

Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

2nd Session of the 48th Synod

Business Paper: Monday 26 October 2009

(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 Dr Bill Salier

2. Minutes of 21 October 2009

3. Answers to questions

3.1 The Rev David Clarke to ask –

Could a brief historical background be made available to members of Synod with regards to the establishment of the Endowment of the See and the Diocesan Endowment in particular covering why two separate funds were originally established, and what was to be paid for from each fund?

3.2 The Rev Ian Millican to ask –

Can the Archbishop please advise which schools contributed financially to the work of the Anglican Education Commission during 2008, and how much each of those schools contributed?

3.3 The Rev Richard Blight to ask –

Would you provide a list of grants by the Western Sydney and Georges River Regions to parishes and other ministries for the period of their last report to Synod in the same format as that provided by the other regions?

Would you encourage all the Regional Councils to include this information in their future annual reports to Synod in order to improve communication with parishes and Synod and to facilitate research?

3.4 Dr Robert Mackay to ask –

With regard to the appointment of Mission Leaders as outlined in the document Strategic Directions 2010-2012 and its appendix –

- (a) What is envisaged as the respective input of the Archbishop, Mission Board and others in the appointment process?
- (b) What might be the criteria used in this appointment process?
- (c) What is the anticipated appointment period?
- (d) Notwithstanding the “desired outcomes”, is it intended there be a more formal appraisal process? If so, by whom?

3.5 The Rev Glenn Farrell to ask –

My question relates to the resolution 8.4 on page 33 of the Report of the Standing Committee. In resolution 25/03 –

Synod requested that we undertake the preparation for the production and distribution of a clear and an unambiguous booklet suitable for wide distribution, examining the key rights (sic), teachings and beliefs of Freemasonry and explaining why they differ from Christianity and explaining why it is wrong for a Christian to belong to the Lodge.

The report of Standing Committee notes that the Principal of Moore Theological College has been asked to arrange for the College to prepare, in consultation with the Archbishop, the booklet referred to in Synod resolution 25/03.

My question is in two parts –

- (a) Why has it taken five years for this resolution to be acted upon the Standing Committee?
- (b) Would an outline of key milestone dates be provided for the preparation, publication and distribution of this booklet?

3.6 Dr Sara Denize to ask –

- (a) What has been, and will be, the Diocesan response (with particular reference to the actions that have been taken or which are planned by various Diocesan bodies, such as the Anglican Education Commission, Anglican Youthworks and the Social Issues Executive) to the continuing and persistent efforts of the St James Ethics Centre to develop and pilot a secular ethics curriculum which is proposed as an alternative to SRE in State Public Primary Schools?
- (b) Given that most State School SRE programs are delivered by joint-denominational teams, and in light of claims by the St James Ethics Centre that “many of the faith-based groups with whom the Centre consulted welcomed the possibility of an ethics-based course”, will this response take into account the views of the other Christian churches who share with us in the SRE program?

3.7 The Rev James Rogers to ask –

Are there any plans to produce full DVDs of the recent *Inspiring People* panel discussions?

If so, how and when will they be made available?

If there are presently no plans, would the relevant body or bodies consider producing full DVDs of the discussions and making them available to churches as tools for their ongoing evangelistic efforts?

4. Petitions

5. Procedural motions from members

5.1 Suspension of business rules concerning time limits for speeches

Synod –

- (a) agrees that for the remainder of this session, except in relation to motions moved in the Synod in Committee, members moving a motion to amend a principal motion may speak for up to 5 minutes, and
- (b) suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.

(Mr Robert Wicks)

5.2 Suspension of business rules concerning passing of ordinances

Synod suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent, on the last scheduled day of meeting, the consideration of a motion that a proposed ordinance pass as an ordinance of the Synod, notwithstanding that the text of the ordinance has been considered by the Synod in Committee on that day.

(Mr Robert Wicks)

5.3 Long Service Leave Canon

Synod –

- (a) rescinds its decision to adopt the recommendation in the report on General Synod 2007 Legislation that the Synod not assent to the Long Service Leave Canon 2007, and
- (b) requests that a bill to assent to the Long Service Leave Canon 2007 be prepared, and
- (c) agrees to consider the bill on Tuesday 27 October 2009 at 4.30 pm, such bill to be moved by Mr Paul Bennett who may speak to the bill using overhead images,

and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.

