

# Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 49<sup>th</sup> Synod

### Business Paper: Tuesday 9 October 2012

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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 Michael Stead**

**2. Minutes of 8 October 2012**

**3. Answers to questions**

3.1 Mr Peter Young asked the following question –

What were the detailed and total expenses and proceeds incurred and arising from the development and sale of all the Greenoaks Apartments, Darling Point?

3.2 Ms Lyn Bannerman asked the following question –

- (a) What were the surpluses from ordinary activities reported by Moore College in the years 2009, 2010 and 2011 in their audited financial statements?
- (b) What were the total accumulated funds and reserves in those same years?
- (c) What is Moore College's risk assessment in their "strategic risk analysis and management plan 2012-14" of any "disruption to its capabilities" if a collapse of Synod funding should occur?
- (d) Is it correct that Synod funding to Moore College was \$1,577,000 in 2012, and is proposed to be \$1,577,000 in 2013?

3.3 Mr Peter Hanson asked the following question –

- (a) How many parishes reported deficits for the year ended 31 December 2011?
- (b) What was the total of these deficits when added together?

3.4 Mr Peter Hanson asked the following question –

- (a) Is each line item recommended to Synod for appropriation examined by Standing Committee or their delegate in detail?
- (b) What criteria are used to determine whether each line item is fundamentally necessary Synod expenditure?
- (c) Is "need" for the funds a fundamental criterion for Standing Committee recommending to Synod expenditure on each line item?

3.5 Mrs Susan Hooke asked the following question –

In preparing the report on page 92 of the Report of Standing Committee on 3/11 Towards 2050, did Standing Committee and Mission Board take into consideration the report issued in May 2012 by the New South Wales Department of Planning entitled "Sydney Over the next 20 Years"?

3.6 Ms Caroline Bowyer asked the following question –

- (a) Relating to Affiliated Churches, how many churches are presently affiliated?

- (b) In respect of each affiliated church –
  - (i) What services have been provided to each of them?
  - (ii) What is the cost of services provided?
  - (iii) What other funds have been provided?
  - (iv) What are the terms of the affiliation agreement?

3.7 Mrs Pamela Shaw asked the following question –

Is the proposal for a levy on parishes for the funding of property in future years consistent with Jesus' teaching found in Matthew 6:19-34, which is quoted in Section 1 of the Funding Principles paper?

3.8 The Rev Craig Roberts asked the following question –

Item 4.22 of the Report of the Standing Committee notes that –

- (i) no funds were ever made available from the Greenoaks development to fund the intended purpose of the project (ie, "the repair and maintenance of Bishopscourt"), and
- (ii) as the Greenoaks "development is now complete and all apartments sold this is the final report that is required to be made to Synod under the Ordinance."

With a view to learning from any unfounded assumptions, in order to retain corporate memory within the Diocese, has there been, or will there be, any further analysis of the decision-making processes that led to the commencement of the Greenoaks development?

3.9 The Rev Nigel Fortescue asked the following question –

With reference to the Report of Standing Committee page 8, point 4.23 –

How much was Gilbulla sold for? What is the total of the invested funds related to the sale proceeds (as at 30 June 2012)?

3.10 The Rev Nigel Fortescue asked the following question –

With reference to the Report of Standing Committee page 7, point 4.22 –

What is the final balance of the sale of the Greenoaks Apartments?

3.11 The Rev Nigel Fortescue asked the following question –

Is there a current Quantity Surveyors Report for purposes of Repairs and Maintenance for Bishopscourt? If no, has acquiring one ever been considered? If yes, could this please be released to the Synod prior to debate on Bishopscourt Sale Ordinance 2012?

3.12 Ms Holly Raiche asked the following question –

As a Secure part of the SDS website now exists (see 2.3 of the Archbishop's summons to Synod), why can't Synod documents considered by Standing Committee to be sensitive (eg, annual reports, including audited statements of all Diocesan organisations) be lodged there?

3.13 Ms Tricia Blombery asked the following question –

- (a) The "Towards 2050" paper states that 70% of the predicted population growth will be in Brownfields sites. What analysis has been undertaken of the impact of this population growth on parishes?
- (b) In this context, what analysis has been undertaken of the impact of the proposed levy on parish ministries?

- (c) What was the outcome of this analysis?
- (d) If the analysis was not done, why not?

3.14 Mr Stuart Grigg asked the following question –

The “Towards 2050” paper (see page 92 of Standing Committee Report) states, in the context of church attendance, that “... we are still not maintaining parity with population growth”.

