Sr Anne Manning Heads New Province Leadership Team

Sr Anne Manning is now leader of the Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand Province following the inauguration Mass at the Good Shepherd Chapel in February.

Anne is known widely within Good Shepherd as the person who began The Trading Circle, Fair Trade Company, in the 1990s. But Anne’s Good Shepherd life spans several decades and countries. She entered the Good Shepherds in Johannesburg in December 1963, and came to Australia from South Africa in February 1980.

Anne, who delivered the Homily at the inauguration Mass, referred to her adventure last year of walking the Camino, an 800km pilgrimage trail in Spain. She said the Camino walk helped her ‘let go’ of many of life’s unimportant trappings.

“I also came to understand that the one absolute essential is love. ...So this is our challenge - in the midst of all else that we are engaged in, to adhere firmly to this one big essential. St Mary Euphrasia, the Good Shepherd foundress, with all that she had accomplished, felt moved to say: ‘I have not done great things. I have only loved, but I have loved with all my heart’. If at the end we can echo those words for ourselves, then, whatever be our achievements or even our failures, we will have fulfilled to the best of our ability, our Good Shepherd mission,” Anne said.

Caption: The new Province Leadership Team, from left: Srs Caroline Price, Noelene White, Anne Manning, Jan Ryan and Monica Walsh.

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Who Was Henry Cotter?

A key moment in our recent Provincial Chapter happened when Sister Pam Molony on behalf of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd handed a cheque for over two million dollars to the GSANZ Board to seed the newly formed Good Shepherd Foundation. The Foundation will provide funding for Good Shepherd ministries, assisting their viability into the future.

Pam said that the money for the Foundation came from bequests to Good Shepherd Sisters. The first of these came from Henry Cotter, a man well known to the sisters and former residents. It got people asking—who was Henry Cotter?

Henry was born in 1929 and along with his brother was brought up in St. Vincent’s Orphanage, South Melbourne. At 17 he came to work as a gardener and general handyman at Rosary Place, the Good Shepherd convent in Beaconsfield Parade, Albert Park. Henry, with his dog Laddie beside him, was a familiar figure around the grounds of the convent.

A shy gentle man, Henry gained the respect and trust of Sisters and residents. One Sister in particular was a guide and friend to him over many years. Sr Luke Carrolan supervised his work and ensured that Henry had opportunities to develop his quality of life. One hobby they shared was an interest in horse racing.

In 1972 Good Shepherd Sisters closed Rosary Place and Henry went to work with the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart. Sr Luke was transferred to New Zealand. When she returned to Australia in 1980 she went to Oakleigh and shortly afterwards Henry was again employed by Good Shepherd sisters to do gardening work, this time at Oakleigh. His employment continued when Oakleigh was closed and the sisters moved to Carnegie.

In 2004 as a result of declining health, Henry was admitted to the Good Shepherd Aged Care Hostel. His gentleness and respect for others, as well as being one of the first male residents of the hostel, meant that he found friendship and care from both residents and staff.

Henry died on September 15 2006 at the age of 77. In his will he left his savings to Good Shepherd Sisters. Henry, a humble man, would have been delighted to know that his legacy will assist Good Shepherd work to continue into the future.

These reflections on Henry Cotter were written by Sr Anne Dalton with help from other Good Shepherd Sisters who knew him.

It’s Time For Some Homework

Bethlehem Community Inc, the community that provides accommodation and support services for homeless single women in Melbourne, is holding its annual HOMEWORK event.

The gala night of great music, food and wine will be held on Saturday, March 24, at the Palladium Ballroom, in Whiteman St Southbank. The event starts at 7pm.

To make a booking or to find out more about this night, which was attended last year by several Good Shepherd people, contact Alex on 0457 080 543.

Tickets to the night are $220 or you can book a table for 10 people for $2200. Do your HOMEWORK and support the great work at Bethlehem.
Good Shepherd Woman of Beauty Dies

Kayleen Deans, who was in the care of Good Shepherd Sisters for more than 40 years, died recently. Kayleen (inset) was a gifted artist and held several exhibitions, including one at the National Gallery in Victoria.

At Kayleen’s funeral, Fran Jenkins, who supports the Good Shepherd women in Victoria, described Kayleen as a woman of great faith. Her great loves were her birth family, her Good Shepherd family and her God.

Delivering the eulogy at Kayleen’s funeral, Fran reflected on the last hours of Kayleen’s life.

“At around 5.30 on Friday evening, not long after Kayleen had been placed into palliative care, I went back to my office to make some phone calls to inform her family, and friends as to what was happening ... as I was heading home around 7, I thought I’d drop in and sit with Kayleen, thinking she would be alone. How wrong could I be,” Fran said.

