

Georges River Regional Council Annual Report for 2009

(A report from the Georges River Regional Council.)

Introduction

1. The Regional Council met six times during 2009. The Rt Rev Peter Tasker's last meeting was in June 2009. The Council recorded a motion of thanks to God and appreciation to Peter & Joan for the ministry they had exercised in the Region from 2002.
2. The Council meets at church halls in the Region, and we receive first hand reports from the Rector of the Parish about the ministry of the local church. All of the parishes in the Georges River Region have been actively involved in Connect09. In 2009 new congregations were commenced in Marrickville and Fairfield. Mr Ross Ciano began a new congregation in a shop on Marrickville Road and this has now become a regular meeting place for a group of at least 20 adults each Sunday. The Rev Cam Phong's ministry at Fairfield was directed to 2nd generation Vietnamese young people in the Fairfield area. From a small beginning, it now has a regular congregation of about 30 adults.
3. Unfortunately because of the Global Financial crisis, the Regional Council was not able to continue the employment of the Rev Abdallah Bahri – serving people from a Muslim background, and Mr Phin Tang, the Refugee Coordinator. Mr Tang's ministry was partly funded by the Archbishop's Community Project and the Regional Council. They were retrenched in 2010.
4. We are thankful to God for these two important ministries and for the work that these men did over the past years.

Regional Council

5. The Georges River Regional Council was constituted under the Region's Ordinance 1995 and its functions, powers and duties are as established by Clause 6 of that ordinance. The Region covers the Areas Deaneries of Canterbury, St George, Bankstown, Salt Pan Creek and Liverpool in this Diocese.
6. The Principal Office of the Georges River Regional Council is St Andrew's House, Sydney Square, Sydney, NSW 2000 (PO Box Q190, Sydney 1230) and the phone number is 9265-1530. The business hours are Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.30pm. The Honorary Secretary is Mr Ian Scarfe (phone 9533-5003) and the Honorary Treasurer is Mr Richard Graves (phone 9153 7307).

Membership

7. The members of the Regional Council as at December 2009 were as follows –

Name	Term of Appointment	Attendance in 2009
Rt Rev P J Tasker	<i>Ex officio. (resigned 1/6/09) (retired 7/06/09)</i>	1
Archdeacon I Cox (Acting Chairman from 1/3/09)	<i>Elected for three years, then Ex officio from 1/12/2008</i>	6
The Rev P L Hayward	<i>Elected for three years (resigned 31/3/10)</i>	1
The Rev E Brush	<i>Elected for three years (resigned 10/8/09)</i>	3
The Rev P Lin	<i>Elected for three years</i>	5
Mr R Graves	<i>Elected for three years</i>	4
The Rev K Coleman	<i>Elected for two years (resigned 26/2/09)</i>	0
The Rev P Colgan	<i>Elected for three years</i>	5
Mr C Ellis	<i>Elected for three years</i>	6
Mr G Nelson	<i>Elected for three years</i>	4
Mr I Scarfe	<i>Elected for three years</i>	5
Miss N Esler	<i>Elected for three years</i>	6
Dr D Power	<i>Elected for three years</i>	6
The Rev S Young	<i>Elected for three years</i>	5
The Rev S Roberts	<i>Elected for three years</i>	5
The Rev J Rogers	<i>Elected for three years</i>	5
Mr A Koulyras	<i>Elected for three years</i>	6
The Rev M Powell	<i>Elected for three years</i>	4
Mr M Toull	<i>Elected for two/three years (to fulfill lay deanery vacancy)</i>	6
Ms Wei Hsien-Heng	<i>Elected for three years</i>	2

Ministry Activities/Strategies

8. In 2009 the Council received a Synod grant of \$566,000 for ministry purposes. The Council has been giving special attention to

the Canterbury/Bankstown area deaneries as there has been significant social change over the past decades.

9. The Council has also employed a clergy person to promote Cross-Cultural work among women in these deaneries. The purpose of this ministry is to develop friendships with Muslim women so that Anglican people have a better understanding of cultural differences. Through Ordinance Income, the Region has been able to continue to employ people so we can face the challenges of connecting with the many different cultures in the Region.

Regional Grants

10. The Council distributed in 2009 grants totalling \$849,000 which consisted of the following –

PURPOSE	PARISH	ALLOCATION	TOTAL
Refugee work			
E.S.L. Coordinator S. Mansfield	English Second Language classes	28,000	
Cross-Cultural Ministry to Women The Rev M. Powell	Cross- Cultural grants	110,000	
Arabic Minister A. Bahri	Arabic Ministry	77,000	
Refugee Coordinator P. Tang	Refugee settlement	89,000	
Cross Cultural grants to:			
Bankstown	Mandarin Ministry	30,000	
South West Chinese Church	Kingsgrove	32,000	
International Church	Rockdale	35,000	
Chinese Church	Campsie	20,000	
Chinese Church	Hurstville	40,000	
Chinese Church	Kogarah		
South Asian Ministry	South Liverpool	8,000	
Vietnamese Ministry	Regents Park	30,000	
South Asian Ministry	St George North	6,000	505,000

PURPOSE	PARISH	ALLOCATION	TOTAL
Continued.../			
Children's & Youth Ministry			
Regional Coordinator	Region	10,000	
Youth & Children's Ministry	St George North	32,500	
YW Intensive	Various	4,000	
Youth Worker	Beverly Hills	15,000	
Youth Worker	Christ Church St George	12,000	
Youth Worker	Earlwood	7,500	
Youth Worker	Georges Hall	6,000	
Youth Worker	Sadleir	10,000	
Youth Worker	Smithfield Road	15,000	
Youth Worker	South Carlton	10,000	122,000
Parish Leadership			
Beverly Hills	Church plant: Peakhurst	20,000	
Blakehurst	M.T.S.	10,000	
Earlwood	Assistant Minister	37,000	
Fairfield	Assistant Minister	30,000	
Hoxton Park	Youth Minister	15,000	
Sadleir	Curate in Charge	25,000	
St George North	MTS x 2	15,000	
Marrickville	Church plant	70,000	222,000
GRAND TOTAL			\$849,000

11. The Council has begun 2010 with a renewed vision to continue to plant more churches in the Region. So far we have seen new congregations planted at Fairfield West, Campsie, Green Valley and Bankstown. We have also revitalized congregations at Lakemba and Greenacre.

For and on behalf of the Georges River Regional Council

IAN COX

Archdeacon of Liverpool: Georges River Region

1 July 2010