

Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

1st Session of the 47th Synod Business Paper: Tuesday 11 October 2005

(Page references are to the Standing Committee's Report unless otherwise indicated - see Part 5 of the Synod Business Rules for ordinance procedures.)

Members of Synod are asked to identify themselves each time they speak.

1. **Devotions will be led by the Rev Mike Raiter: see attached**
2. **Minutes of 10 October 2005**
3. **Answers to questions**

3.1 Associate Professor Alan Watson to ask –

In 2003 Synod called on the Diocese to vigorously expand our support for brothers and sisters in material need through the work of ORAF (The Archbishop of Sydney's Overseas Relief and Aid Fund). In 2004 Synod endorsed the Micah Challenge – to deepen our engagement with the poor (by gospel proclamation and material support) and to influence leaders to implement the Millennium Development Goals to halve poverty by 2015.

Despite evidence of some good work, perusal of the ORAF financial performance over recent years does not show "vigorous expansion".

- (a) Do you agree and how do you explain this?
- (b) What steps are being taken to bring about vigorous expansion of ORAF?
- (c) What is being done regarding the Micah Challenge to deepen our engagement with the poor and to influence leaders to fulfil the Millennium Goals?

This question is based on my current first hand experience in Tanzania among brothers and sisters in churches we Australians begat (and/or nurtured) who are struggling to live despite deep poverty.

3.2 Mr Andrew Frank to ask –

Can you please inform the Synod –

- (a) Whether there are any Special Diocesan Ministry Projects planned for the next three years?
- (b) If so, please identify these projects and indicate how these projects will be funded?

3.3 Mr Andrew Frank to ask –

The clergy and the parishes are being encouraged to meet the challenge of the Diocesan Mission.

What formalised pastoral and practical support is available within the Diocese for the clergy who need emotional or practical support to meet the challenge? And what formalised support is available within the Diocese for parishes who are struggling financially or who are struggling to implement ministry strategies?

3.4 Mr Richard Lambert to ask –

In relation to resolution 25/02 of this Synod which inter alia reads -

“Synod further urges each parish of the Diocese to generously support Indigenous ministry in the Diocese any way it can, for example by giving a percentage of any land sales to the Indigenous Peoples’ Ministry Trust Fund or by giving 1% of their net income to the fund. . .”

can the President please inform the Synod in respect of the period 1 October 2004 to 30 September 2005 -

- (a) How many parishes are in the Diocese?
- (b) How many ordinances for the sale of property held in trust for a parish were made by Standing Committee?
- (c) How many such ordinances contained a provision for a percentage of the land sale to be paid to the trust fund?
- (d) How many such ordinances did not contain such a provision as urged by Synod?
- (e) How many parishes have made donations to the trust fund?

3.5 The Rev Ian Millican to ask –

In 2003 Synod resolved to request “every parish, provisional parish, Anglican school and Diocesan organisation within the Sydney Diocese to transfer their main cheque account facility and deposits to the Glebe Income Accounts by 31 March 2004” and requested “all Sydney Anglicans to consider investing their own term deposits and other funds into Glebe Income Accounts.”

In respect of this resolution -

- (a) What action has been taken, or is to be taken, by the Glebe Board in respect of those parishes, schools and organisations, which do not have facilities and deposits with the Glebe Income Accounts?
- (b) What has been the increase over the last 12 months in the value of funds held in Glebe Income Accounts in cheque accounts and deposits?
- (c) What has been the increase over the last 12 months in the number of cheque accounts and deposits with Glebe Income Accounts?
- (d) What percentage of Diocesan parishes, provisional parishes, Anglican schools and Diocesan organisations now have a cheque facility with Glebe Income Accounts?

3.6 The Rev Ian Millican to ask –

U.S research suggested that a significant percentage of born-again Christians accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour before their 13th birthday, and that half of those Christians who embraced Christ before their teen years were led to Christ by their parents. If these figures are in anyway reflected in Australia, they highlight the critical importance of children’s ministry. I would therefore like to ask 3 questions in relation to children’s ministry.

- (a) How many students at either Moore College or Youthworks College are currently specialising in Children’s ministry?

- (b) What steps is the Diocese taking to encourage the identification and training of people for full-time, part-time, and lay ministry to children?
- (c) What steps is the Diocese taking to equip parents to be able to lead their children to Christ, and to help them grow in their faith?

3.7 Mr Michael Newton-Brown to ask –

I understand that Anglicare is unable to continue funding the NCLS from 2007.