“The Good Shepherd grapevine had done its work again. There wasn’t a spare seat in the house; around her bed sat three Good Shepherd Sisters, and two Good Shepherd women. They were praying, and quietly sharing stories and laughs from Kayleen’s life. It was a beautiful scene and one I felt very privileged to witness. What this showed me was that Kayleen had two families, her birth one and her Good Shepherd one, both of whom loved and cared for her dearly.”

Happy Birthday Bernie

Bernie Carroll (right) was joined by Good Shepherd Sisters, staff, and friends recently when she celebrated her 90th birthday. Bernie and her great friend Maria Vallis (left), have been friends for 76 years, since they came into the care of the Good Shepherd Sisters in Rosary Place, Albert Park in the 1930s. The two women now live at the Good Shepherd hostel in Abbotsford.
Good Shepherd Sisters are continuing their mission in Syria despite the terrible conflict and bloodshed tearing their country apart.

A news flash from the Syrian Sisters was sent around the network last week. It is a moving account of life on the ground, among the people who are suffering.

Sr. Marie Claude Naddaf, Province Leader of Lebanon/Syria, said the Sisters are valiantly continuing their ministries, welcoming a larger number of women and children in the Damascus home.

Sr. Georgina Habach, Community Leader of Homs (the site of much unrest) sent the following update:

Sometimes we are faced with this question: why are we still in Homs and why do we keep the house open?

Let me give you some reasons, while still requesting your support and your prayers. Our house is still open for the protection of young female students and others who are at risk of being assaulted, raped and taken hostage by armed gangs. In addition, their parents entrust them to us so that they can avoid the worst. I will give you an example of three young women from Hama, three from Nabek, three from AL Zahra, three from Rableh, near Kosseir, etc. These girls are Sunni Muslim, Alawites and Christians. We provide hospitality for them so as to protect their lives.

People come for prayer and to request moral support. Our presence reassures them and keeps them in their homes. The situation is critical now, but we are already planning for after the end of the war. How to help families to take control of their lives again after all the trauma of war? How to help them rebuild ‘community life’ after so many rifts and violence? How to establish a plan to support children in hot spots who have witnessed such aggression and atrocities, those who saw one or other of their parents killed in front of them?

Our communities in Syria are places to meet for exchange and sharing, for all segments of Syrian society. We are working to develop aid strategies, to reach those who are most marginalised and at risk of all forms of violence. Nothing is impossible for Love, isn’t that so? Armed with the love of our Good Shepherd, armed with your love, your support and your prayers, we can build bridges of peace and reconciliation between the brothers. This is what we ask for through the intercession of St. Mary Euphrasia.

To read the full statement by the Good Shepherd Sisters in Syria click here.

Do You Want to Help the Good Shepherds in Syria?

On Thursday March 8 Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand is running a breakfast to celebrate International Women’s Day. The breakfast will be at the Provincalate at 8.30am. Sr Mary Carroll will talk about her work in Victorian Prisons over many years.

We have decided to use this event to try and raise money for the Sisters in Syria who are working with the most vulnerable women and girls.

Come to the breakfast (RSVP to Roberto Morales at roberto.morales@goodshep.com.au) or make a donation by contacting Jo Thitchener at jo.thitchener@goodshep.com.au or phone her on 03 9270 9717.
The 2012 Network Gathering will be held in Melbourne on Wednesday March 14 and Thursday March 15 2012. On March 14 there is a series of workshops and interactive panels and the launch of Good Shepherd research, *Hidden Slaves: Women in Forced Labour, Migration and Marriage*. These events will be held at the Community & Linen Rooms, Abbotsford Convent, St Heliers St, Abbotsford. On March 15 the Good Shepherd Network Gathering, featuring inspiring speakers, panel discussions and the St Mary Euphrasia Award, will be held at Leonda By The Yarra, 2 Wallen Rd, Hawthorn VIC. Indigenous leader Jackie Huggins, will speak about leadership at the gathering. Here she shares her ideas.

Q. What characteristics/qualities do you look for in a leader?
A. There are so may qualities I look for in leadership, but the first one would have to be integrity ... if you are not trustworthy and reliable then you can't be a leader either. Having and sharing a vision is powerful too and the sharing of your own personal power and networks also defines great leadership to me. Relationships are vital for enhancing your quest for leadership. Working on those relationships with mutual respect and commitment is gratifying. It cuts through so many tensions and transcends barriers of race, class, and ethnicity. When one feels equal to another that is a most empowering feeling. Being in touch with contemporary events and community aspirations is also important in leadership as you want to bring people along with you on the journey.

