

Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

1st Session of the 47th Synod Business Paper: Wednesday 12 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 11 October 2005

3. Answers to questions

3.1 Mr Stephen Poucher to ask –

- (a) Is it a fact that the objective of the Glebe Administration Board as stated in its Ordinance is to act as trustee of church trust property vested in it or in respect of which it may be appointed trustee and to do so in a way which both –
 - (i) preserves the real value of that property; and
 - (ii) provides a reasonable income therefrom?
- (b) How does the Glebe Administration Board reconcile with its objective the fact that the Glebe Administration Board through the Glebe Diversified Property Trust is continuing to maintain and/or increase its shareholding in Bridgewater Lake Estate Limited via shares and/or convertible notes or other securities, when this is an investment that has produced significant losses for a period of years and has produced no income at all since its inception.
- (c) What is the current value of the shares and convertible notes or other securities held by the Glebe Diversified Property Trust, and does this holding make the Glebe Diversified Property Trust the majority share holder?
- (d) How many directors have been appointed to Bridgewater Lake Estate Limited by the Glebe Administration Board through the Glebe Diversified Property Trust?
- (e) In the context of the open Christian ethical nature of the Glebe Administration Board how does it explain its (implied) support of the current practice of the Bridgewater Lake Estate Limited Board of refusing to provide full and open disclosure of information regarding their investment in Bridgewater Lake Estate Limited to minority shareholders part of whom are a group of Anglican Diocese of Sydney congregational members?
- (f) Is the Glebe appointed director of Bridgewater Lake Estate Limited aware of the inability of the Bridgewater Lake Estate Limited board to adequately respond to 27 of the 33 written questions regarding their annual accounts submitted by minority shareholders at the Annual General Meeting held 27 January 2005?

3.2 Miss Kath White to ask –

When is the report by Anglicare of action taken in response to the 19/04 inquiry into children in institutional care time tabled to be presented to this Synod?

3.3 Mr Glenn Murray to ask –

- (a) What action, if any, is proposed to be taken in regard to the 34 clergy and 39 paid lay workers who did not attend one of the “Faithfulness in Service” seminars?
- (b) What action, if any, is proposed to be taken in regards to the unpaid workers and volunteers to acquaint them with the knowledge and principles imparted through the “Faithfulness in Service” seminars?

3.4 The Rev Sandy Grant to ask –

Is the Diocesan leadership aware of any cases that have been before the courts involving Anglicare agencies such as Anglicare, ARV, or our schools being accused of paying under award wages to workers?

3.5 The Rev Tim Foster to ask –

- (a) How many parishes currently have loans with the Finance and Loans Board?
- (b) What is the total value of these loans?
- (c) How many parishes have defaulted on a Finance and Loans Board loan in the past 10 years?
- (d) Is there a business plan for the proposed Diocesan Development Fund? If so, has it been reviewed by any of the following bodies:
 - (i) The Ministry Task Force
 - (ii) The Standing Committee
 - (iii) The Finance and Loans Board

And will it be available for the Synod?

3.6 Mrs Liz McCoy to ask –

If the diaconate is opened to include (one year college) three year supervised trainees -

- (a) What qualifications will deacons (male or female) need to be assistant ministers?
- (b) What steps will be taken to ensure that women will still be encouraged and expected to choose the 4 year Bachelor of Divinity as appropriate?
- (c) With the increased number of women likely to be employed, what steps are being taken by the diocese to present its own provisions for maternity leave?

3.7 The Rev Andrew Moore to ask –

Are there plans to build a lower-fee paying Anglican High School in the Eastern Suburbs?

If so, how far along that path have we come?

3.8 Miss Joanna Warren to ask –

On page 196 of the Synod Book the Professional Standards Unit report states that from June 2004 - June 2005 23 new allegations of misconduct or abuse came to its attention. How many actual cases of child abuse were discovered?

3.9 Mrs Wendy Hunt to ask –

With Simon Manchester testifying to the opportunities for Gospel ministry in jails and the Archbishop reminding us of our heritage as descendants of the wretched convicts

Richard Johnson was sent to minister to, I ask Synod is prison chaplaincy recognised as part of the diocesan Mission and our evangelistic outreach?

3.10 Mr Mark Robinson to ask –

Is it correct that the Glebe Administration Board plans to restructure its investment operations?

If so,

- (a) What changes are planned?
- (b) What impact will the changes have on the GAB's ethical investment stance?
- (c) What consideration led to the decision?
- (d) What impact are the changes intended to have on the investment performance of the GAB?

3.11 Mr John Pascoe to ask –

- (a) Has the Glebe Administration Board developed policies for the operation of the Diocesan Development Fund for lending to parishes, including loan approval criteria, and policies for interest rates, lengths of loan periods, loans reviews and repayment schedules?
- (b) If so, what are these policies, and how do they differ from the current Finance and Loans Board policies?
- (c) To whom will the Glebe Administration Board be accountable in respect of its loan administration policies for the Diocesan Development Fund?

3.12. Mr Garry Allen to ask –

- (a) Who is the Glebe Administration Board accountable to?
- (b) How is it accountable?
- (c) What does the Glebe Administration Board see as its purpose/vision/mission statement and how does its purpose/vision/ mission statement align with that of the diocesan mission?

3.13 Mrs Beverley Earnshaw to ask –

- (a) Could you please tell us what are the criteria for choosing members to join Synod under Part 8?
- (b) Could we be given an abstract of who these members are (not their names)?

3.14 Mr Rhys Williams to ask –

- (a) Of the percentage of the population of the Diocese currently in Bible-believing churches (according to the data presented to Synod on 10 October 2005) what percentage comes from non-Anglican churches?
- (b) To what extent has the Diocese worked with other denominations in pursuit of the Diocesan Mission?
- (c) To what extent does the Diocese plan to work with other denominations in pursuit of the Diocesan Mission?

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 on Wednesday 12 October 2005 from 4:30 pm

9.1 Safe Ministry Ordinance 2005

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

9.2 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)

9.3 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

9.4 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)

9.5 Capital Projects Fund Ordinance 2005

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

9.6 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

9.7 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

9.8 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

9.9 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)

9.10 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)

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

9.11 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.
- (Page 44) (Bishop Glenn Davies/Deaconess Margaret Rodgers)

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

9.12 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.
- (Page 126) (Bishop Robert Forsyth)

Motions for which no particular time has been specified for consideration

9.13 Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2005

That the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2005 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.
(Additional Papers, Page AP1) (Bishop Peter Tasker/Mr Peter Kell)

9.14 Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2005

That the Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2005 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.
(Page 180) (Bishop Peter Tasker/Mr Peter Kell)

9.15 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.
(Page 163) (Mr Robert Tong)

9.16 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.
(Page 168) (Mr Neil Cameron)

9.17 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)

9.18 **Proposed Federal Government workplace changes**

Synod thanks the Archbishop for his public comments in the media about the possible impact of the Federal Government's proposed workplace changes upon family and church life in the Sydney Diocese and in Australia and respectfully requests the Archbishop and/or his delegates to continue to make representations to the Federal Government about "the need for preserving shared time for children, families, relationships for all Australians".

(The Rev Denise Nicholls)

9.19 **Parish Annual Financial Returns and Audited Accounts**

Synod notes that for financial year ending 2004,

- (a) 5 parishes have not yet submitted their audited accounts, and
(b) a further 3 parishes have not yet submitted their Annual Financial Returns,
and requests those parishes to lodge the outstanding documents as soon as possible.

(Mr Graeme Marks)

9.20 **Growing legalism and management**

Synod, in the light of growing legalism and management which increasingly regulates activities in many areas in our society, encourages Christian thinkers to examine these issues critically from a Biblical perspective, especially as they are affecting the Christian Church and the Anglican Church in Sydney in particular.

(Miss Joanna Warren)

9.21 **Ministry brochure and use of the word "presbyter"**

Synod –

- (a) notes the publication by Anglican Media Sydney in August 2005 of the brochure "Full-Time Paid Ministry in the Diocese of Sydney" and commends the authors for their helpful discussion of ministry and ordination in this Diocese.
(b) commends the authors for their use throughout the brochure of the term "Presbyter" for the second order of ministry.
(c) encourages the use of this brochure in recruiting suitable persons into the ministry of the Word in Diocese.
(d) requests the Standing Committee to pursue the request of Synod (35/04) to produce a report of the practicality of replacing the word "priest" with words such as "presbyter" in all our legislation and formularies or at least to consider the legality of using such term in future ordination services and legislation.

(The Rev Richard Blight/The Rev Chris Clerke)

9.22 **Mr John Taylor**

Synod notes the death of the late John Taylor in July 2005. John was a Synod representative for many years and a Diocesan Lay Reader for over 50 years. He

died with a firm trust in Jesus as his personal Saviour. Synod Gives thanks to God for John's life, faith and service to the Diocese and Synod welcomes his widow Josie who was elected to replace John as a Synod representative for Neutral Bay.

(The Rev Craig Roberts)

9.23 Australian Racing Industry

Synod –

- (a) gives thanks to God for a ministry of the Australian Racing Christian Chaplaincy (ARCC) in seeking to bring the gospel to people in the thoroughbred horse racing industry,
- (b) gives thanks to God for the many opportunities that its members have had to minister to people through baptisms, funerals and pastoral care,
- (c) gives thanks to God for the initiative of establishing a weekly Bible study group at Randwick Racecourse, and for moves to develop a monthly fellowship meeting,
- (d) prays that God would continue to bless the work of ARCC, particularly in the provision of funds for the employment of a chaplain and through the ministry of its members to those working in the horse racing industry,
- (e) gives thanks that all the administrative and legal obligations have been fulfilled to enable ARCC formally to launch its ministry.

(Dr Karin Sowada/The Rev Jeremy Tonks)

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Revised Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

References to items and motions are references to items and motions in the business paper for Wednesday 12 October 2005.

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	9.1 Safe Ministry Ordinance 2005 9.2 Safe Ministry Policy 9.3 Associated Congregations (Amendment) Ordinance 2005 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 pm +	Presentation concerning the New Capital Project 9.4 New Capital Project 9.5 Capital Projects Fund Ordinance 2005 9.6 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 9.7 Hoxton Park: Reclassification as a Parish Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 - 5:45 pm	9.8 Affiliated Churches Ordinance 2005
7:00 - 8:00 pm	Missionary Hour
8:00 pm +	9.9 Anglican Communion 9.10 Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission Thereafter, other business as per business paper.

Tuesday 18 October 2005	
3:15 - 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters 9.11 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	9.12 Reforming parochial structure and administration
8:00pm	Other business as per the business paper

1st Session of the 47th Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney

Bible Reading, Hymn & Prayers: 12 October 2005

Bible Reading: Luke 12:35-48

Bible Reader: Mr Clive Ellis

Bible Study Leader: The Rev Mike Raiter

Watchfulness

³⁵"Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, ³⁶like men waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. ³⁷It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. I tell you the truth, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. ³⁸It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the second or third watch of the night. ³⁹But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."

⁴¹Peter asked, "Lord, are you telling this parable to us, or to everyone?"

⁴²The Lord answered, "Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom the master puts in charge of his servants to give them their food allowance at the proper time? ⁴³It will be good for that servant whom the master finds doing so when he returns. ⁴⁴I tell you the truth, he will put him in charge of all his possessions. ⁴⁵But suppose the servant says to himself, 'My master is taking a long time in coming,' and he then begins to beat the menservants and maidservants and to eat and drink and get drunk. ⁴⁶The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he is not aware of. He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place with the unbelievers.

⁴⁷"That servant who knows his master's will and does not get ready or does not do what his master wants will be beaten with many blows. ⁴⁸But the one who does not know and does things deserving punishment will be beaten with few blows. From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked."

Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version

Hymn: Jesus Christ the King and Saviour

Humble birth in Herod's reign,
Jew and deity,
God was with them one for all,
Shared humanity.
John the Baptist knew his sign;
Prophesied the way:
"Turn to God, his kingdom's near,
Repent, believe, obey!"

*Jesus Christ, the King and Saviour,
Blessed Lord, Emmanuel,
Living word, God's Son, Messiah,
The victor over Satan's realm!*

Jesus taught his Father's will:
Truth with certainty;
Showing forth the word of God
His authority.
Challenging his enemies
Who refused to hear.
He fulfilled all prophecies:
His majesty was clear!

Chorus

On the cross where Jesus reigned
In his Father's plan,
Israel's suffering servant died;
Our Passover Lamb.
Many saw this Son of Man
Coming in the clouds
To the presence of his God
In glorious, risen power!

Chorus

No-one knows when he'll return
For the judgement day,
But he tells us "Wait in faith,
Hope and watch and pray!"
This command from Jesus' lips:
"Speak to all mankind;
Make disciples in my name,
I'm with you for all time!

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Pianist: The Rev Bob Cameron

Prayer: Dr Philip Selden