What will the Diocese be doing by way of funding to ensure that the important and helpful work of the NCLS will continue beyond 2006?

3.8 Mr Graeme Marks to ask –

For the financial year 2004, how many parishes have not submitted audited accounts or annual financial returns?

3.9 The Rev Richard Blight to ask –

Given the emphasis in the mission on raising up suitable people for gospel ministry, would you please inform the Synod –

- (a) How many new Assistant Minister, Lay Stipendiary and Youth or Children's ministry positions have been created in each region in the last 10 years (and in the last 3 years i.e. 2003-2005)?
- (b) How many of these received significant financial assistance from the regional councils or Archbishop's special curacies?
- (c) How many of these positions no longer exist (as full-time positions)?
- (d) What steps are being taken to increase the creation of new ministry positions?

3.10 Ms Caroline Bowyer to ask –

While I understand that the use of individual Communion cups is the customary practice at the Cathedral, at the Synod Service next year would the Archbishop consider the provision of the common cup for those of us who wish to express our unity in Christ in that traditional manner?

3.11 Mr Glenn Murray to ask –

At the recent "Faithfulness in Service" seminars conducted for all who hold the Archbishop's license or authority, how many active clergy or paid lay workers did not attend a seminar?

4. Petitions

5. Notices of questions

6. Procedural motions from members

7. The President will invite members to give notice of other motions

8. Calling of motions on the business paper

9. Motions

To be taken today at 4.30 pm

9.1 **Discipline Ordinance 2005**

Synod permits the introduction of the Discipline Ordinance 2005.
(*Supplementary Report Page 6*) (Mr Philip Gerber/Mr Neil Cameron)

To be taken today from 7:00 pm

9.2 **Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2005**

That the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2005 be approved in principle.
(*Additional Papers, Page AP1*) (Bishop Peter Tasker/Mr Peter Kell)

9.3 **Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2005**

That the Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2005 be approved in principle.
(*Page 180*) (Bishop Peter Tasker/Mr Peter Kell)

To be taken on Wednesday 12 October 2005 from 4:30 pm

9.4 **Safe Ministry Ordinance 2005**

Synod permits the introduction of the Safe Ministry Ordinance 2005.
(*Page 204*) (Mr Philip Gerber/Mr Glenn Murray)

9.5 **Safe Ministry Policy**

Synod -

(a) again requests that each parish council and diocesan organisation specifically adopt the following Safe Ministry Policy -

“The [name of Parish or organization] is committed to the physical, emotional and spiritual welfare and safety of all people, particularly within its own community. To ensure the safety of children and vulnerable people in our communities, the Church will -

- Carefully recruit and train its clergy and church workers,
- Adopt and encourage safe ministry practices by its clergy and church workers,
- Respond promptly to each concern raised about the behaviour of its clergy and church workers,
- Offer pastoral support to any person who has suffered abuse, and
- Provide supervision of and pastoral accountability to any person known to have abused a child or another vulnerable person”

(b) requests that each non-parish organisation appoint at least one safe ministry representative equivalent to the parish safe ministry representative or a committee, if required, to take responsibility under the CEO to implement safe ministry policies in their organisation.

(*Page 194*) (Mr Philip Gerber/Mr Glenn Murray)

9.6 Associated Congregations (Amendment) Ordinance 2005

Synod permits the introduction of the Associated Congregations (Amendment) Ordinance 2005.
(Page 149) (Bishop Robert Forsyth)

To be taken on Wednesday 12 October 2005 from 7:00 pm

9.7 New Capital Project

Synod requests that the Standing Committee –

- (a) continues to pursue –
 - (i) utilisation of the Diocesan database for Mission purposes, and
 - (ii) opportunities to release capital for use in developing that infrastructure required for Mission, and
- (b) reports progress to the Synod in 2006.

