

# Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

## 1st Session of the 48th Synod Business Paper: Wednesday 15 October 2008

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

### **Members of the Synod are asked to identify themselves each time they speak**

**1. Devotions will be led by the Rev Rick Lewers: see attached**

**2. Minutes of 14 October 2008**

**3. Answers to questions**

3.1 Mr Matthew Jefferson to ask –

Why are the 2007 Actuals for Staff and Related Costs for the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat, Glebe Administration Board and Sydney Anglican Church Investment Trust (page 423 of Report of Standing Committee) \$150,000 over budget, noting that the report also states that there is a deficit of 10.6 FTE at year end?

3.2 The Rev Gavin Poole to ask –

Considering the NSW government's plan to establish 140,000 new dwellings in Sydney's North West sub-region by 2031, what is the Diocese's plan to purchase property and to develop existing diocesan land in this region to meet the projected challenges?

3.3 The Rev Gavin Poole to ask –

Of the expected \$2.9 million cost for the 2009 parochial property and liability insurance program (as outlined in the Parish Cost Recoveries report) what percentage of this would be purely property related?

3.4 The Rev Gavin Poole to ask –

What steps have been taken by the GAFCON Primates toward the formation of an Anglican province in North America for the Common Cause Partnership?

3.5 The Rev Raj Gupta to ask –

- (a) How many senior ministers are scheduled to retire in the next 3 years?
- (b) How many presbyters are currently appointed to positions other than senior minister positions?
- (c) How many deacons have applied to become presbyters?

3.6 The Rev James Rogers to ask –

- (a) Does the Diocese have a policy or a set of recommendations for maternity and/or paternity leave for clergy and other church workers and for employees of diocesan organisations?
- (b)
  - (i) If such a policy exists, is there any provision for paid maternity and/or paternity leave?
  - (ii) If so, what is the provision?

3.7 The Rev James Rogers to ask –

What will be the minimum technology required for churches to fully participate in the Big Day In on 8 February 2009?

Will the SDS provide any services to those churches who might need it?

3.8 Mr Graeme Marks to ask –

- (a) Is there one Diocesan standard for building new residences by parishes for paid ministry workers or are there five (5) Regional standards for building new residences? Are there different standards for residences for rectors, curates in charge, assistant clergy and lay stipendiary workers?
- (b) With regard to the Regional Architectural Panels –
  - (i) Are they established by ordinance and if so which one; if not, how are the members appointed?
  - (ii) What is their term of office?
  - (iii) How often have reviews of the requirements for new residences for paid ministry workers been conducted and if so, when and where can the findings of such reviews be found?
  - (iv) What consideration been given to the possible different ministry needs if the residence is collocated with the church building or is “off site”?

3.9 The Rev Rod Harding to ask –

Given the focus on ‘expectation’ in relation to the Connect09 campaign, and the need for parishes to be preparing for an influx of people into our buildings –

- (a) what are the reasons for abolishing the position of “Diocesan Property Manager” within the Diocesan Secretariat, and
- (b) are there any plans within the Secretariat for encouraging and supporting parishes needing to improve and/or replace their buildings in the next few years?

3.10 Ms Lyn Bannerman to ask –

The question refers to point 12 on page 113 of the Jerusalem Declaration, contained in the GAFCON statement –

- (a) Could Synod be advised what are the “issues that divide us”?
- (b) In particular, do they include lay administration and the ordination of women to priesthood?
- (c) Noting that women ordained to the priesthood were present at GAFCON, can we expect a speedy resolution on this particular issue?

3.11 Miss Joanna Warren to ask –

In the light of our desire to plant new congregations and yet the increasing administrative demands made of every parish, small and large, what kind of strategies are in place to assist parishes, particularly with the increasingly complex accounting procedures required by this diocese?

3.12 Mr John Paul to ask –

With respect to clauses 6 and 8 of the Affiliated Churches Report of Standing Committee on pages 62 and 63 of the 2008 Standing Committee Reports –

- (a) Has the Rev Neville Heywood ever been licensed or authorised to conduct services by an Anglican bishop in any diocese in Australia?