(Mr Paul Bennett)

5.4 Human rights framework for Australia

After Bishop Robert Forsyth has spoken briefly to the paper circulated to members entitled "A National Agenda for Religious Freedom", Bishop Forsyth will seek leave to move the following procedural motion –

"Synod agrees to consider the following motion at 4.30pm on Tuesday 27 October 2009 –

'Synod –

- (a) receives the supplementary note from the Diocesan Secretary on 35/08 Human rights framework for Australia, and
- (b) supports generally the principles concerning the protection of religious freedom outlined in the paper attached to the note 'A National Agenda for Religious Freedom' prepared by Professor Patrick Parkinson."

(Bishop Robert Forsyth)

5.5 Withdrawal of motion concerning Response to The Episcopal Church 76th General Convention's Resolution D025

Synod agrees to the Rev Gavin Poole withdrawing the motion of which he had previously given notice at item 7.14 on today's business paper concerning a response to The Episcopal Church 76th General Convention's Resolution D025.

(The Rev Gavin Poole)

5.6 Motion concern report to Synod members on changes to the Glebe Administration Board

Synod consents to the following motion being moved after the consideration of scheduled business tonight, or otherwise tomorrow night, and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements –

“Synod, noting the amendment of Mr Stephen Humphreys on 20 October 2009 requesting Standing Committee to report to the next Synod (or before) on the corrective actions taken by the Glebe Administration Board, requests that on or before 31 March 2010 an interim report on those corrective actions be forwarded to members of Synod by email (or mail if no email address available) including the names of the current members of the Board and the qualifications of all who have been appointed since 19 October 2009.”

(Mrs Susan Hooke)

6. Calling of motions on the business paper

7. Motions

To be taken on today from 4.30 pm

7.1 **Moore Theological College Ordinance 1984 Amendment Ordinance 2009**

That the Moore Theological College Ordinance 1984 Amendment Ordinance 2009 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.

(*Supplementary Report page 11*) (Bishop Glenn Davies/Mr Robert Tong)

7.2 **Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009**

That the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.

(*Page 296*) (Mr Peter Kell/The Rev Stephen Semenchuk)

7.3 **Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2009**

That the Synod resolve itself into the Synod in Committee to consider the text of the Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2009.

(*Page 277*) (Mr Peter Kell/The Rev Stephen Semenchuk)

7.4 **Synod Membership (Nominated Indigenous Representatives) Ordinance 2009**

Synod permits the introduction of the Synod Membership (Nominated Indigenous Representatives) Ordinance 2009.

(*Page 323*) (Archdeacon Deryck Howell/Archdeacon Ken Allen)

7.5 **Tertiary Education Ministry Oversight Committee**

Synod agrees to form a Tertiary Education Ministry Oversight Committee (TEMOC), consisting of ~~6-9~~ persons elected by Synod for a 3 year term and one person appointed by the Archbishop, with the Committee having the additional power to co-opt up to three more persons. The Committee is to be charged with ~~coordinating and developing~~furthering ministry to tertiary education students throughout the Diocese, including responsibility for –

- (a) recruiting, training and supporting ~~tertiary~~ University and TAFE chaplains and promoting their ministries,
- (b) recommending the allocation of resources in accordance with strategic priorities, which it should report to Synod via the Standing Committee once formulated,
- (c) in consultation with appropriate bodies, preparing for Synod's consideration a diocesan policy on ministry in TAFE and other VET (vocational education

and training) institutes, and also a policy on ministry in private HEPs (higher education providers), and

- (d) exploring the possibility of further creative partnerships with Anglican University colleges, AFES, Anglican Education Commission and other relevant bodies.

(Page 200)

(Mr Andrew Frank/Canon Sandy Grant)

7.6 People affected by disability

Synod, mindful that meeting together in Christ, we learn of receiving our bodies as given by God; we continue to discover practices of love towards all people in their particular circumstances; we discern with them how to 'carry each other's burdens' (Gal. 6:2); and we each learn together how to 'carry our own load' (Gal 6:5), therefore –

- (a) recognises that for people with disabilities, their families and carers, daily life can be practically, financially, socially and emotionally more difficult than it is for most people,
- (b) notes that there are many obstacles for people with disabilities, their families and carers, which prevent them hearing the gospel and sharing in Christian fellowship, which we have not always considered,
- (c) requests that all parishes and organisations in the Sydney Diocese of the Anglican Church develop and implement a plan to remove those obstacles that currently prevent people affected by disability from hearing the gospel and sharing in Christian fellowship, and
- (d) requests Sydney Anglicans and the Diocese in particular to continue to advocate for Government policy that promotes the wellbeing and interests of people with disabilities and their families and carers.

