

## Northern Regional Council Annual Report for 2008

(A report from the Northern Regional Council.)

### Introduction

1. The Council met five times during the year at St George's, Marsfield.

### Membership

2. The membership of Regional Council consisted of –

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

3. At the February meeting the Rev Keith Dalby was elected to replace the Rev L Sulzberger who had resigned in November 2007 before taking up the incumbency of Christ Church, North Adelaide. During the year Mr Andrew Mitchell and the Rev Adam Street also resigned from Regional Council. Their places were filled by Mr Stephen Tong and the Rev Michael Kellahan respectively. It was noted that Mr Mitchell had been a founding member of the Regional Council in 1996 and had made an outstanding contribution to Council.

### Regional Events

#### *Archbishop's Lectures*

4. These lectures have been conducted in February at Abbotsleigh School, Wahroonga since 2004. They are held on Wednesday evenings over three consecutive weeks. The theme for the 2008 lectures was *The Holy Spirit*. With over 300 attending, it was necessary to move the venue from the Peter Duly Concert Hall to the Auditorium to comply with OH&S standards. The lectures were much appreciated and the production of both CDs and DVDs were welcomed with significant sales of both.

#### *Regional Dinner*

5. No dinner was held due to the scheduling of a breakfast in November to mark the retirement of Archdeacon Terry Dein.

*Regional Conference*

6. This was held at the Salvation Army Collaroy Conference Centre on May 19-20. Seventy seven (77) attended full time with others attending on a daily basis.
7. The theme was 'Seek the Welfare of the City'. The aim was to provide encouragement for people to engage enthusiastically with the diocesan Connect09 evangelistic campaign planned for 2009.
8. Each day commenced with a Bible study by Bishop Glenn Davies.
9. There was input from Anglicare upon recent demographic trends within the diocese. Material was provided to parishes for discussion in Deanery groups
10. Other sessions were presented by visiting speakers and covered youth ministry, training for parish ministries and leadership development. Attention was also drawn to available resources.

*Ministry Recruitment Dinner*

11. It was somewhat disappointing to have a much smaller number of people indicate an interest in this event than in previous years. As a result Bishop and Mrs Davies hosted a supper in their home. This provided an excellent opportunity for informal and personal discussion about ministry as a vocation.

**General Matters**

*Ministry Initiatives*

12. New ministry initiatives continue to be explored across the region. Sometimes these new ministries flourish while others struggle, but a desire 'to give it a go' continues to generate a visionary spirit and birth new ministries.
13. Building upon a mid week service established in 2007 in the chapel of Lady Davidson Hospital, Bobbin Head Anglican church commenced a traditional Sunday morning and evening church services early in the year. These met a real need and consequently two modest, stable congregations are now established.
14. The Church by the Bridge (Kirribilli) commenced a contemporary service on Saturday evening at 5.30pm. This was targeted at the local community which has proved difficult to reach through existing Sunday services.
15. The Deanery of Hornsby, initiated a non denominational 'Blokes Church' once a month at various churches. The 'tight', focused service was preceded by a light lunch and has had an encouraging response in terms of bringing men together and occasional outreach events.
16. Other initiatives include a church café two days a week (Dee

Why), an annual 'Rescue Service' at Newport designed to connect with community rescue groups, a 5pm youth oriented service followed by a meal (Seaforth). We thank God for all ministry initiatives across the region and for the 'risk takers' who, under God, launch them as an expression of intentional mission strategy.

*Ministry Buildings*

17. One of the evidences of growing, vigorous ministry is the number of significant parish building projects in the region. These range from major projects like new ministry centres to modest church extensions, new rectories etc. Such projects are usually funded by the parish and help to better equip the church for ministry.

*Diocesan Brownfield Funding*

18. The region received two grants to assist major church projects. The parish of Berowra received \$900,000 and Naremburn/Cammeray parish received \$500,000. Both parishes have evidenced significant growth and expect this trend to continue. Their present facilities are inadequate and the projects are designed to meet the demands of an anticipated future growth in ministry.