- (b) If the answer to (a) is yes –
  - (i) who was the Bishop, and
  - (ii) when were any licences and/or authorities given?

**4. Petitions**

**5. Notices of questions**

**6. Procedural motions from members**

**6.1 Brochure about St Mark's Gospel reading**

Synod authorises the distribution to members of a brochure about the public reading of St Mark's Gospel at St Phillip's York Street.

(Bishop Ray Smith)

**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 from 4.30 pm today***

**9.1 Parish Administration Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the Parish Administration Ordinance 2008.

*(Page 261)*

(Bishop Robert Forsyth/Mr Robert Wicks)

**9.2 Parish Administration (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the Parish Administration (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance 2008.

*(Page 392)*

(Mr Robert Wicks/Bishop Robert Forsyth)

**9.3 Cost Recoveries (Framework) Ordinance 2008**

That the Cost Recoveries (Framework) Ordinance 2008 be approved in principle.

*(Supplementary Report page 12)*

(Bishop Robert Forsyth/Mr John Pascoe)

***To be taken today from 7.00 pm today***

**9.4 Theology of Christian Assembly**

Synod welcomes the report of the Doctrine Commission, "Theology of Christian Assembly", endorses its recommendations and requests that –

- (a) ministers, ministry teams and other leaders in the churches of the Diocese give careful attention to the report and take steps to implement its recommendations, as appropriate; and
- (b) the Liturgical group prepare a new range of "templates for Christian assembly" suitable for the contemporary church, taking account of the Doctrine Commission's report.

*(Supplementary Report page 26)*

(Canon John Woodhouse/The Rev Dr Mark Thompson)

**To be taken today toward the end of the discussion on achievements and challenges in becoming a missional diocese commencing at 8.00 pm today**

**9.5 Strategic plan for the Mission**

Synod –

- (a) endorses generally the matters raised in the report “The Diocesan Mission – Midpoint Report: Achievements and Challenges in Becoming a Missional Diocese”, and
- (b) invites members to make further comments to the Diocesan Secretary by 27 October 2008 about the matters raised in the report, and
- (c) notes that, in accordance with the Synod Estimates Ordinance 1998, a strategic plan will be prepared for Synod’s consideration next year which takes into account the comments of members and which reflects the challenges and objectives referred to in the report.

*(Special report)*

(Mr Peter Kell/Mr Steve McKerihan)

**9.6 Connect09**

Synod gives thanks to God for –

- (a) the vision, drive and commitment of the Archbishop in leading the Connect09 campaign and in encouraging our ministers, leaders and people across the Diocese to pray and persevere in turning the vision for Connect09 into action;
- (b) the commitment of our Diocesan leaders, ministers and people who are working hard at turning the resources of the Diocese toward this great campaign and who are implementing strategies for Connect09 at the local level; and
- (c) the energy and commitment of the Connect09 team members, volunteers, Connect09 Ambassadors and Parish Co-ordinators who are helping to turn the vision of Connect09 into a reality;

and calls on all ministers, leaders, parishes, fellowships, congregations, Anglican schools and Diocesan organisations to remain committed –

- (d) to praying for the people of Sydney, the Blue Mountains and the Illawarra;
- (e) to reaching out and genuinely connecting with their communities as they share their lives and the Word of God;
- (f) to developing innovative and generous partnerships with parishes and organisations as together we expect lives to be transformed by the Word of God; and
- (g) to driving the Connect09 campaign at the local level.

*(Page 96)*

(Canon Jim Ramsay/The Rev Stephen Semenchuk)

**To be taken on Monday 20 October 2008 from 4.30 pm**

**9.7 General Synod – National Register Canon 2007 Adopting Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod – National Register Canon 2007 Adopting Ordinance 2008.