(Deaconess Margaret Rodgers/Mr Darren Mitchell)

To be taken today from 8.00 pm

7.7 Grievance policy and procedure

Synod receives the report on procedures and sanctions for all standards in *Faithfulness in Service* and, noting the proposed Grievance Policy and Procedure and Parish Relationships Amendment Ordinance 2009 attached to the report –

- (a) requests that members provide comments on the proposed Grievance Policy and Procedure and Parish Relationships Amendment Ordinance 2009 to the Diocesan Secretary by 31 March 2010, and
- (b) requests that a form of the Grievance Policy and Procedure and Parish Relationships Amendment Ordinance 2009 be brought to the Synod in 2010 incorporating, as appropriate, comments made by members.

(Page 163)

(Archdeacon Ken Allen/Canon Sandy Grant)

7.8 Parish Review Repeal Ordinance 2009

Synod permits the introduction of the Parish Review Repeal Ordinance 2009.

(Page 271)

(The Rev Stephen Semenchuk)

7.9 Regions (Transitional Provisions and Miscellaneous Amendments) Amending Ordinance 2009

Synod permits the introduction of the Regions (Transitional Provisions and Miscellaneous Amendments) Amending Ordinance 2009.

(Supplementary Report page 26)

(Bishop Ivan Lee/Canon Sandy Grant)

To be taken on Tuesday 27 October 2009 immediately after the formal matters

7.10 Artarmon: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of Artarmon as a parish with effect from 1 January 2010.

(Page 234)

(The Rev Ernest Chau/Ms Kitty Ho)

7.11 North Ryde: Reclassification as a Parish

Synod assents to the reclassification of North Ryde as a parish with effect from 1 January 2010.

(Page 236)

(The Rev John Chappell/Mr Peter Bliss)

To be taken on Tuesday 27 October 2009 from 7.00 pm

7.12 Policy on consumption of alcohol in the parish context

Synod receives the report on the consumption of alcohol in the parish context and, recognising that alcohol is a gift from God to be enjoyed in moderation but also recognising that alcohol abuse has caused significant damage in our community, requests that the minister and parish council of each parish –

- (a) study the information in the report, and
- (b) determine the parish's own policy on the consumption of alcohol having regard to the report's recommendation –

“Except for –

- services of public worship where wine is provided as part of the Lord's Supper,
- private activities in ministry residences, and
- activities undertaken pursuant to a commercial lease of church trust property signed by the Property Trust,

no alcohol should be consumed or made available in the context of any ministry activity of the parish or any private activity held on church trust property, without the approval of the parish council.”

(Page 99)

(Archdeacon Deryck Howell/Dr Barry Newman)

Motions for which no particular time has been specified for consideration

7.13 Nowra Anglican College (Bomaderry)

Synod –

gives thanks and praise to God for the ministry of the College and for the many families reached with the Gospel of Christ since its foundation in 2000;

recognises the significant contribution of the full time Staff and Student Chaplain, the Rev Graham Thomas, and expresses its thanks for his ministry noting his decision to move to the parish of All Saints Nowra in 2010;

notes that in November 2008 a request was lodged by the College Council asking for the Archbishop-in-Council to declare the College extra-parochial to reflect the nature of its ministries across the Shoalhaven. The request carried the unanimous support of the Council;

notes the request was supported by the Wollongong Regional Council and, in line with the provisions of the associated Ordinance, the opposition of Bomaderry Parish to the change was first taken into consideration by both the College and Regional Councils;

notes that processing the request was initially delayed, for a number of reasons, and discussed at the September 2009 meeting of the Standing Committee, having been deferred in August due to agenda pressure, and a decision taken to defer it until the associated Ordinance is subjected to a major review; and

recognising the support of the Wollongong Regional and College Councils for the change, respectfully asks the Standing Committee not to defer its decision pending the Ordinance review, but consider the matter now and allow the College to join the other 21 Anglican Schools already declared extra-parochial as listed on page 143 of the 2008 Year Book.

(Mr Geoff Kyngdon/Mr Andrew Guile)

7.14 **Response to The Episcopal Church 76th General Convention's Resolution D025**

Synod notes The Episcopal Church 76th General Convention's Resolution D025 that recognises the inclusion of gay and lesbian persons in the baptised membership, various ministries and ordained ministries of The Episcopal Church.

Synod requests that The Episcopal Church Ministers and Bishops not baptise, ordain or consecrate any person who has made it known that they are practising homosexuality until they have sincerely repented. This should be done lest the fabric of the Anglican Communion be further torn by The Episcopal Church continuing to ignore the plain teaching of the Scriptures in matters concerning human sexuality.