Q. Is there a leader who you admire?
A. It is so hard to point out any one standout leader, as there are so many. There are the heroes in the community who go about their business every day and do great things in their life for the betterment of others. Fiona Stanley, Noel Hayman in the health profession, Nathan Jarro and Megan Davis in the law profession, Ngaire Jarro and Simon Forrest in education.

Q. Is it only managers/CEOs/people in power etc who you look to for leadership. Or do each of us have a right/opportunity to show leadership in our lives. This is a challenge isn’t it as most of us follow, rather than lead?
A. Our family members can be leaders who, whilst not publicly known, are well known to us - our Mothers and Fathers, Grandmothers, Grandfathers, Uncles and Aunties etc. We all lead at some stage in our lives and all of us can have that possibility of being a leader. You don't have to be the team captain or CEO of any organisation to be a leader. Leadership comes from within and is manifested outwardly.

There are numerous definitions of leadership - a dime a dozen in fact. For me it is about learning all that life can offer and being able to use those tools to benefit others.

Audre Lorde a wonderful African American poet once said, 'We need to use the master's tools to dismantle the master's house'. That has stuck with me throughout life in the work I have done for obvious reasons, eg. get a good education first, learn the vocab, the methodologies etc and fight them at their own game. But as I grow older I know I need to do this with compassion also. My beloved Mother had the best saying of all, 'you catch more flies with honey than with vinegar'. It took me years to work out what this was about, but I now know.

Register for all the Network Gathering events online at:  [www.goodshep.net.au/gathering/registration/](http://www.goodshep.net.au/gathering/registration/)
New! Safe work Australia’s volunteer assistance package and hotline.

A new volunteer assistance package has been launched by Safe Work Australia, aimed at assisting volunteers and volunteer organisations affected by the changes to work, health and safety laws. Developed in partnership with Volunteering Australia, the package includes 4 sections: the new work health and safety laws, FAQs about volunteering, Myth busters: Fact sheets, tips and tools and Contacts and links. The Safe Work Australia Volunteer Assistance Line is: (02) 6240 4990. This is a dedicated helpline to assist volunteers and volunteer organisations with the new WHS laws. See for details: http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/Legislation/volunteers/Pages/Volunteers.aspx

And just a reminder: on 1 January 2012 new work health and safety laws commenced ONLY in New South Wales, Queensland, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory. For Victoria these will not come into effect till late this year or 2013.

Celebrate your volunteers!

Volunteer Week 2012 - ‘Everyone Counts’

National Volunteer Week (NVW) will be celebrated this year from May 14-20. It is the largest celebration of volunteers and volunteerism in Australia, providing an opportunity to say thank you to the more than 6.4 million Australians who volunteer. Volunteering Australia has various NVW promotional materials on offer:

- National Volunteer Week 2012 logo - now available online
- Certificate of Appreciate - coming soon
- A3 Poster - ordering now open, free!
- Lapel Pins - ordering now open (pack of 10 for $11)
- Tips for the media - now available online
- Radio CSA National Volunteer Week 2012 - coming soon


We Can Support Women and Girls in Syria

The Good Shepherd Sisters in Syria are working hard to support the influx of women and girls coming into their care, amidst the violence gripping their country.

Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand would like to fund raise to support the Sisters. To find out how you can help, go to page 4, or contact Jo Thitchener at jo.thitchener@goodshep.com.au or phone her on 03 9270 9717.

Good Shepherd looks for Chapel Coordinator

Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand is currently advertising for a Chapel Coordinator of the soon to be reopened Good Shepherd Chapel in St Heliers St, Abbotsford. For further information and the job description click here.

Volunteer News
Good Shepherd Joins the FAIRTRADE Chocolate Easter Campaign

A coalition of anti-trafficking advocates and ethical traders is launching a FAIRTRADE Chocolate campaign this week, urging people to ‘eat ethically produced chocolate’ this Easter.

The campaign, an initiative of Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand, ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans), The Trading Circle and Stop The Traffik, is encouraging people to buy FAIRTRADE chocolate for Easter to help stop the trafficking and forced labour of children and adults for chocolate production.

Emma Somyden Davey, Community Engagement Manager with Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand, said the Easter season, which begins with Ash Wednesday on February 22 and culminates at Easter Sunday on April 8, is a time of high chocolate consumption, and an opportunity to send a strong message to chocolate producers who do not produce FAIRTRADE chocolate.