*(Page 236)*

(Mr Neil Cameron/Mr Philip Gerber)

**9.8 Lay and diaconal administration**

Synod –

- (a) accepts the report concerning legal barriers to lay and diaconal administration of the Lord’s Supper which was submitted to the 3<sup>rd</sup> session of the 47<sup>th</sup> Synod, and

- (b) affirms again its conviction that lay and diaconal administration of the Lord's Supper is consistent with the teaching of Scripture, and
- (c) affirms that the Lord's Supper in this diocese may be administered by persons other than presbyters,

and requests the Diocesan Secretary to send a copy of *The Lord's Supper in Human Hands* to all bishops who attended the GAFCON.

(Page 152)

(Bishop Glenn Davies/Archdeacon Narelle Jarrett)

#### 9.9 **Affiliated Churches**

Synod warmly welcomes, as an expression of our partnership in the gospel, the formal affiliation between this Diocese and the following churches –

Northern Lakes Evangelical Church

Albury Bible Fellowship

The Point Community Church

The Lakes Evangelical Church

Maitland Evangelical Church

Stanthorpe Evangelical Community Church

and requests the Standing Committee to consult with each of our affiliates about the ways in which our partnership in the gospel can be strengthened and to report back to Synod next year about any action taken for this purpose.

(Page 61)

(Bishop Al Stewart/Dr Philip Selden)

***To be taken on Monday 20 October 2008 from 8.00 pm***

#### 9.10 **Statement on the Global Anglican Future and Jerusalem Declaration**

Synod endorses the Jerusalem Declaration as exemplifying the tenets of orthodoxy which underpin our Anglican identity and invites all Anglicans in Australia to endorse the Declaration.

(Page 109)

(Bishop Glenn Davies/Dr Karin Sowada)

#### 9.11 **General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Section 10) Canon 2007 Assenting Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Section 10) Canon 2007 Assenting Ordinance 2008.

(Page 233)

(Mr Neil Cameron)

***To be taken on Tuesday 21 October 2008 from 4.30 pm***

#### 9.12 **Human rights framework for Australia**

Synod –

- (a) welcomes the proposed Federal Government consultation process on the protection of human rights in Australia, and
- (b) thanks the Social Issues Executive for the work they have undertaken in the area of human rights to date and requests that they maintain a watching brief on developments in this area, and
- (c) requests the Diocesan Doctrine Commission, in consultation with the Social Issues Executive, to prepare for the Standing Committee as a matter of priority a paper clarifying our theological understanding of human rights, and
- (d) requests the Standing Committee to engage with the Federal Government consultation process and report progress to the next session of the Synod.

(Supplementary Report page 34)

(Justice Peter Young/Mr Robert Tong)

### 9.13 Clergy Removals Fund Ordinance 2003 Amendment Ordinance 2008

Synod permits the introduction of the Clergy Removals Fund Ordinance 2003 Amendment Ordinance 2008.

*(Supplementary Report page 5)*

(Mr James Flavin/Mr John Pascoe)

### ***Motions for which no particular time has been specified for consideration***

#### 9.14 Voting on clergy remuneration

Synod considers that, in order to avoid any actual or perceived conflict of interest, members of the Standing Committee whose remuneration is set by reference to the minimum stipends and allowances determined from time to time by the Standing Committee should not vote on any motion before the Standing Committee concerning the remuneration or any other entitlement pertaining to the office of minister, assistant minister or lay minister.

(Mr Bruce York)

#### 9.15 GAFCON

Synod congratulates our Archbishop and Assistant Bishops on their attendance at GAFCON and their move to continue our development as a truly Bible-based Anglican Church.

(Mr Brian Flower)

#### 9.16 Climate change response in parishes

Synod congratulates the Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney (ACPT) and the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat (SDS) on their initiatives and achievements, as outlined in the report from Standing Committee '17/07 Climate Change' in response to Resolution 17/07 of the 2007 Synod, and requests the SDS to coordinate the development of a tool kit that will assist parishes in responding to climate change at the local level, including information about –

- (a) an environmental policy statement template as a basis for discussion and adoption by parishes,
- (b) implementation of practical energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation, recycling, and other environmental sustainability initiatives for parish facilities, arising from the ACPT's Parish Pilot Group Environmental Assessments, and other appropriate sources,
- (c) implementation of practical energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation, recycling, and other environmental sustainability initiatives for church members' households, and
- (d) suitable worship and teaching resources that express the sovereignty of God over his creation and our role in stewardship and care.

