Please include the following in your prayers:

Joan Martin, Joan Leonard, Joan Lakeland, Christina & Jessie Peters,
Christopher Brace, Rita Hunter, Carmel Curran, Heather Stabler.

Recently Deceased: Rita Ryan, Donald Stone, Pam Hopsick, Betty Kemp.

Anniversaries to remember:

June:

Joseph Barrett. Don Lakeland. John Phillips. Doreen Murphy. Marie Rhodes.
Br Des Phillips. Bill Rogers. Margaret Lyons. Matthew McMurtrie. Darryl
Hoffman.

July:

Maureen Rogers. Sr. Valerie Healy. Kath Winter. Una Garrahy. Sr. Helen
Rheanne. Father C. Shand. Archbishop Francis Rush. Cathy Bones. Br. Julius
Walsh. Nancy Brace. Ethel Smith. Bernadette Andersen. Neville Ryrie.
Sr. Patricia Phillips. Elizabeth Bird.

August:

Philomena Barrett. Lissa Martinez. Joan Dennis. Sr. Edna O'Sullivan.
Carol Brace. George Haseler. Claire Wheeler. Keith Howard. Noel Dennis.
Sr. Anne O'Connor. Marian O'Connor.

Pamela Mary Hopsick

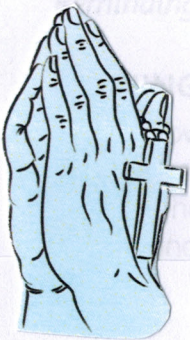


2nd April 1936 — 1st April 2019

We will miss that wonderful smile and your special reminder
on every Feast Day. Rest in Peace dear Pam.



Today, live as though you have nothing to lose. Do the hokey-pokey with God: Put your whole self in, and put your whole self out. Put your whole self in and shake it all about. Live fully, intentionally, vibrantly. Dear God, help me to trust you without holding back.



Contrary to what you have been told, you can't do it. You can't live a moral life. You can't obey God's law. As St. Augustine said, it is not in our power to live as God desires. So, we are well advised to give up trying and start praying.

LES AND JAMS



Please remember Bernice, when you empty small jars. Her jams pickles and relishes are a credit to her. It is not only Fete time that Bernice sells her jams, it is all year round. Cheers Bernice.