*Regional Architectural Panel*

19. Of recent years members of this panel have given many hours of their time serving the region. In this role a number of them give free professional advice to parishes as an expression of their ministry to the region. Their task is not always easy. But as they are ministry-minded, they strive to ensure that all the projects considered have the best possible ministry outcome for the parish. Their contribution to the region is substantial and ought to receive due recognition.

*Multi cultural Ministry*

20. In December 2007 Mrs Rosemary Anderson finished as the region's ESL Coordinator after almost ten years ministry. Mrs Trish Bell commenced her position as our Cross Cultural Ministry Consultant at the beginning of 2008 and has been visiting ESL groups, conducting training programs and encouraging parishes to engage in multi cultural ministry.

21. The ESL version of 'Simply Christianity' produced by the Northern Region and designed for use within our ESL classes is still in the process of review and trials are being planned before the material is published. The delay in publication has been longer than anticipated but the Multi Cultural Committee is committed to producing a quality resource which will commend itself widely.

22. A luncheon was held At St Paul's Chatswood on 2 December for multi cultural ministers and their spouses. It was designed to foster networking and express the region's appreciation for their ministry. A good representative group gathered for the occasion.

*Farewell for Archdeacon Terry Dein and Mrs Barbara Dein*

23. A farewell breakfast was held on 1 November at the International School of Management, Manly. The venue was generously made available by the owner of the school. Over two hundred people attended representing a large number of parishes across the region. After four and a half years in this position, Terry has been an exceptionally able servant of Christ, an effective encourager of clergy and a strong supporter of parishes. Terry Dein was appointed Archdeacon Emeritus by the Archbishop in recognition of his outstanding service to the Northern Region since early 2004.

*Election of the Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn*

24. On 2 November the Rev Stuart Robinson, the Rector of St Paul's Chatswood, was elected as bishop of the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn. Although Stuart had only been at St Paul's since 2005 his ministry had been significant and was much appreciated. He had also exercised an Australia-wide ministry under the auspices of General Synod as National Mission Facilitator. The Region and the Diocese of Sydney will miss Stuart's contribution. We wish him and his wife Jane every blessing in his new ministry and assure them of our prayerful support.

*Regional Grants*

25. The Regional Council adopted the following budget for 2009 –

<b>Parish/Organisation</b>	<b>Ministry to be Funded</b>	<b>Grant 2009</b>
Asquith	Loan repayment	10,000
Bobbin Head Anglican Church (Turramurra)	Senior's Ministry	8,000
Eastwood	Stipendiary Lay Worker (Mandarin Min.)	17,500
Ermington	Student Minister	6,000
Freshwater/Harbord	Assistant Minister (Church Plant)	40,000
Hope Anglican Church (Chatswood East)	Assistant Minister	28,000
Hornsby	Mandarin Ministry	60,000
Kirribilli	Church Plant	10,000
Macquarie	P/T Stipendiary Lay Worker	10,000
Macquarie Uni Chaplain/RMC	Chaplain	20,000

<b>Parish/Organisation</b>	<b>Ministry to be Funded</b>	<b>Grant 2009</b>
Naremburn/ Cammeray	Church plant (Japanese)	40,000
Narrabeen (Warriewood)	Housing (Church Plant)	30,000
North Epping	Children's Worker	18,000
North Ryde	2 MTS workers	12,500
Putney	2 Student Min.	14,000
Roseville	Church Plant	25,000
Seaforth	Assistant Minister	11,000
Turramurra South	Church Plant	20,000
Waitara	Child/Youth & Cross Cultural trainee	6,000
West Ryde	Children's Worker	15,000
Willoughby East	SLW - youth	5,000
MCM Consultant		30,000
TAFE		17,000
Insurances, misc		4,000
Bishop's Discretionary Fund		5,000
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>462,000</b>

For and on behalf of the Northern Regional Council

TERRY DEIN  
*Assistant to the Bishop*

7 July 2009