The FAIRTRADE Easter Campaign builds on the global campaigns in recent years that have seen several well-known chocolate manufacturers, including Cadbury and Nestle, use ethically produced chocolate. By buying cocoa beans from certified FAIRTRADE, Rainforest Alliance or UTZ suppliers, these chocolate producers ensure fair wages are paid to workers and farmers on cocoa plantations.

Much of the world’s chocolate is produced using cocoa beans that have been harvested by trafficked children or forced labour in the West African countries of Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana.

Campaign Challenges

The campaign calls on people to:
- Eat FAIRTRADE chocolate.
- Ask Supermarket and shop managers to sell and promote FAIRTRADE chocolate.
- Join the campaign to ensure all chocolate sold in Australia is ethically produced.

FAIRTRADE Campaign Success

In recent years, the following successes have been achieved:
- Cadbury responded to a Stop The Traffik postcard campaign and now has 11 FAIRTRADE dairy milk products, including a FAIRTRADE Easter egg.
- The entire chocolate range of Green and Blacks, owned by Cadbury, is now FAIRTRADE certified.
- Mars now uses only Rainforest Alliance certified cocoa in all Mars bars made in Australia.

FAIRTRADE chocolate will be available in The Trading Circle stores in the next two weeks. Click here for store contact details in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. FAIRTRADE chocolate is also available at Oxfam stores and at many supermarkets and small stores.
A Good Shepherd ‘Moment to Remember’ at the United Nations

Good Shepherd Sister Clare Nolan, Training Facilitator for the Good Shepherd International Justice and Peace Office in New York sent this message to Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand...

“...You know how the day-to-day NGO work can be tedious. Well today was one of those ‘moments to remember’ and I want to share it with you....

“For months Winifred, Good Shepherd’s Representative at the United Nations has been working tediously and tirelessly to promote the Social Protection Floor Initiative*, particularly the signature campaign as a bridge to poverty eradication...

“At the Civil Society Forum; precursor to the opening of the UN Commission on Social Development, Winifred took her place, as Chair of the NGO Committee for Social Development, on the dais, right next to the President of ECOSOC... She introduced the Committee who presented the signatures in support of the Social Protection Floor to the President. (Huge notebooks filled with hard copy signatures and thumbprints from the grassroots). And they raised a banner of signatures!

“I’m sure that you, as I was, would have swelled with pride at the way Winifred is representing Good Shepherd and working to impact systems and structures, to ensure that those who are now excluded from social benefits, and survive at the margin of society, will be accorded their dignity and rights”.

In the written submission to the UN Committee for Social Development, Good Shepherd said:

“Poverty is not the result of scarcity, but of inequality, especially gender inequality. We see the increased “feminisation of poverty” bringing with it greater risks of human trafficking and the lack of, or poor access to, food, sanitation, water, health and education...”

“...The responsibility for addressing the multi-dimensional aspects of poverty lies at the national level. Poverty eradication requires effective partnerships that challenge and transform not only economic systems, but social, cultural and political structures that have given rise to and maintain current inequalities...”

“..The experience of Good Shepherd in the field is one of having helped thousands of individuals women and girls out of chronic poverty through a wide variety of education, training and microfinance programmes. The time has come to have systemic and structural change”.

* A Social Protection Floor is the first level of a comprehensive national social protection system that helps to realise human rights for all.

Michaela Guthridge, Justice Development Manager with Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand, said in joining this campaign, Australia not only united in solidarity with Good Shepherd internationally, but also the International Labour Organization (ILO), the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations agencies, international NGOs, development banks and other development partners.

“No one should live below a certain income level. Everyone should be able to access at least basic health services, primary education, housing, water, sanitation and other essential services,” Michaela said.
St Clare’s Student Wins Curriculum Council Award

St Clare’s School in Perth is very proud to announce that one of its students, Bobby, received a Certificate of Excellence at the recent Curriculum Council Awards and Presentation Ceremony in Perth.

These Certificates of Excellence are awarded to students across Western Australia who, in their last three consecutive years of senior secondary school have obtained at least 18 “A” grades in course units or equivalents.

St Clare’s Principal Maureen Burke (left) said the school community was very proud of Bobby on achieving this most prestigious award. She is pictured at the award ceremony with Maureen and teacher Sue Ballard. Bobby, who completed Year 12 in 2011 is now working part-time while studying at TAFE.

WA ACRATH Raises Funds to Fight Trafficking

Western Australia’s Sr Naomi McClements was on the organizing committee of ACRATH WA which held a very successful fund raising concert on February at Loreto Nedlands Primary School auditorium.

More than $4330.00 was raised with ticket sales and raffles, of this over $400 was raised before the concert from raffle tickets sold at a local church. More than 75 people attended and commented on the moving music and beautiful performance.

Renowned Australian opera singer Merlyn Quaife is committed to working against human trafficking and volunteered her talents and time to present Fortune My Foe: a song cycle with music by Roger Heagney and words by Graeme Ellis. Merlyn was accompanied beautifully by Andrea Katz. Merlyn will also be singing with the Western Australian Opera in Electra and appeared by courtesy of WA Opera.

The concert was compered by Anne Watson and the audience was given information about human trafficking before the concert by another ACRATH member, Sr Lucy van Kessel.

St Clare’s Principal Maureen Burke and Sr Geraldine Mitchell, both from Perth, will be participating in workshops on March 14 as part of the Network Gathering. To register for the workshops and the gathering and other events please click here.

www.goodshep.net.au/gathering/registration/
Indra's Net and the Internet: Arising to the Interconnectedness of Life

Buddha means the “awakened one.” Awakened to what? The definition of Enlightenment in Buddhism is awakening to the interconnectedness of life. This is illustrated through the story of Indra's Net from the Avatamsaka Sutra.

... A long time ago, in a far away place, there lived a king. His name was Indra. Indra was a great king. In fact, he was king of all the Gods. One day, he called his architect, Johnny.

"Johnny! I am such a wonderful king that I'd like you to make a monument of me for all people to see."

After thinking for a while, Johnny exclaimed, "I've got it! Let's go to the royal treasurer, Sally, because this will be expensive."

They went to Sally and Johnny said, "I want to build a monument for our king, Indra. I want it to be a net that extends throughout all space and time and I want to place a bright pearl at each node of the net. Do we have enough resources to build this net?"

"You’re in luck!" said Sally. "I happen to have an infinite amount of thread spun by spiders and an infinite amount of pearls." Johnny proceeded to construct the net of pearls so big that it extended throughout all space and time.

Each pearl contains the reflection of every other pearl. Each pearl is contained within every other pearl. If you touch the net anywhere, it is felt everywhere.

Every phenomenon is a pearl in the net. Each of us at a given instant is a phenomenon. Everything at each moment is a phenomenon.

Everyone and everything is contained in me. I am contained in everyone and everything.

Many years later, somebody came along and turned Indra's Net into the Internet. Instead of pearls, they put computers at each node. They created a physical system of interconnectedness around the world. Then, we started to see languages for communicating across the net. We call them Facebook and Twitter. Soon, we started to see what I call arisings or awakenings around the world. For me, the first big one was the "Arab Spring." The second big one was the "Israeli Summer."

This is an extract from article by Bernie Glassman in the Huffington Post.
Letters from Thailand

Luana Siaosi, a case worker from Rosemount Good Shepherd Youth & Family Services, is currently working with the Good Shepherd Sisters in Nong Khai as part of an immersion experience.

Luana has been in Thailand several weeks and is fully involved in the day to day life of the Good Shepherd community which includes the Friendship Centre, a Good Shepherd initiative set up to care for people infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS. The Friendship Centre is a place of hope for the people of Nong Khai, where patients, carers and families can gather for information, support, companionship and employment.

Here is a snapshot of Luana’s work, going with the Outreach team to visit children and families affected by HIV/AIDS:

She’s just come home from school, surprised to see us, (Outreach Team of three people). There’s no smile on her face as she greets us with a formal Thai greeting, clasping her hands together and a humble nod of the head.

Her grandmother sends her to the back room to look for her medication so we can check that everything is in order. Her skin has a few sores from mosquito bites they’ve become infected and healing slowly. Permsak, the Outreach Coordinator, explains it’s common with HIV patients and continues checking her record book from the hospital to ensure everything is up to date.

….. Her Grandma moves quite confidently considering she’s 90% blind and in her mid 70s. Her Grandpa’s agility has improved. He swings his legs in the chair demonstrating that he is almost 100% better from the last time we visited and when he couldn’t walk.

These loving grandparents do the best they can despite their frailty, illnesses and poverty stricken lifestyle. With the assistance of the Outreach team this family manages to make most of their doctor’s appointments, ensure the grandchildren are schooled, food to eat and the granddaughter have her medication.

Luana will be sharing some of her experiences during the Good Shepherd Network Gathering on March 15 in Melbourne. To register for the gathering and other events please click here.

www.goodshep.net.au/gathering/registration/
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<th>Month</th>
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<td>Good Shepherd Network Gathering</td>
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<td>May</td>
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<td>GS Y&amp;FS will run the Women Leading Change event again this year in July</td>
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<td>International Day of Peace</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>International Volunteer Day</td>
<td>UN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Human Rights Day</td>
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