

Wollongong Regional Council Annual Report for 2005

(A report from the Wollongong Regional Council.)

Introduction

1. Wollongong Regional Council held five meetings during 2005 in February, April, June, September and November. The Executive met on five other occasions.

Synod Grants

2. The Regional Council spent a very significant proportion of its time considering requests for Regional Grants funded by Synod. Grants were approved for a total amount of \$522,700. This was made up of \$398,000 to Parish Funding (of which \$88,000 was for new initiatives), \$25,000 for Deanery based initiatives, and \$99,700 for Regional initiatives.

3. The Council at its meetings and through its Grants sub-committee continues to discuss and refine the process of evaluating and approving grants. We have spent considerable time in discussion as to the best way to ensure that the grants are working towards and achieving the aims of the Diocesan Mission.

4. In addition to these grants the Council each year makes a small grant to each of the students connected with the region who are studying at Moore College, Youthworks College, and SMBC.

Strategic Planning

5. The Regional Council seeks to look strategically at its role in the Wollongong Region. Over the past couple of years it has attempted to do this with the Diocesan Mission firmly in mind. At most meetings policy sub-groups of the council are seeking to look at the business of the council in the light of the Mission. During 2004/5 this included a survey of Parishes in relation to the implementation of the mission policies.

Keeping in Touch

6. The Council makes a deliberate effort to keep itself informed about ministry initiatives and ministry possibilities in the Region. This involves members bringing 'local' perspectives to issues under discussion and discussion of reports both from the Bishop and his assistant.

7. The Council received reports from Bishop Piper and the Assistant to the Bishop at each meeting. Additional reports were received from –

- (a) Cross Cultural Ministries
- (b) The Indigenous People's Committee

8. During the year the Regional Council welcomed the Rev Sandy Grant and the Rev Stefan Bull to membership and accepted the resignation of Mrs Noriko Dethlefs, who was heading overseas for mission work.

For and on behalf of the Wollongong Regional Council

GREG HOLMES

Secretary

24 July 2006