(Mr Rodney Dredge/Mr Warren Stanley)

9.8 Capital Projects Fund Ordinance 2005

Synod permits the introduction of the Capital Projects Fund Ordinance 2005.
(Mr Rodney Dredge/Archdeacon Terry Dein)

9.9 Diocesan Development (Provision of Capital) Ordinance 2005

Synod permits the introduction of the Diocesan Development (Provision of Capital) Ordinance 2005.
(Supplementary Report Page 49) (Mr Rodney Dredge/Dr Laurie Scandrett)

To be taken on Monday 17 October 2005 from 3:30 pm

9.10 Hoxton Park: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of Hoxton Park as a parish with effect from 1 January 2006.
(Supplementary Report Page 72)(The Rev Bruce Dingwall/Archdeacon Geoff Huard)

To be taken on Monday 17 October 2005 from 4:30 pm

9.11 Affiliated Churches Ordinance 2005

Synod permits the introduction of the Affiliated Churches Ordinance 2005.
(Supplementary Report Page 63) (Dean Phillip Jensen/Mr Neil Cameron)

To be taken on Monday 17 October 2005 from 8:00 pm

9.12 Anglican Communion

Synod notes the establishment of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Panel of Reference and encourages the Archbishop of Canterbury in making arrangements to protect and support parishes seeking alternative Episcopal oversight over matters of significance where there is repudiation of Biblical authority.
(The Rev Dr Mark Thompson/Dr Philip Selden)

To be taken on Tuesday 18 October 2005 from 3:30 pm

9.13 Administration of confirmation by presbyters

Synod -

- (a) endorses the proposal that confirmation should not be required of those baptised as adults, before their being admitted to holy communion,
- (b) endorses the proposal that clergy, under licence from the Archbishop, be allowed to administer confirmation,
- (c) encourages the involvement of senior laypersons in the catechetical preparation of candidates for confirmation,
- (d) endorses the proposal that clergy, under licence from the Archbishop, be allowed to receive into the fellowship of the Anglican Church people who are communicant members of other Christian denominations, and
- (e) requests that the Standing Committee bring an ordinance to a forthcoming session of Synod or promote a General Synod Canon for the next General Synod that would make the above proposals possible.

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(Bishop Glenn Davies/Deaconess Margaret Rodgers)

To be taken on Tuesday 18 October 2005 at 7:00 pm

9.14 Reforming parochial structure and administration

Synod, noting the Policy 4 report about reforming parochial structure and administration –

- (a) gives its in-principle support for the proposals outlined in the report, and
- (b) requests that the Standing Committee bring to the next session of the Synod an ordinance or ordinances which would give effect to these proposals.

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(Bishop Robert Forsyth)

Motions for which no particular time has been specified for consideration

9.15 Conduct of the Business of Synod Amendment Ordinance 2005

Synod permits the introduction of the Conduct of the Business of Synod Amendment Ordinance 2005.

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(Mr Robert Wicks)

9.16 General Synod - Constitution Amendment (Relations with Other Churches) Canon 2004 Assenting Ordinance 2005

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Constitution Amendment (Relations with Other Churches) Canon 2004 Assenting Ordinance 2005.

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(Mr Robert Tong)

9.17 General Synod - Holy Orders Relinquishment and Deposition Canon 2004 Adopting Ordinance 2005

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod - Holy Orders Relinquishment and Deposition Canon 2004 Adopting Ordinance 2005.

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(Mr Neil Cameron)

9.18 Anglican – Roman Catholic International Commission

Synod notes the release by the Anglican – Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC) of *Mary: Grace and Hope in Christ* (The Seattle Statement) on 16 May 2005 and notes that many of the conclusions of the report are in conflict with the teaching of Scripture. We therefore distance ourselves from the report and further state that the Commission does not represent or speak on behalf of the Diocese of Sydney.

(The Rev Dr Mark Thompson)

9.19 Communion with the Church of England in England

Synod, while supporting the adoption of the General Synod canon to substitute a new section 6 in the Constitution of The Anglican Church of Australia –

- (a) notes, with regret, that the recent developments within the Church of England in England relating to same sex relationships may make it desirable that the existing section 6 of the Constitution (if it remains unchanged) and the proposed section 6(1) (if it is substituted for the existing section 6) be modified to make continued communion with the Church of England in England subject to the operation of canon of the General Synod, and
- (b) requests that the Standing Committee address this matter.

(Mr Robert Tong)

9.20 Prohibited persons

Synod requests that the Standing Committee amend the Presentation and Exchange Ordinance 1988 to provide that –

- (a) a prohibited person under the Child Protection (Prohibited Employment) Act 1998 may not be elected as a parish representative to the Presentation Board (Nominator), and
- (b) a person elected as a parish representative must, within the time required by the ordinance, make a declaration that he or she is not a prohibited person, and
- (c) a parish representative ceases to hold the position of parish representative if the person –
 - (i) fails, within the time required by the ordinance, to make a declaration that he or she is not a prohibited person, and
 - (ii) becomes a prohibited person while holding that position.

