

Wollongong Regional Council Annual Report for 2009

(A report from the Wollongong Regional Council.)

Introduction

1. Wollongong Regional Council normally meets 5 times a year on the evening of the second Tuesday of the month in Wollongong with each meeting being preceded by a meal. In 2009 the council met in February, April, June, September and November. The Executive committee also meets five times a year to consider matters delegated to it and to plan agendas for the regular Council meetings.

Membership

2. In 2009 the membership of the Council was –

Bishop Al Stewart (Chairman)	Mr Glenn Murray
Rev Dr Rob Barrie	Rev Neil Percival
Rev Dr Michael Blake	Mr Doug Philpott
Mr Paul Burns	Mr Stuart Quarmby
Rev Rob Copland	Rev Ian Rienits
Mr Peter Evans	Rev Stephen Semunchuk
Mrs Michelle Farrell	Rev Stephen Swanepoel
Mrs Amanda Garlato	Mr Ron Webb
Mr Andrew Guile	Mr Peter White
Mr Greg Holmes	Mr Tony Willis
Mr Geoff Kyngdon	Ms Vivienne Young
Rev Richard Mills	

3. During 2009 Rev Ian Rienits and Mrs Michelle Farrell resigned from the Council. Rev Stephen Swanepoel and Mr Paul Burns were appointed to Council.

Ministry Strategies

4. For 2009 it was determined to continue developing church planting in more difficult areas of the Region. To this end funding was allocated to the specific plants in Airds, Berkeley, Shellharbour Surfers and the Indigenous churches in the Macarthur and Shoalhaven.

5. In addition, previous strategies in children's and youth ministry continued to gain the Regional Council financial support.

6. Due to the Region receiving no Diocesan funding for 2010 and the requirement for the Region to contribute to the salary for the Assistant to the Bishop, grant allocation was limited to \$80,000 for distribution in 2010.

7. These grants have been allocated to the Berkeley Church plant and the Indigenous ministries in the Macarthur and Shoalhaven.

Parish	Purpose	Allocation	Total
Berkeley	Church planting	\$30,000	
Minto Indigenous	Indigenous	\$20,000	
Nowra	Indigenous	\$30,000	\$80,000

8. The Regional Council purchased two demountable buildings during 2009. These have been located on the church sites at Denham Court and Helensburgh. The parishes paid for the costs of locating the buildings and rent the buildings from the Regional Council.

Keeping in Touch

9. The Council makes a deliberate effort to keep informed about ministry initiatives and ministry possibilities in the Region. This involves members bringing 'local' perspectives to issues under discussion and discussion of reports both from the Bishop and his assistant.

10. The Council has begun discussions to ascertain what the role and responsibility of the Council will be with the new Mission Area structure in 2011.

11. The Council received reports from Bishop Stewart and the Assistant to the Bishop at each meeting. Additional reports were received from –

- (a) Cross Cultural Ministries
- (b) The Indigenous People's Committee

For and behalf of the Wollongong Regional Council.

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