- (a) Has there been an assessment of the impact of the proposed levy on all parishes in terms of the goal (stated in the same report) of achieving parity?  
and
- (b) If not, why not?

3.15 The Rev Craig Schafer asked the following question –

In the light of the Common Prayer resource, are there any plans to republish AAPB for parish use or to make AAPB available in electronic form?

3.16 The Rev Richard Blight asked the following question –

Would you please provide details of Parishes and other organisations that received grants from the Georges River Regional Council in 2011, specifically those covered by the descriptions “Cross-Cultural Grants to Parishes”, “Leadership and Parish Ministry Grants” and “Grant re Church Planter”? Could you please indicate if the regional council is willing to provide this information in future reports?

3.17 Archdeacon Deryck Howell asked the following question –

- (a) In its review of the Department of Evangelism and New Churches (“ENC”) what analysis, if any, did Standing Committee undertake of the relationship between ENC and Mission Property Committee;
- (b) What analysis was made of the process by which the use of Mission Property is decided?

3.18 Canon Sandy Grant asked the following question –

What has the variable PCR charge, applied to parishes, been as a percentage of net receipts, over the last ten years, including any and all one-off or short term charges and levies?

#### **4. Petitions**

#### **5. Questions**

#### **6. Procedural motions from members**

##### **6.1 Arrangements for considering the Bishops court Sale Ordinance 2012**

Synod agrees to the mover and seconder of the motion that the Bishops court Sale Ordinance 2012 be approved in principle speaking to the motion for up to 10 minutes each instead of 15 minutes and 5 minutes respectively, and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.

(Dr Philip Selden)

##### **6.2 Further arrangements for considering the Bishops court Sale Ordinance 2012**

Synod agrees to the following arrangements for considering the bill for the Bishops court Sale Ordinance 2012 (the Bill) –

- (a) the Bill will not be considered by the Synod formally,

- (b) following any speeches by the mover and the seconder in support of the motion that the Bill be approved in principle and, if a member has a question about the Bill, following a period for questions, Professor Bernard Stewart (the Opposition Speaker) may speak in opposition to the motion for up to 15 minutes before general debate on the motion commences, and
  - (c) at the conclusion of the debate on the motion, the Opposition Speaker may speak for up to 5 minutes in reply before the mover speaks in reply for up to 5 minutes,
- and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.

(Professor Bernard Stewart)

### 6.3 Arrangements for considering motion on Archbishop Peter Jensen

Mr Robert Wicks gives notice of his intention to move the following procedural motion tomorrow during the time for considering procedural motions from members –

“Synod agrees to the following arrangements for considering the motion at item 9.19 on today’s business paper concerning Archbishop Peter Jensen –

- (a) the motion will be taken at 8.30 pm on Tuesday 16 October 2012,
- (b) the Archbishop will be invited to vacate the chair and Bishop Robert Forsyth will be invited to preside during consideration of the motion,
- (c) except for any speech given by the mover, speeches given by members will be limited to 3 minutes,
- (d) the mover will not have a right of reply before the motion and any amendments to the motion are put,
- (e) after the motion has been considered, the Archbishop will be invited to respond,
- (f) after the Archbishop’s response, Canon Rick Smith will lead the Synod in prayer for the Archbishop,

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

## 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*

#### 9.1 Parish Relationships Amendment Ordinance 2012

Synod permits the introduction of the Parish Relationships Amendment Ordinance 2012.

(Page 138)

(Canon Sandy Grant/Mr Clive Ellis)

#### 9.2 Discipline Ordinance 2006 Amendment Ordinance 2012

Synod permits the introduction of the Discipline Ordinance 2006 Amendment Ordinance 2012.

(Page 133)

(Dr Philip Selden/Mr Lachlan Bryant)

### 9.3 Amendments to *Faithfulness in Service*

Synod, noting the report on amendments to *Faithfulness in Service* –

- (a) defers consideration of the amendment to the definition “bullying” until the next ordinary session of the Synod, and
- (b) approves the remaining amendments referred to in the report for the purposes of this Diocese.

(Page 35)

(Mr Lachlan Bryant/Bishop Glenn Davies)

**To be taken today from 7.45 pm**

### 9.4 Bishops court Sale Ordinance 2012

Synod permits the introduction of the Bishops court Sale Ordinance 2012.