(The Rev David Clarke)

9.21 Creative use of popular media to commend the gospel

Synod encourages churches to consider carefully and creatively how they might make the most of opportunities presented by popular culture, particularly film, to attract people to their meetings and to defend and commend the gospel. In particular, the Synod notes upcoming films with particular significance for the Christian message – *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (opens 9 December 2005) and *The Da Vinci Code* (opens 19 May 2006).

(Dr Greg Clarke)

Revised Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

References to items and motions are references to items and motions in the business paper for Tuesday 11 October 2005.

Tuesday 11 October 2005	
3:15 - 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 - 5:45 pm	9.1 Discipline Ordinance 2005 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 pm +	9.2 Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2005 9.3 Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2005 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper

Wednesday 12 October 2005	
3:15 - 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 - 5:45 pm	9.4 Safe Ministry Ordinance 2005 9.5 Safe Ministry Policy 9.6 Associated Congregations (Amendment) Ordinance 2005 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 pm +	Presentation concerning the New Capital Project 9.7 New Capital Project 9.8 Capital Projects Fund Ordinance 2005 9.10 Diocesan Development (Provision of Capital) Ordinance 2005 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper

Monday 17 October 2005	
3:15 - 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters 9.10 Hoxton Park: Reclassification as a Parish Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 - 5:45 pm	9.11 Affiliated Churches Ordinance 2005
7:00 - 8:00 pm	Missionary Hour
8:00 pm +	9.12 Anglican Communion Thereafter, other business as per business paper.

Tuesday 18 October 2005	
3:15 - 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters 9.13 Administration of confirmation by presbyters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 - 5:45 pm	Ordinances Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 – 8:00pm	9.14 Reforming parochial structure and administration
8:00pm	Other business as per the business paper

Bible Reading, Hymn & Prayers: 11 October 2005

Bible Reading: Matthew 25: 14-30

Bible Reader: The Rev Jackie Stoneman

Bible Study Leader: The Rev Mike Raiter

The Parable of the Ten Virgins

¹"At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish and five were wise. ³The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. ⁴The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. ⁵The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

⁶"At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'

⁷"Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.'

⁹" 'No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.'

¹⁰"But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

¹¹"Later the others also came. 'Sir! Sir!' they said. 'Open the door for us!'

¹²"But he replied, 'I tell you the truth, I don't know you.'

¹³"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

The Parable of the Talents

¹⁴"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. ¹⁷So also, the one with the two talents gained two more. ¹⁸But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

¹⁹"After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.'

²¹"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

²²"The man with the two talents also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.'

²³"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

²⁴"Then the man who had received the one talent came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

²⁶"His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

²⁸" 'Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. ²⁹For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. ³⁰And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version

Hymn: We are heirs of God Almighty

We are heirs of God almighty,
Apple of the Father's eye;
Free, forgiven, loved, accepted,
Clothed in righteousness divine.
Chosen to be pure and blameless
From before the world began;
Grace for every situation,
Sheltered in the Father's hand.

We have Christ at work within us,
Shaping us to be like Him;
Resurrection power sustaining
Freedom from the snares of sin.
Saying no to flesh desires,
Saying yes to righteous ways;
Filled with passion and with power,
Lights that burn in darkened days.

We've the Spirit without measure,
Helper, Comforter and Guide;
One who brings the gifts of heaven,
One who comes to walk beside.
Taste of heaven's endless pleasure,
Guarantee of what's to come;
Causing fruit to grow in action,
Bringing glory to the Son.

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Pianist: The Rev Canon Peter Stavert

Prayer: Dr Philip Selden

The Venerable Peter Smart: Text of Synod Resolution passed on 10 October 2005

Synod gives thanks to God for the ministry of the Venerable Peter Smart, who retires from Synod at the end of this year, and in particular -

- (a) his faithful ministry at Christ Church Lavender Bay since 1997 which has borne much fruit in people coming to know Christ and enabled the parish to develop beyond its provisional parish classification,
- (b) his skilful administration as Registrar of the Diocese (1997-2001),
- (c) his outstanding service to Anglican education as Headmaster of Illawara Grammar School (1989-96) and Principal of Calrossy School & Christian Education Institute (1976-88),
- (d) his former ministry in the Diocese of Armidale since his graduation from Moore College, and
- (e) his commitment to the work of the gospel and the glory of God over 43 years of ordained ministry.

Synod expresses its gratitude to Peter and wishes him and his wife, Elizabeth, God's blessing upon their future life and ministry.

(Bishop Glenn Davies/Archdeacon Terry Dein)