

Northern Regional Council Annual Report for 2007

(A report from the Northern Regional Council.)

Introduction

1. The Council met five times during the year, four times at Christ Church, St Ives and once at St Luke's, Mosman.

Membership

2. The membership of Regional Council consisted of –

Bishop Glenn Davies (Chairman)	Archdeacon Terry Dein
The Rev Roger Bray	The Rev Ian Millican
The Rev Ernest Chau	Mr Andrew Mitchell
Mr Fred Chilton	Mr Jim Peet
Ms Stephanie Cole	Mrs Pru Selden
The Rev Andrew Graham	The Rev Adam Street
Mrs Jan Hall	Mr Ian Steward
The Rev Richard James	The Rev Rick Smith
Dr Rob Mackay	The Rev Lyndon Sulzberger
Ms Jane McNamara	Mr Andrew Tong

3. During the year the Rev. Lyndon Sulzberger resigned from Regional Council in order to take up an incumbency at Christ Church, North Adelaide. He was replaced by Rev. Keith Dalby – who joined the Council in 2008.

Regional Events

Archbishop's Lectures

4. These have been conducted in February for the last four years at Abbotsleigh School, Wahroonga. They are held over three weeks in February and consistently attract about 250 people, mostly from the region. The themes for the 2007 lectures were *Why I am a Protestant Christian, Why I am a Reformed Christian, & Why I am an Evangelical Christian*. This series was widely appreciated and the production of both CDs and DVDs met a real need.

Regional Dinner

5. There was no Regional Dinner this year because of the Arch Hart Conference.

Arch Hart - Personal Challenges in Ministry

6. Around 270 men and women from around Sydney Diocese and interstate attended a Three-Day Non-Residential Conference for Ministers (Lay & Ordained) Tuesday 15 – Thursday 17 May, with an average of 15 people each day attending for one day only.

7. Approximately 130 women attended the Ministry Wives One-Day Conference, held on Saturday 19 May at St Anne's, Ryde.

8. Each day commenced with a bible study by the Archbishop for the 3-day conference, and by Archdeacon Narelle Jarrett for the Ministry Wives One-day conference.

9. Conferences were recorded onto CD & DVD available for order and purchase, as well as books & CDs by Arch Hart also available for purchase during and after the conferences.

10. The evaluation forms indicated a high approval rating and comments affirmed the need to address the practical struggles of ministry.

Ministry Recruitment Dinner

11. This was the fourth such dinner designed to encourage young people to consider ministry as a life vocation, to inform them of the various ministry opportunities that exist and how they could proceed to obtain more information about training. The dinner was held at Christ Church, St Ives on Monday 26 November and attended by around 42 young people and ministers. The speaker was the Rev. Graham Stanton, the Dean of Youthworks College

General Matters

Ministry Initiatives

12. It is encouraging to see churches exploring new ministry initiatives across the region. Sometimes these explorations lead to exciting new ministries others never eventuate but the visionary spirit continues.

13. It was encouraging to see Bobbin Head church (BHAC), a plant of St James' Turramurra and St Swithun's Pymble, commencing a special senior's ministry. Recognising that the school venue of BHAC was off-putting to many seniors, and having a number of over 55's community developments in their area, the church leaders sought a venue to plant a senior's church. Negotiations took place to use a chapel in the grounds of Lady Davidson Hospital and mid week services commenced during the year.

14. The church of St John the Evangelist at Kirribilli has nurtured a growing Chinese ministry under the leadership of the Rev. Ernest Chau. However, most members travelled to church from other suburbs and parking difficulties, etc. were hindering further growth. Early in the year the parish of Artarmon fell vacant. After considerable prayer and consultation the Rev. Chau was appointed as rector with the understanding that the Chinese congregation at Kirribilli would move to Artarmon and join the 'Anglo' congregation. This resulted in a multicultural church in an area with opportunities of ministry to many Chinese residents in the parish. The congregation of Artarmon is to be

commended for their willingness to proceed with this proposal in the interest of wider ministry opportunities.

15. During 2006 the church at Kirribilli had grown two evening congregations under the leadership of the Rev. Paul Dale as Assistant Minister. In May 2007 Paul was appointed Curate-in-Charge and proceeded to commence a new morning service designed for local families. The church is now known as "Church by the Bridge" (CBTB).

16. The realignment of these two parishes was an initiative which is expected to stimulate further growth at both Artarmon and Kirribilli.

17. In July the Rev. Brian Tung, commenced his ministry as Curate-in-Charge of Hope Anglican Church, East Chatswood. The church was born out of the desire of an independent Chinese church to become a Sydney Anglican church. Their pastor, the Rev. Brian Tung was an ordained Anglican Presbyterian. The church continues to use its original rented premises as its place of meeting and works in close fellowship with the parish of Roseville East. The establishment of this parish means there are now sixty-six (66) parishes in the Northern Region.

Ministry Buildings

18. Over the year a number of significant parish building projects have been accomplished. These range from the refurbishing of churches, to modest extensions, to the building of new ministry centres. Most of these developments are funded by the parish and are an expression of healthy church growth, which is typically a reflection of an intentional mission strategy.

Multicultural Ministry

19. Mrs Rosemary Anderson continued to work two days per week in the region to encourage multi cultural ministry in parishes. A great deal of her time is spent working with ESL classes, encouraging and training leaders as well as assisting with resources, etc. During the year Rosemary produced an ESL version of "Simply Christianity", for use within our ESL classes. The production of this resource is currently in the hands of a publisher awaiting their review.

20. After almost ten years in this role Rosemary finished at the end of the year. She has made an outstanding contribution to our multi cultural ministry as well as assisting with her expertise throughout the Diocese. Rosemary has worked tirelessly and enthusiastically in this strategic ministry, and we thank God for her faithful service. We wish her, and her husband Colin, God's blessings in their 'retirement'.

21. At the end of the year Mrs Trish Bell was appointed as the Cross Cultural Ministry Consultant of the Northern Region. Trish attends Christ Church, St Ives and we look forward to her ministry among us as she commences in 2008.

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Regional Grants

22. Funds from Synod to be applied in 2008 are as follows –

Parish/Organisation	Ministry to be Funded	GRANT 2008
Asquith	Loan repayment	10,000
Avalon	Assistant Minister	10,000
Beacon Hill	Children/Youth Ministry	5,000
Bobbin Head	Seniors Ministry	12,000
Eastwood	Lay Stipendiary Worker	20,000
Ermington	Student Minister	6,500
Frenchs Forest	Lay Stipendiary Worker	10,000
Harbord	MTS worker	6,000
Hornsby	Mandarin Ministry	70,000
Kirribilli	Church Plant	20,000
Macquarie	P/T Stipendiary Lay Wkr	10,000
Macquarie Uni Chaplain/RMC	Chaplain	20,000
Manly Vale	Evangelist	30,000
Narrabeen (Warriewood)	Church Plant	20,000
North Epping	Children's Worker	25,000
North Ryde	MTS worker	7,500
Putney	Student Minister	5,000
Seaforth	Assistant Minister	16,000
Turrumurra South	Assistant Minister	20,000
Waitara	Child/Yth & CC trainee	9,000
Waitara	Cross Cultural work	7,500
Willoughby East	LSW youth	5,000
MCM Consultant		30,000
TAFE		15,000
Insurances, misc		3,000
Bishop's Discretionary Fund		5,000
	TOTAL	397,500

For and on behalf of the Northern Regional Council

TERRY DEIN
Archdeacon of North Sydney

15 July 2008