

## Northern Regional Council Annual Report for 2011

(A report from the Northern Regional Council.)

### Introduction

1. The Council met four times during the year, in February, May, August and November at the parishes of Waitara, Naremburn, Narrabeen and Gladesville respectively.

### Membership

2. The membership of Regional Council consisted of –

Bishop Glenn Davies (Chairman)	Dr Rob Mackay
The Rev Terry Bowers	Mrs Jill Macleod
The Rev Roger Bray	Ms Jane McNamara
The Rev Ernest Chau	The Rev Ian Millican
Mr Fred Chilton	Mr Jim Peet
Ms Stephanie Cole	Mr Ian Steward
The Rev Keith Dalby	Dr Andrew Tong
The Rev Michael Kellahan	The Rev Peter Tong
The Rev Robin Kinstead	Mr Stephen Tong

3. During the year the Rev Rick Smith resigned in February and in August the Rev Andrew Graham, Mrs Jan Hall and Mrs Pru Selden indicated that they would not be seeking re-election at Synod. At the November meeting the Rev Roger Bray submitted his resignation following his acceptance of the parish of Newtown with Erskineville. The Revs Terry Bowers and Robin Kinstead, and Mrs Jill Macleod were elected by Synod. The Rev Mal York was nominated at the November meeting to replace the Rev Roger Bray. After due process he was elected by circular resolution in December. One lay vacancy on Council remains. The Council places on record its appreciation of the members who have resigned during the year and thanks them for their valued contribution.

4. Council resolved to invite an Area Mission Leader to attend each meeting to inform the council of the ministry and mission progress in their area.

### Regional Events

#### *Archbishop's Lectures*

5. These lectures are a valued annual event in the Northern Region and we place on record our appreciation of the Archbishop's ongoing commitment to this ministry. For the past eight years, Abbotsleigh School has hosted the three consecutive Wednesday evening meetings and the region appreciates this generous assistance from the school. The title for 2011 was 'In Praise of Marriage'. The first evening saw around 400 people attending in the auditorium with each following week well supported. The lectures were well received, as was the Archbishop's sensitive responses in the question and answer time. The availability of MP3s and DVDs of the lectures was appreciated.

#### *Regional Conference*

6. The conference was held at Collaroy Conference Centre on May 9-10. There were 134 attendees on Monday and 99 on Tuesday.

7. The Archbishop gave the Bible study each day on the theme of conversion. His presence and input were much appreciated.

8. It was a challenging, stimulating conference and the attendees appreciated the work of those responsible for its planning and administration.

### General Matters

#### *Regional Matters*

9. At February Standing Committee the Hunter's Hill Leasing Ordinance 2011 was passed. This ordinance provides for \$6,000 pa to go to the Northern Regional Council.

10. At the February meeting of the Regional Council the composition of the council was discussed and it was generally agreed that a smaller council with geographic spread was desirable. The suggested composition was:

- Regional Bishop – ex officio
- 8 lay members – at least one from each mission area
- 6 clergy – at least one from each mission area
- up to 2 members elected by regional council.

This recommendation was made to the Ordinance Reform Group.

11. The regional accounts for the year resulted in a small deficit (\$632).
12. The cross-cultural ministry in the region will continue in 2012. However as there are no such funds available to regions in 2012, Evangelism and New Churches has agreed to continue to fund this ministry.
13. The continuity and viability of church plants was the subject of a significant discussion by the council during the year. Many difficulties were raised for reflection. A document summarising the discussion was later prepared by the Bishop and sent to Evangelism and New Churches and copies forwarded to mission area leaders.

#### *Parish Matters*

14. The parish of Beacon Hill, which has been under the ministry of the Rev David Ritchie as Intentional Interim Rector, has carefully reflected upon its future and on 1 August the Rev Kerry Nagel (Rector of Narrabeen) became its rector. The Rev Richard Mason was appointed to Beacon Hill under the oversight of Kerry Nagel. This fresh approach was strongly supported by the parish and it is anticipated that this ministry partnership will strengthen Beacon Hill's ministry. The partnership will be reviewed in three years.
15. In November the provisional parish of Kirribilli sought support from Regional Council to apply to Synod for full parish status. Council noted that all the necessary requirements had been met and supported the application, which was endorsed by the Synod.