(Mr Bruce Cooke/Dr Karin Sowada)

#### 9.17 Current economic crisis

Synod, in light of the current economic crisis (as it has been termed) calls on –

- (a) Christian people throughout Australia to pray that governments, the private sector and individuals would enact wise and prudent solutions to this situation, and
- (b) Christian people, where practicable, to care for any persons adversely affected by the crisis but particularly the poor, disadvantaged and homeless in our city, and
- (c) the Sydney Diocesan Superannuation Fund Board to consider what advice and assistance may be given to those persons who are members of the

Diocesan fund and about to draw down their superannuation and who may find themselves adversely affected by this current crisis, and

- (d) Christian people everywhere to remind one another of, and proclaim to our world, the enduring value of knowing Christ and the promise he has made that we have an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.

(The Rev Nigel Fortescue)

#### 9.18 **First female bishops in Australia**

Synod notes the appointment of Kaye Goldsworthy and Barbara Darling as the first female bishops in Australia and we pray that God will give them wisdom, courage and humility.

(Mrs Pamela Shaw/The Rev Philip Bradford)

#### 9.19 **Anglican chaplains**

Synod requests the Standing Committee to investigate and report to Synod in 2009 on the best way to promote and support the work of the Anglican chaplains including the possibility of establishing a new diocesan body to oversee the ministry of Anglican chaplains on tertiary campuses including TAFEs, universities and private colleges with a view to further integrating the work of the Anglican chaplains within the Diocesan Mission and with a view to complementing the continuing work of Connect09.

(Mr Andrew Frank/The Rev Stephen Semenchuk)

#### 9.20 **Archdeacon Geoffrey Huard**

Synod gives thanks to God for the ministry of the Venerable Dr Geoffrey Huard who retires as Archdeacon of Georges River Region on 30 November 2008.

Geoff Huard did most of his theological training and early ministry in England. He came to Australia in 1976 with his Australian-born wife, Cathy, as the Rector of Redfern and Waterloo. This parish became the parish of South Sydney in 1978 and Geoff continued as Rector until 1989.

In 1989 Archbishop Donald Robinson appointed Geoff as Archdeacon of Sydney and Cumberland.

In 1993 Archbishop Harry Goodhew appointed Geoff to the new position of Archdeacon of Liverpool. As well as this important position, he has also been Acting Curate-in-Charge of Cabramatta, 1997-99; Acting Rector of Chester Hill with Sefton 2001-2003; and Acting Rector of Bankstown until this day. Geoff will continue as part-time Acting Rector of Bankstown.

Geoff served on a number of Diocesan Committees including Anglicare, Thomas Hassall Anglican School, Liberty Christian Ministries, Civil Chaplaincies Advisory Committee, Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Committee, and Ordination Training Fund Committee.

Geoff's patience and perseverance in the many details required of an Archdeacon have been appreciated, as well as his thoughtful advice given to clergy and parish councils. His ministry of Bible teaching has always been encouraging and helpful.

We thank God for Geoff and Cathy and assure them of our prayers and good wishes as they enter this new phase of their ministry.

(Bishop Peter Tasker)

### 9.21 **Abortion**

Noting recent renewed debate about abortion around Australia, this Synod affirms –

- (a) pregnancy and childbirth are part of God's good plan for humankind,
- (b) pregnancy is the privilege and responsibility of both the mother and the father of the unborn person,
- (c) the sanctity of life, even of the unborn child, and
- (d) supports legislative and social changes which would reduce the number of abortions in Australia.

Synod requests that the content of this motion be forwarded to the following persons – the Prime Minister, the Federal Opposition Leader, Senator Guy Barnett of Tasmania, the NSW Premier and Leader of the Opposition and the bishops of each of the Anglican dioceses of Australia.

