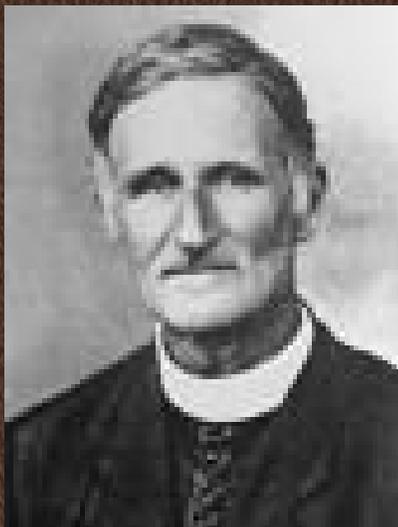


Welcome to the second edition of the MHHI Newsletter distributed to members and friends of the Association. We aim to circulate this newsletter bi-monthly throughout the year to keep everyone abreast of our activities and invite your input to keep the important history of Monsignor Hawes alive throughout the Midwest of Western Australia



WHAT CAN I DO?

Monsignor Hawes Heritage are always looking for new members and people keen to be involved in keeping the spirit alive!

If you would like to be involved or know someone who might, please complete the membership application form on our website or contact the secretary

A note from the Board,

We are rapidly progressing towards the launch of the Audio Tours project. Lucinda, our project officer recently spent some time interviewing some local identities to add to the package. We are excited that some of the audio will be packaged up for an ABC Radio National Hindsight program, more details to follow.

Another exciting event was a performance by the Geraldton "Vocal Minority Choir" at Our Lady of Mt Carmel Church in Mullewa during June. The event was attended by about 45 parishioners and local community members and was followed by an afternoon tea at the Monsignor Hawes Museum. The group have since performed at St Francis Xavier Cathedral.

It is an ongoing issue to keep Hawes buildings in a good state of repair, during June the Mullewa Parish had the Roof and Wall Doctor attend to the fretting east wall of Our Lady of Mt Carmel Church and similar damage is being reported at the Morawa Hermitage. The Board will discuss ways in which MHHI can assist local communities in these matters at their August meeting.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for August 4th.



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FOCUS BUILDING

Each Issue we will profile a Hawes building. This issue we have chosen Nazareth House In Geraldton as our Project Officer, Lucinda Jose recently spent time interviewing Sister Anne as part of the Audio Tours Project.

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Text taken from "Between Devotion and Design, The Architecture of John Cyril Hawes 1879-1956" by John J. Taylor (available for purchase from the Geraldton Diocese)

Nazareth House is situated four kilometers north of central Geraldton. The building is superbly located, directly overlooking the Indian Ocean to the west and the Chapman River to the North, with views to the Moresby Ranges to the east and towards central Geraldton to the south.

In 1938 the Sisters of Nazareth had been invited by Bishop O'Collins to staff a home for elderly people and orphaned children. In his role as Diocesan Architect, John Hawes produced the sketch plans for this building before he left Geraldton in May 1939.

The contractors for the building of Nazareth House were the prolific Berry Brothers. Cyril Berry was a principal of the firm and his son Basil, who was articulated to well-known Perth architect E. LeB. Henderson completed the working drawing after Hawes departure.

The foundation stone was laid by O'Collins on 2 June 1940; however, due to disruption of the building program with material and manpower shortages resulting from the Second World War, the building was not completed until 1941.

Although the estimated building cost was 26,000 pounds, Nazareth House was finally constructed at a cost of nearly 35,000 pounds.

Hawes did complete drawings in late 1940 and discussions continued with Bishop O'Collins and then Bishop Gummer until 1943 for a Chapel at Nazareth House however these never came to fruition.



NAZARETH HOUSE, GERALDTON WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Nazareth House eventually opened on Sunday the 28th of September, 1941. The 'Cathedral Chronicle' recorded the opening as follows:

Chronicle:

Erected at a cost of nearly £35,000, Nazareth House is the largest institution building outside the metropolitan area...The establishment of Nazareth House was envisaged as the concluding link in a unit to establish child immigrants and orphaned Australian boys on the land in these northern agricultural areas and also to train girls in the domestic arts. It was proposed that the boys, who would be received from infancy, should remain at the institution till they reached the age of seven years, when they would be transferred to the Christian Brothers' Farm School at Tardun. The girls were to continue with their academic and manual training. The outbreak of war called for a rearrangement of the original plans, and in consequence the portals of the house are to be thrown open to aged and infirm men and women and to poor and orphaned Australian boys and girls.

Today Nazareth House continues to care for Geraldton's aged residents and over time various additions have been made to the complex.



For the more information, see www.monsignorhawes.com.au