(Page 114)

(Dr Philip Selden/The Rev Raj Gupta)

**To be taken on Wednesday 10 October 2012 from 4.30 pm**

### 9.5 Special Religious Education

Synod, noting the report on *Special Religious Education in Government Primary Schools – the Challenge over the next Ten Years* –

- (a) affirms its commitment to the sustaining of high quality Special Religious Education within all Government primary schools within the Diocese, and
- (b) requests the Standing Committee to address the need for sufficient funds for this ministry in its 2014-2015 budget.

(Page 84)

(Canon Phil Colgan/Bishop Glenn Davies)

### 9.6 Diocesan Policy Statement on Education

Synod agrees to amend its Diocesan Policy Statement on Education by inserting a new paragraph 2.6.5 as follows (with consequential renumbering of existing paragraph 2.6.5) –

“2.6.5 Requires that the council of each Anglican school governed by an ordinance of the Synod, the board of each Anglican university college and the board of the Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation observe the following protocol in selecting or appointing a person as head –

Prior to the beginning of the selection process, the chair of the council or board is to inform the Archbishop of the process and the Archbishop, or a Regional Bishop nominated by him, is to be invited to be a part of the interview process, and the Archbishop is to be informed of the names on the final list prior to any offer being made for the position of head.”

(Dr Bryan Cowling/Bishop Glenn Davies)

**To be taken on Wednesday 10 October 2012 from 7.00 pm**

### 9.7 Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2012

Synod permits the introduction of the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2012.

(pre-Synod Briefing Materials page 1)

(Mr Peter Kell/Bishop Peter Hayward)

**9.8 Parochial Cost Recoveries and Church Land Acquisitions Levy Ordinance 2012**

Synod permits the introduction of the Parochial Cost Recoveries and Church Land Acquisitions Levy Ordinance 2012.

*(pre-Synod Briefing Materials page 14)* (Mr Peter Kell/Bishop Peter Hayward)

**To be taken on Monday 15 October 2012 from 4.30 pm**

**9.9 Towards 2050**

Synod, noting the terms of resolution 2/10 and the further report of the Standing Committee provided to the Synod in response to its request in resolution 3/11 –

- (a) thanks the Standing Committee for its further report which clearly and helpfully sets out the significant challenges to our Diocesan network of churches and ministries in meeting the growth in population and ethnic mix in Sydney and the Illawarra over the next 40 years,
- (b) requests that resolution 2/10 and the further report of the Standing Committee be referred to the Mission Board for consideration and incorporation into the next phase of the mission of the Diocese, and
- (c) requests that on behalf of the Standing Committee and the Mission Board bring to Synod in 2013 the suggested shape of the next phase of the mission of the Diocese and its response to the recommendations in the Towards 2050 report.

*(Page 92)* (Bishop Peter Hayward/The Rev Andrew Katay)

**9.10 Department of Evangelism and New Churches Ordinance 2010 Amendment Ordinance 2012**

Synod permits the introduction of the Department of Evangelism and New Churches Ordinance 2010 Amendment Ordinance 2012.

*(Page 128)* (Archdeacon Ian Cox/Mr Malcolm Purvis)

**To be taken on Monday 15 October 2012 from 8.00 pm**

**9.11 Thanksgiving for leadership of the Diocesan Mission**

Synod –

- (a) gives thanks to Almighty God for our Archbishop and his leadership of our 2002-2012 Diocesan Mission,
- (b) rejoices in God's blessing that he has enabled us to proclaim our Saviour the Lord Jesus Christ in prayerful dependence on the Holy Spirit, in order that people would hear his call to repent, trust and serve Christ in love, and be established in the fellowship of his disciples while they await his return,
- (c) thanks God for the increase in the number of people in Bible-based Churches in the Diocese, and
- (d) thanks God for the increase in Bible-based Christian fellowships, congregations and churches, equipping and nurturing their members both in the Diocese and throughout the world.

(Bishop Peter Hayward/The Rev Dominic Steele)

**9.12 Review of the Diocesan Mission and the next phase of mission**

Synod –

- (a) asks the Standing Committee, through its Mission Board, to survey Synod Members, Parish Councils and other Diocesan Organisations to review and assess what has been achieved and what lessons have been learned in the ten years of our Diocesan Mission,
- (b) asks the Standing Committee, through its Mission Board, to bring to Synod 2013 a detailed report on the work of this review, including specific recommendations as to what policies, structures and implementation strategies should be adopted for the next phase of mission in the Diocese to seek and to save the lost, and
- (c) following feedback from Parishes and Diocesan Organisations, bring to Synod 2014 for its approval the suggested shape of the next phase of mission within the Diocese.

(Bishop Peter Hayward/The Rev Dominic Steele)

#### 9.13 United Mission Campaign in 2014

Synod asks the Standing Committee, through its Mission Board to work with Evangelism and New Churches to coordinate a united mission campaign throughout the Diocese around Easter 2014 so that we can be encouraged and enabled to share Christ with our friends and neighbours.

(The Rev Dominic Steele/Bishop Peter Hayward)

#### 9.14 Actions of the Bishop of Gippsland

Synod –

- (a) notes with grave concern the Bishop of Gippsland's appointment in December 2011 of a clergyman with a male partner to be the minister of a parish in the Diocese of Gippsland,
- (b) welcomes the following protocol unanimously adopted by the Australian Bishops' Conference in March 2012 –
  - As bishops in the Australian Church we accept the weight of 1998 Lambeth Resolution 1.10 and the 2004 General Synod resolutions 33, 59 and 61-64 as expressing the mind of this church on issues of human sexuality.*
  - We undertake to uphold the position of our Church in regard to human sexuality as we ordain, license, authorise or appoint to ministries within our dioceses.*
  - We understand that the issues of sexuality are subject to ongoing conversation within our Church and we undertake to support these conversations, while seeking to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*
- (c) joins with the Standing Committee in expressing its dismay at the Bishop of Gippsland's May 18, 2012 Presidential address to the Anglican Diocese of Gippsland which appears to espouse actions that would constitute –
  - (i) a departure from the teaching of Scripture,
  - (ii) a departure from Lambeth Resolution 1.10 of 1998,
  - (iii) a departure from *Faithfulness in Service* §7.4, and
  - (iv) a breach of the Australian Bishops' Protocol agreed to by all Australian bishops (including the Bishop of Gippsland) in March this year,
- (d) declares that such actions would breach trust and fellowship at a profound level and deeply grieve us, and
- (e) prayerfully and respectfully requests the Australian Bishops to appoint clergy and church workers in line with the expectations for elders as set forth in Scripture and in accordance with –
  - (i) Lambeth Resolution 1.10 of 1998,

- (ii) *Faithfulness in Service* §7.4, and
- (iii) the Australian Bishops' Protocol, and
- (f) requests the Standing Committee, in light of the Bishop of Gippsland's actions, to look for ways to recognise, encourage and support those faithful Anglicans who are disenfranchised by such actions, and to reach those elements of society denied a faithful presentation of the gospel.

(The Rev Dominic Steele/Mr Geoff Kyngdon)

**To be taken on Tuesday 16 October 2012 from 4.30 pm**

**9.15 Shoalhaven Heads: Reclassification as a Parish**

Synod assents to the reclassification of Shoalhaven Heads as a parish with effect from 1 January 2013.

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(The Rev Anthony Douglas/Mr Tony Willis)

**9.16 Minchinbury: Reclassification as a Parish**

Synod assents to the reclassification of Minchinbury as a parish with effect from 1 January 2013.

(Supplementary Report page 5)

(The Rev David Mears/Bishop Ivan Lee)

**To be taken on Tuesday 16 October 2012 from 7.00 pm**

**9.17 Common Prayer: Resources for Gospel-Shaped Gatherings**

Synod declares its opinion that the services in the revised form of *Common Prayer: Resources for Gospel-Shaped Gatherings* conform to the doctrine of the Anglican Church of Australia and encourages the churches of the Diocese to use such services in accordance with the *General Synod – Canon Concerning Services 1992 Adopting Ordinance 1998*.

(Bishop Robert Forsyth/Canon Sandy Grant)

**9.18 Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission**

Synod, noting the report about the reforms to the charities and not-for-profits sector, encourages –

- (a) all parishes and other diocesan bodies to ensure they understand and comply with their obligations under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission legislation, and
- (b) the Standing Committee to continue making representations to the Government about achieving reforms which add genuine value to both the sector and the broader community.

(Supplementary Report page 7)

(Mr Robert Wicks/Dr Karin Sowada)

**To be taken on Tuesday 16 October 2012 from 8.30 pm**

**9.19 Archbishop Peter Jensen**

This Synod notes that this is the last session of Synod before the retirement of our President Archbishop Peter Jensen in July 2013.

Synod takes this opportunity to express its admiration for the way in which Dr Jensen has presided over this and preceding Synods during the 10 years of his term of office. The skill and patience with which he has guided debates will long be remembered by those who have sat under his Presidency.