(Dr Michelle Gajus Read)

### 9.22 **Workers for the Mission-field of Sydney**

In view of the Archbishop's expression of concern in his Presidential address for "deserts" and "lost tribes" in our Diocese, and in view of Jesus' words that the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few, this Synod urges all ministers and leaders in our Diocese to put before their people the challenge of the harvest-field that exists within the Diocese and to call on men and women to leave the comforts of the familiar to serve as tent-making missionaries in these "deserts" and among these "tribes". This Synod further urges the identification or creation of appropriate organisations dedicated to raising-up, training, deploying and supporting such missionaries within our diocese.

(The Rev Richard Blight)

### 9.23 **Discipleship training**

Synod –

- (a) noting the necessity to "make disciples" (Matthew 28:19) and the particular urgency for discipleship for the ongoing fruitfulness of our churches in regard of our Mission goal, and
- (b) noting the growing need for mature Christian workers to be available and ready as "lay" part time or as candidates for full time training, and
- (c) noting that as a result of a survey, by email, of 50 churches in our Diocese, only 3 responded positively to the question of whether there was a discipleship training facility in their church,

calls for discipleship training to be available and promoted to all church members and other interested persons, at all levels of spiritual maturity and age and including persons who are "transfers" and new converts.

(Mr Ian Mottram)

### 9.24 **"Jesus All About Life" Campaign**

Synod encourages parishes to register with the Bible Society's "Jesus All About Life" Campaign so that our Connect09 outreach will be enhanced by the \$2.5 million prime-time, radio and billboard advertising planned for September and October 2009.

(The Rev Greg Burke)



# Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

*References to items and motions are references to items and motions in the business paper for Wednesday 15 October 2008.*

<b>Wednesday 15 October 2008</b>	
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 Parish Administration Ordinance 2008 9.2 Parish Administration (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance 2008 9.3 Cost Recoveries (Framework) Ordinance 2008 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 – 8:00 pm	9.4 Theology of Christian assembly Thereafter, other business as per business paper
8:00 pm +	Discussion on achievements and challenges in becoming a missional diocese 9.5 Strategic plan for the Mission 9.6 Connect09 Thereafter, other business as per business paper

<b>Monday 20 October 2008</b>	
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 – 5:45 pm	9.7 General Synod – National Register Canon 2007 Adopting Ordinance 2008 9.8 Lay and diaconal administration 9.9 Affiliated Churches Thereafter, other business as per business paper
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Missionary Hour
8:00 pm +	9.10 Statement on the Global Anglican Future and Jerusalem Declaration 9.11 General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Section 10) Canon 2007 Assenting Ordinance 2008 Thereafter, other business as per business paper

<b>Tuesday 21 October 2008</b>	
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 – 5:45 pm	9.12 Human rights framework for Australia Announcement concerning the Freedom of Religion Project 9.13 Clergy Removals Fund Ordinance 2003 Amendment Ordinance 2008 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 pm +	Business as per the business paper

1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 48th Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney

## Bible Reading, Hymn & Prayers: 15 October 2008

**Bible Reading: Romans 3:21-31**

**Bible Reader: Mrs Judy Adamson**

**Bible Study Leader: The Rev Rick Lewers**

<sup>21</sup>But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. <sup>22</sup>This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. <sup>25</sup>God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished – <sup>26</sup>he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law. <sup>29</sup>Is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, <sup>30</sup>since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. <sup>31</sup>Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law.

*Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version*

### **Talk 2 Outline: The Grace that lifts from disappoint**

Grace to our city

The Problem

The Answer

Attempts to spoil – humanity has always been good at invading God's space with ourselves

Connection for Connect09

## **Hymn: When I survey the wondrous cross**

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

His dying crimson, like a robe,  
Spreads o'er His body on the tree;  
Then I am dead to all the globe,  
And all the globe is dead to me.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)  
Music: E Miller (1731-1807)

## **Prayer: Dr Philip Selden**

### **Connect09 Prayer**

Father God, we praise you for your love for all people and for sending Jesus to be the saviour of the World.

Help us to share this love with others.

We pray for the people of our city and beyond.

By your Spirit prepare their hearts to respond to your Word and put their trust in you.

As we connect with them, may they connect with you, and find the joy of sins forgiven and life eternal through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen