

# Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 48th Synod Business Paper: Tuesday 27 October 2009

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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 Dr Bill Salier**
2. **Minutes of 26 October 2009**
3. **Petitions**
4. **Procedural motions from members**
  - 4.1 **Motion concerning 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 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)

5. **Calling of motions on the business paper**
6. **Motions**

***To be taken today immediately after the formal matters***

**6.1 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)

**6.2 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 today from 4.30 pm***

**6.3 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)

**6.4 Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2009**

That the Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2009 pass as an ordinance of the Synod.

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

**6.5 Human rights framework for Australia**

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)

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

**6.6 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***

**6.7 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)

## 6.8 Province of the Anglican Church in North America

Synod –

~~Synod welcomes (1)~~ 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.

~~(2)~~ Welcomes Archbishop Duncan's assessment that the recent Vatican offer of a Personal Ordinariate 'will not be utilised by the great majority of the Anglican Church in North America's bishops, priests, dioceses and congregations' and urges all Anglicans to reject the Vatican's proposal.

~~(3)~~ Asks the General Synod Standing Committee to –

(a) bring the Anglican Covenant to the September 2010 General Synod by way of a canon to enable each diocesan synod to consider the document, and

(b) bring a motion to the General Synod noting the publication of the Jerusalem Declaration and to encourage its study as a means to Anglican identity and cohesion.

(The Rev Gavin Poole)

## 6.9 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 the Policy 4 Committee –~~

~~(a) enacts –~~ pursue 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)

#### 6.10 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~~ promote 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)

#### 6.11 Freeze on clergy stipends for 2010

Synod gives thanks for the leadership of Standing Committee in the current economic climate and for recommending a freeze on clergy stipends for 2010, and

- (a) encourages parish councillors who may receive pay increases in 2010 to consider donating such increases to church offertories above their normal contribution, so that the burden of financial constraints does not rest upon the clergy family alone, and
- (b) asks wardens to suggest to their congregations that they likewise follow this example of generosity for the sake of gospel ministry.

(The Rev Matthew Snelson)

#### 6.12 Bishop Stuart Robinson

Synod congratulates the Rev Stuart P Robinson on his election as 10<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn on 2 November last year and his subsequent consecration and installation on 31 January 2009.

Stuart was ordained in the Diocese of Sydney in 1987 after completing his BTh and Dip A from Moore College. After serving as Assistant Minister at Miranda and Doonside & Quakers Hill, he became the founding incumbent of the parish of Quakers Hill 1991 – 1997. After serving several years as Chaplain of St Paul's Trevuren and Priest in Charge of Liege in Belgium from 1998 – 2001, Stuart was employed as Senior Associate Evangelist in the then Department of Evangelism from 2001 – 2005. From 2002 – 2005 he commenced a church plant at Peninsula Community Church, Pymont, before becoming Rector of St Paul's Chatswood in 2005. From 2005 – 2008, Stuart was also engaged as the National Mission Facilitator for the Anglican Church in Australia. Stuart's heart for mission and expertise in church planting has received wide acclaim, as have his two books – *Mission Action Planning* (2004) and *Starting Mission – Shaped Churches: Australia* (2007).

Synod wishes Stuart and his wife, Jane, God's richest blessing in this ministry in Canberra and Goulburn.

(Mrs Lindy Francis/Bishop Glenn Davies)

#### 6.13 Canon John Cornford

Synod gives thanks to God for the ministry of the Rev John Cornford after 28 years of parish ministry, mostly in the Wollongong Region. John entered Moore College in 1977 having been the Chief Radiographer at Mona Vale Hospital. He was

Assistant Minister at Blacktown in 1981 and 1982, Assistant at St Mark's West Wollongong in 1983 and 1984, and became Rector at All Saints Albion Park from 1985 till his retirement in 2008.

In 1998 John was elected as a Canon of St Michael's Cathedral and a member of Standing Committee. He also served as the Area Dean of the Lake Illawarra Deanery from 1999, and was elected to General Synod, representing the Sydney Diocese at the General Synods held in Brisbane and Perth.

Outside of Australia John has enjoyed the privileges of preaching in South Africa in Soweto, Durban, and Cape town while on an evangelistic mission from Sydney; of preaching in Fiji and in Seoul South Korea at the Missionary Training Institute; and of serving as locum under the Archbishop of Sabah caring for Christ Church, Likas in Kota Kinabalu (Sabah Diocese) whilst on long service leave.

Together with his wife Sue, John has also ministered at St Christopher's Home for Children in Fiji along with organising financial support for two other Fijian Orphanages – The Anglican Home and the Methodist Home.

Through his years of diligent leadership in the Lord's harvest field at Albion Park, All Saints has grown significantly as has the Wollongong Regional Men's Day since John took over its leadership in 1993, becoming a blessing to Anglican men as well as men from other churches in the Illawarra. In his retirement John will continue as a Canon Emeritus of St Michael's and can regularly be found spurring on the saints of Shellharbour City Centre Anglican Church to love of God and evangelistic endeavour.

Synod thanks God for the faithful service of John and Sue and extends them every blessing in their retirement as they continue to serve God who is good, all the time.

(The Rev Michael Williamson/The Rev Graham Errington)

#### 6.14 **Gospel work beyond the Diocese**

Synod gives thanks to God for the due diligence that the committee which has prepared the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009 has displayed and encourages it to consider how in future the Diocese may return to 5% of income that would be made available for Gospel work beyond the Diocese in future Appropriations and Allocations Ordinances.

(The Rev Trevor Oakley)



# Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

*References to items and motions are references to items and motions in the business paper for Tuesday 27 October 2009.*

<b>Tuesday 27 October 2009</b>	
3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters 6.1 Artarmon: Reclassification as a Parish 6.2 North Ryde: Reclassification as a Parish Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.30 – 5.45 pm	6.3 Moore Theological College Ordinance 1984 Amendment Ordinance 2009 6.4 Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2009 6.5 Human rights framework for Australia Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7.00 pm +	6.6 Policy on consumption of alcohol in the parish context Thereafter, other business as per the business paper