Furthermore Synod requests the Diocesan Secretary to write to The Episcopal Church Standing Committee and Presiding Bishop informing them of this motion.

(The Rev Gavin Poole)

7.15 **Partnerships in evangelism**

Synod welcomes the appointment of Bishop Al Stewart as the Director of Evangelism Ministries from February 2010 and gives thanks for his service as Bishop of Wollongong. Given the fact that, unlike in the past, grants to the Regional Councils used to seed-fund ministries in so-called "desert" areas and to "lost tribes" are unlikely to be available, Synod –

- (1) encourages Bishop Stewart to focus particularly on the raising up of church planters for those areas where Anglican ministry is currently struggling and has a limited impact on the community, ~~most notably in the Georges River and Western Sydney regions,~~
- (2) encourages Bishop Stewart to look to organisations such as CMS and AFES for models for raising the funding for this task,
- (3) calls upon churches throughout the Diocese to partner in mission together with these church plants to support them prayerfully, financially and in the work of evangelism to reach these areas for Christ.

(The Rev Phillip Colgan/Mr Garry Allen)

7.16 **Essential Jesus at Easter Show**

That the Synod sponsors a display "The Essential Jesus" at the Sydney Royal Agricultural Show next Easter. This would give us the opportunity of spreading the Word of God to about 1 million people that pass through the gates over the 14 days of exhibition. The stand to be organized by Connect09 (10)(11).

(Mr Brian Flower/The Rev Jeremy Tonks)

7.17 Endorsement of Statement made on behalf of past Care Providers

Synod –

1. notes that –
 - (a) on 19 September 2009 a Healing Service organised by the State Government in conjunction with Care providers and Care Leavers was held for those who grew up in institutional care - the service coincided with the unveiling of a memorial in the Royal Botanic Gardens in Sydney to acknowledge the difficulties that many care leavers experienced in their childhood and
 - (b) a statement on behalf of non-government past providers of institutional care, was read by the Bishop Robert Forsyth representing the following organisations –
 - Anglicare
 - Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT
 - Barnardos Australia
 - The Benevolent Society
 - CatholicCare
 - MacKillop Family Services (Christian Brothers, Sisters of St Joseph, Sisters of Mercy)
 - The Salvation Army
 - The Infants Home Child & Family Services
 - Uniting Church in Australia – NSW Synod, representing Wesley Mission and Uniting Care NSW & ACT
 - United Protestant Association of NSW
2. acknowledges with appreciation the role of Stephen Quinn a member of the parish of Lower Blue Mountains in instigating the idea for this service and memorial and the support of Peter Kell and Anglicare staff and Jenni Woodhouse of the Diocesan PSU and Leonie Sheedy of CLAN in gaining the participation of the Government and other care providers to enable this important event to happen.
3. adds its endorsement to the statement made publicly on behalf of past care providers by Bishop Forsyth which read:

On behalf of the non-government service providers represented here today, I acknowledge that many children placed in our care until 1990 did not receive the consistent and loving care that they needed and deserved.

It is now recognised that caring for children and young people who cannot live with their family must include regular and meaningful family contact, placement with siblings, consistent care givers and support for them to understand their experience of being in care. We acknowledge that for many children and young people, this was not the case.

For the children and young people who did not receive the consistent love and care that they needed and deserved, we are sorry.

For the children and young people who were neglected, mistreated and abused, we are sorry.

For the families who entrusted their children to us and whose expectations were not met, we are sorry.

To the Forgotten Australians, we stand committed to responding promptly, compassionately and respectfully to those who wish to approach us about their care experiences.

I, on behalf of the non-government service providers represented here am privileged to be part of this Healing Service and commemoration for the Forgotten Australians.

(The Rev Chris Albany/Bishop Robert Forsyth)

7.18 Inter-Church Commission of Religious Education in Schools

That ~~the Archbishop and~~ the AEC (Anglican Education Commission) be asked, respectfully, to reconsider ~~their~~ its decision to remove the Diocese of Sydney from ICCOREIS (the Inter-Church Commission of Religious Education in Schools).

(The Rev Martin Robinson)

7.19 Province of the Anglican Church in North America

Synod welcomes the creation of the Province of the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) and notes the GAFCON Primates' Council recognition of the ACNA as genuinely Anglican and its recommendation that Anglican Provinces affirm full communion with the ACNA.

Synod therefore expresses its full communion with the ACNA.

Furthermore, Synod requests that Standing Committee seek to have a motion brought to the General Synod affirming that the Anglican Church of Australia be in full communion with the ACNA.

