

Proposal to change the status of the provisional parish of Menangle to a parish

(A report from the Wollongong Regional Council.)

Initiation of the Proposal

1. An application has been made to the Archbishop by the churchwardens of the provisional parish of Menangle in terms of clause 4(1) (b) of the Parishes Ordinance 1979.

Details of Meeting

2. A meeting of the Wollongong Regional Council (WRC) held on the 12 June 2007 and subsequently followed up by a meeting of the WRC Executive held on the 3 July 2007 considered the proposal. The WRC certified that all requirements under clauses 4, 5 and 6 have been complied with and recommends the provisional parish of Menangle become a parish from the 1 January 2008.

Proposal

3. The proposal is to change the provisional parish of Menangle to the parish of Menangle.

4. The provisional parish has requested the change in the light of growth since it was established as a provisional parish out of Camden in 2005.

Parish Information

5. The provisional parish of Menangle was created in January, 2005 as a result of a number of influential ministries over the previous decade, including those of Don Howard, Robert Luscombe and Craig Fulton as Assistant Ministers with responsibility for Menangle and the Parish of Camden. Camden parish planned for a separate parish of Menangle at an early stage and towards this end, generously funded construction of an impressive Rectory standard home (in 2002) on land, adjacent to the church driveway, previously purchased by St James'. The total cost outlaid for the house was approximately \$330,000.

6. Menangle itself has a significant place in the history of the Diocese having been established on the highest point of land in the area with the generous support of the Macarthur Onslow family in the 1870s. The nave of church was designed by Colonial Architect Hunt and the chancel by Sulman & Power; original plans are held by the archivist as a record of the initial planning.

7. Between 1876 and 1923 the church was conducted as a private chapel for the Macarthur Onslow family, but with others in the village encouraged to attend. It seems many of them did and the church quickly gained prominence in the village and beyond. In 1923 the

174 Report of Standing Committee & Other Reports & Papers

property was ceded to the Diocese assumably by the family, although the full history of the change is not clear from records held by the church. Camden Parish was made responsible for the church which in turn commenced making regular contributions to the Parish funds from 1923 while maintaining separate bank accounts.

8. Menangle is a small village in the Camden area and sits quite close to Campbelltown, Douglas Park and Camden. Development in the next few years of significant subdivisions within a five kilometre radius of the village will see the population grow markedly.

9. In common with many parishes people travel a distance to worship at Menangle and a challenge will be to reach others in the village and the new subdivisions as they unfold. The former Anglican Conference Centre "Gilbulla" sits within the parish area.

10. For quite a period the ministry from Menangle was restricted to one Sunday service only. However, a conscious effort was made in the time of Don Howard, initially under Rectors Trevor Edwards and later Steve Davis, to see the work expand. Additional outreach activities were added in the time of Rob Luscombe and a Sunday school and second morning service began in 2004.

11. Current services include 8.30 am, 10 am and 7 pm. Sunday school is held as part of the middle service.

12. During the week around 75 adults attend small groups. Each group is encouraged to not only study God's word and pray but to set up structures that support discipleship and mission, both locally and globally.

13. The staffing of the parish now comprises the CIC Craig Fulton, a paid full time female lay worker and a paid part time administrative assistant. It is hoped to put on an Assistant Minister as needs and funds dictate.

14. Sunday services are represented as follows:

	Adults	Children
8.30am	29	1
10am	48	31
7pm	23	2
TOTAL	100	34

15. As the church building is relatively small, another family service is proposed to begin in late October 2007.

16. In addition to the Sunday services, SRE is supported in schools in the broader area as there is no longer a primary school at Menangle. The Menangle parish is specifically responsible for SRE at Douglas Park Public School and the female lay worker has just been appointed

as the Chaplain (2 days per week) at Camden High School under the new grants scheme announced by the Federal Government.

17. The 2006 ABS census showed that the immediate population of Menangle with Menangle Park and Douglas Park is 3000 and that 33% claim to be Anglican. The number of Anglicans in the village itself number over 100 with 60 of these (15% of the village's population) as attenders of the church. The total population of the immediate areas including Camden is well over 50,000.

Future

18. The church is located quite close to Broughton Anglican College and there remains a desire to strengthen links with the College, which is a Synod based operation with strong links to St Peter's Campbelltown. A church plant in Glen Alpine, a nearby suburb of Campbelltown, has also been considered.

Particulars of Church Trust property

19. Property held on behalf of the parish by the ACPT includes -

Details	\$ Insured Value
St Jame's Menangle	3,184,000
Contents, furniture & equipment	610,000
St Jame's Rectory	361,000
The Stables	88,000
Columbarium Wall	3,000
Toilet Block	2,000
TOTAL VALUE	4,248,000

Summary of consolidated receipts and payments

20. A summary of the financial position covering the last three years is set out below:

Receipts	2004	2005	2006
Offeratories	62,687	92,000	102,456
Missions	6,293	8,027	7,212
Interest	548	590	1,202
Grants	-	550	-
Other Receipts	6,456	18,186	37,422
TOTAL	75,984	119,353	148,292
Payments			
Stipends/salaries	-	55,208	117,402
Cost recoveries	-	11,745	13,701
Operations	2,406	8,325	11,425
Events	-	167	377
Missions	6,293	14,310	12,669

176 Report of Standing Committee & Other Reports & Papers

Maintenance/capital improve	5,408	4,207	1,791
Children's Ministry Equip	-	-	-
Other	*56,459	3,987	2,246
TOTAL	70,566	97,949	159,611

* includes \$55,057 contribution to parish

21. The parish has no liabilities in the form of loans.
22. The Bishop and his Assistant support the application.

Recommendation

23. The Wollongong Regional Council recommends Menangle become a full parish from 1 January 2008.

For and on behalf of the Wollongong Regional Council.

GEOFF KYNGDON
Assistant to the Bishop and Regional Archdeacon

26 July 2007