#### *Church Plants*

16. A ministry partnership between the parishes of St James, Turramurra and St Philip, South Turramurra has resulted in a church plant at Warrawee Public School. Around 35 adults have come from the two churches to form this new congregation. The Rev Bruce Pass, part of the ministry team at St James', is their minister.
17. Naremburn/Cammeray parish has assisted the parish of Willoughby East by sending eight families to commence a new congregation at 9 am on Sunday mornings. It is hoped that this will lead to the growth of a younger families ministry. Scott Millar (student minister) is leading this congregation.
18. Church by the Bridge (St John the Baptist, Kirribilli) planted a 6pm evening service at Christ Church Lavender Bay on 27 March under the leadership of the Rev Dr Paul Dale. An eager team of 32 people from Kirribilli formed the congregation which by the end of the year had grown to 80. Mr Simon Jackson now has pastoral oversight of this congregation.

#### *Regional Architectural Panel*

19. The panel is under the chairmanship of the Rev Geoff Leader (rector, Longueville) in 2011. As is usual in the Northern Region, the panel worked consistently during the year with a number of parish projects. The region owes a considerable debt to the panel members who freely give of their time and expertise.

#### *Multicultural Ministry*

20. This committee is under the chairmanship of the Rev Bruce Stanley of Waitara parish. Mrs Trish Bell continues to train staff for ESL and encourage parishes to be active in this strategically important ministry. The committee has the vision of 'serving the ministers and parishes of the Northern Region, and the wider diocese, through the strategic development of networks and resources for multicultural ministry'. During the year the Rev Jaekoo Shin and Mr John Gurusami resigned from the committee and at the end of the year the Rev Bruce Stanley (chair) also resigned and the Rev Chris Burgess was appointed as his successor. The other position remains vacant. The Committee places on record its deep appreciation of the substantial contribution made to the business of the committee by each of these former members.

#### *Regional Grants*

21. As a consequence of continuing financial constraints very little funding was available for regional grants. Fortunately the region had some limited financial reserves and was able to continue funding some ministries.
22. The Regional Council adopted the following budget for 2011 –

Parish	Ministry to be funded	Amount \$
Chatswood	Assistant Minister	35,500
Hornsby Anglican Chinese Church	Mandarin ministry	30,000
Naremburn/Cammeray	Japanese ministry	40,000
Narrabeen (Warriewood)	Church plant	10,000

<b>Parish</b>	<b>Ministry to be funded</b>	<b>Amount \$</b>
Putney	Children's/ youth worker	7,000
MCM consultant	Cross-cultural ministry	30,519
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$153,019</b>

23. It should be noted that the EOS invoices the region separately for the EA and PA expenses, which are paid from designated money available from the Synod.

*NSW Government Community Building Partnership Grants*

24. Nineteen parishes had their grant applications approved in December 2010 for projects to be completed in 2011. These grants totalled \$536,824 and their details are as follows –

Ermington	\$ 46,994	Manly	\$ 23,000	Seaforth	\$ 23,150
Freshwater	\$ 4,500	Nth Epping	\$ 29,333	Turrumurra	\$ 20,000
Gladesville (1)	\$ 10,380	Nth Ryde	\$ 14,100	Wahroonga (St P)	\$ 25,970
(2)	\$ 7,640	Nth Sydney	\$ 20,000	Waitara	\$ 25,818
Hornsby	\$ 79,068	Putney	\$ 40,000	West Ryde	\$ 40,000
Hunters Hill	\$ 17,871	Pymble	\$ 19,000	Willoughby	\$ 5,000
Kirribilli	\$ 60,000	St Ives	\$ 25,000		

25. It is encouraging to see these successful grant applications from the parishes in the region. These initiatives will result in improved church facilities and many will have a direct beneficial impact upon parish ministry.

For and on behalf of the Northern Region Council

GLENN N DAVIES  
*Bishop of North Sydney*

4 July 2012