

South Sydney Regional Council Annual Report 2000

Introduction

1. The Regional Council met on 6 occasions in 1999 at Meriden School, Strathfield. The meal at the beginning of each meeting has been instrumental in building community between the members who come from 18 different parishes and represent the diversity of the region.

Membership

2. The membership of the Regional Council was -

The Rt Rev Peter Watson (Chairman)	Ms Julia Baird
The Ven Trevor Edwards	Mrs Elisabeth Boyce
The Rev Philip Bradford	Dr Robert Claxton
The Rev John Cashman	Mrs Sarita England
The Rev Geoff Deutscher	Mrs Jeanette Glass
The Rev Trevor Goodman-Jones	Dr Ross Hindmarsh
The Rev Deryck Howell	Mr Warwick Lewarne
The Rev John McIntyre	Mr Allan Pidgeon
The Rev Trevor Oakley	Mr Chris Thomas
The Rev Jill Williams	Miss Alicia Watson

Secretary: The Rev Geoff Deutscher

Treasurer: Mr Warwick Lewarne

Honorary Auditors: Pascoe Whittle

Honorary Minutes Secretary: Mrs Maureen De Lazar (to May), Ms Jane Mathieson (from May)

3. At the 1st session of the 45th Synod, the Regional Council was re-elected. The Rev Jill Williams and Ms Julia Baird declined to stand, and were replaced by the Rev David Crain and Dr Ruth White.

Ministry Strategies

4. The task of the Council which completed its term in October 1999 had been to review its inherited commitments (from the old Inner City Committee and from the devolution of certain responsibilities from Anglicare at the time of regionalisation), to establish its strategies and its methods of operation.

5. A strategic plan has been developed to coincide with the introduction of triennial Synod funding. The Regional Council sees its mission as supporting and encouraging all parishes in the region to move intentionally into patterns of ministry that lead to growth. The growth desired is multifaceted and includes growing membership through conversion of new members, the growing in maturity in Christ of that membership (and the use of the gifts of the men and women of the congregation), growing financial support by the congregation for its own ministry and beyond the

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congregation for other ministries, and growth to establish new congregations (including ethnic specific churches) or to support a struggling parish within the region. The Regional Council will provide parishes with assistance and/or funding to achieve these goals or may strategically initiate, plan and fund new ministries in conjunction with a particular parish.

6. The priorities identified in the development of the strategic plan include ministry among youth and children (encouraging parishes to establish and maintain children's and youth work, and continuing to support evangelism among higher education students), cross-cultural ministry (raising awareness of our multicultural mission context and assisting particularly with work among cultures open to Anglican ministry) and establishing new congregations (especially church planting in the population regrowth areas of Pymont, Green Square and Concord West, while where appropriate assisting to establish ethnic specific churches). These priorities influenced decisions about financial allocations in 2000 and will do so even more as the plan is progressively implemented.

Grants 1999

7. Funds from the Synod and various ordinances were distributed as follows -

Parish	Purpose	Amount \$
Ashfield	Emergency aid for church roof	15,000
Bondi Beach	Transitional stipend assistance	4,680
Broadway	UTS Chaplain	30,000
Broadway	Sydney University Chaplain	30,000
Centennial Park	UNSW Chaplain	30,000
Cooks River	Multicultural youth outreach	30,000
Croydon	Female Pastoral Care Assistant	14,000
East Sydney	Parish Outreach Worker	25,000
Enfield	Assistant Minister	45,000
Enmore	Parish assistance	5,000
Five Dock	Youth Ministry	5,000
Glebe	Youth Ministry	10,000
Lord Howe Island	Part-time Ministers	14,249
Maori	Chaplain	30,000
Petersham	Youth ministry	10,000
Petersham Deanery	ESL	8,000
Rozelle Lilyfield	Church planting	8,000
South Sydney	Aboriginal Pastor	38,000

Parish	Purpose	Amount \$
South Sydney	Church planting at Green Square	12,500
Loans / Administration		11,375
		375 804

8. Consideration of grants for 2000 (and some for 2001-2002) was completed at the November meeting.

Other Matters

9. The Council's Ordinance Review Panel met throughout the year under the professional leadership of Mr Allan Pidgeon. This group performs an invaluable service for the Synod and the region considering some very significant ordinances which impact the life of the diocese as a whole.

10. Under the Parishes Ordinance 1979, the Regional Council -

- (a) amalgamated the provisional parish of Homebush West with West Strathfield into 2 neighbouring parishes. The Homebush West end of the provisional parish became part of St Anne's Strathfield with the designation Strathfield and Homebush parish. The West Strathfield end of the provisional parish became part of the parish of St Thomas' Enfield. The Council created two larger multi-church parishes which have the possibility of team ministry in the future;
- (b) determined to continue the provisional parish of Bondi Beach to allow the church planting experiment in conjunction with Anglicare to be established;
- (c) recommended the provisional parish of Rozelle/Lilyfield become a parish.

11. A thorough review of ministry on Lord Howe Island was conducted with a report to the Archbishop recommending a return to part-time ministry by retired and/or holidaying clergy. The Council has committed to cover the costs of transport and some living expenses for the term of the funding triennium. The effectiveness of this ministry pattern will be reviewed in 2001.

12. The Pymont Ministry Board initiated regular prayer meetings in the Pymont area as a prelude to a church planting experiment. Some funds have been reserved by the Council for this project. It is hoped that a core group can be consolidated with a view to seeking an appropriately skilled church planter in 2000 or 2001.

For and behalf of the South Sydney Regional Council.

TREVOR EDWARDS
Regional Archdeacon

15 June 2000