(The Rev Gavin Poole)

7.20 Archbishop's liturgical group

Synod gives thanks for the work of the Archbishop's liturgical group to date, as found on the website www.bettergatherings.com, and notes and encourages the group's desire to receive constructive feedback and suggestions from all in the Diocese.

(Mr Philip Griffin/Bishop Robert Forsyth)

7.21 Remuneration for Glebe Administration Board members

Synod requests the Standing Committee to consider whether members of the Glebe Administration Board should be paid for their services.

(The Rev Ray Robinson)

7.22 Mr Ken Barber and Mr Geoff Kells

Synod gives thanks for the leadership exercised by Mr Geoff Kells and Mr Ken Barber for Anglican Retirement Villages, Sydney Diocese.

Geoff Kells served on the Board of ARV from 1998 to 2008, including 8 years as Chairman. Geoff's vision for the future needs of older Australians and his focus on ARV's Christian mission were hallmarks of his leadership.

Ken Barber was employed by ARV from 1996 to 2009, including 9 years as Chief Executive Officer. Ken's focus, discipline and compassion saw ARV grow to serve substantially more older Australians and to do so in a manner that emphasised ARV's Christian mission of communicating Christ and of pastoral and practical care.

Both ARV's alignment with the Diocesan Mission and its financial position substantially improved as a result of their leadership, and Synod wishes them God's blessing in the ministries he has prepared for them.

(Bishop Ivan Lee/Mr Andrew McLachlan)

7.23 Administrative burden on parishes

To further interchange among parishes and diocesan organisations regarding solving the complexity of administration in our parishes, that the Ordinance Reform Group and SDS –

- (a) enacts each of the recommendations and intentions published in paragraph 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 of the Special Report to the 2009 Synod entitled “Administrative burden on parishes (21/08)/Business managers for churches (25/08)”, and
- (b) report progress and results to the 2010 sitting of Synod.

(The Rev Michael Williamson)

7.24 Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans (UK and Ireland)

Synod –

- (a) notes the formation and launch of the Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans (UK and Ireland) in London on Monday 6 July 2009,
- (b) commends its executive and membership for their commitment to contend for the faith once delivered to all the saints, and their goal in common with the FCA around the world to “reform, heal and revitalize the Anglican Communion and expand its mission to the world”, and
- (c) requests the Diocesan Secretary to write to the Rev Paul Perkin, Chairman of FCA (UK and Ireland) communicating the same.

(The Rev Bob Cameron)

7.25 Fund for planting Anglican churches

In view of Bishop Stewart’s new role in Evangelism Ministries, and in light of the reduced capacity of the Diocesan Endowment to fund [the] purchase of new land through its regular distributions, Synod directs Standing Committee to set up a fund specifically designed for the purchase of land in new suburbs for the purpose of planting Anglican Churches in those suburbs, and funding buildings at the appropriate time. This fund would operate similarly to the Vision for Growth fund which in the past saw many churches built in new suburbs. The fund would be voluntary for existing congregations to contribute to, but would also provide an avenue for central funding when the financial situation of the Diocese allows.

(Mr Dan Henby)

7.26 Qualifications and experience of candidates and members

Synod requests that Standing Committee consider practical means by which Synod members might be more fully informed of information pertaining to qualification, significant experience, occupation, Board memberships, potential conflicts of interest and any other details that might be considered necessary and/or helpful to assist Synod members in voting knowledgeably in Synod elections and in making personal assessment of an individual’s background on a subject when they rise to speak.

(Mr Andrew McLachlan/Mr Roger Anderson)



Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

References to items and motions are references to items and motions in the business paper for Monday 26 October 2009.

Monday 26 October 2009	
3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.30 – 5.45 pm	7.1 Moore Theological College Ordinance 1984 Amendment Ordinance 2009 7.2 Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009 7.3 Parish Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2009 7.4 Synod Membership (Nominated Indigenous Representatives) Ordinance 2009 7.5 Tertiary Ministry Oversight Committee 7.6 People affected by disability Thereafter, other business as per business paper
7.00 – 8.00 pm	Missionary Hour
8.00 pm +	Human rights framework for Australia 7.7 Grievance policy and procedure 7.8 Parish Review Repeal Ordinance 2009 7.9 Regions (Transitional Provisions and Miscellaneous Amendments) Amending Ordinance 2009 Thereafter, other business as per business paper

Tuesday 27 October 2009	
3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters 7.10 Artarmon: Reclassification as a Parish 7.11 North Ryde: Reclassification as a Parish Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.30 – 5.45 pm	Business as per the business paper
7.00 pm +	7.12 Policy on consumption of alcohol in the parish context Thereafter, other business as per the business paper