Synod gives thanks to Almighty God for the life and work of the President, his evangelical faith, his sharp mind, his wise counsel, his leadership of us in reaching the lost of Sydney and Wollongong through the Diocesan Mission, his representation of the Christian gospel to the secular world and the huge increase in the number of gospel workers who have been raised up during his episcopacy.

His leadership of this Diocese and the national and global Anglican Church has been of incalculable value, and Synod acknowledges its debt to him.

Synod gratefully wishes Dr and Mrs Jensen every happiness and prosperity in the years to come.

(Canon Rick Smith)

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

#### **9.20 Electronic distribution of Synod materials**

Synod, noting the action that has been taken to date in response to resolution 22/8 (Electronic distribution of Synod materials) and resolution 20/11 (Publication of Synod proceedings in electronic form), requests the Standing Committee to bring to the next ordinary session of the Synod a proposal, together with any necessary changes to our ordinances, to discontinue the distribution of materials to Synod members in printed form with effect from the 1st Ordinary Session of the 50th Synod in 2014. The proposal to take into account the needs of Synod members who do not have ready access to high volume printing and the desirability of hard copies for archives and libraries.

(The Rev Nigel Fortescue/Mr Robert Wicks)

#### **9.21 Reduced number of days for Synod in 2013**

Synod supports the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ordinary Session of the 49<sup>th</sup> Synod in 2013 being held over 3 days on Monday 14, Tuesday 15 and Wednesday 16 October, and for this purpose –

- (a) agrees to commence meeting at 2pm and conclude meeting at 10pm on each of those days, and
  - ~~(b) agrees that motions about a proposed ordinance may be considered on each of those days after 3.30pm apart from the unopposed introduction of a proposed ordinance which may be considered before that time,~~
- and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.

(Dr Karin Sowada/Dr Philip Selden)

#### **9.22 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Ordination of Women**

Synod, noting that this year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ordination of women as priests in the Anglican Church of Australia, gives thanks for the ministry of women both ordained and lay in all areas of the Church's life.

(The Rev Philip Bradford/Professor Bernard Stewart)

#### **9.23 Consideration of Synod resolutions 19/11 and 29/11**

Synod notes the comments in the Standing Committee Report paragraphs 8.14 and 8.18 and asks Standing Committee to give due consideration to Synod motions 19/11 and 29/11.

(Mr Doug Marr)

## 9.24 Violence against Christians in Nigeria

Synod –

- (a) expresses dismay at recent reports of the murder in the early hours of Tuesday October 2<sup>nd</sup> of a least 25 Christian University students in Mobe in Northeastern Nigeria, where gunmen went door-to-door in the off-campus student accommodation in search of victims – especially as the attack is the latest in a long list of violent attacks attributed to Boko Haram and other Islamist groups which include bombings and other attacks on churches, the burning of homes where Christians had taken refuge and the murder of pastors, with over 700 deaths attributed to Boko Haram this year alone;
- (b) in accordance with the teaching of Jesus, rejects violence in the cause of religion and calls on all people of good faith to do the same and to work for the freedom to practice religion without fear of violence in every country throughout the world;
- (c) assures our brothers and sisters in Nigeria of our prayerful support as they go through this terrible time of testing and as they seek to use this trouble to witness to the love and mercy of Christ; and
- (d) requests a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Archbishop of Nigeria and the General Secretary of IFES Nigeria (NIFES).

(The Rev Richard Blight)

## 9.25 Director of Ministry Training and Development

This Synod notes that Dean Phillip Jensen concludes his 10 year appointment as the Director of Ministry Training and Development in December 2012.

Synod expresses its gratitude and appreciation for Dean Jensen's leadership of Ministry Training and Development and –

- (a) the systemic changes that have been, and continue to be, implemented to ordained ministry in the Diocese of Sydney;
- (b) the 26% increase in the number of ordained ministers over the last 10 years; and
- (c) the establishment of a culture of training that brings a high degree of commitment to the cause of Christ and the proclamation of the gospel in accordance with the teaching of scripture.

(Bishop Peter Hayward)

## 9.26 Mr Peter Kell

Synod notes that this is Peter Kell's 41<sup>st</sup>, and last ordinary, session of Synod. Synod gives thanks to God for Canon Basil Williams who first encouraged Peter that he might use his time, talent and energy to serve in this forum. Synod further thanks God for Peter's extensive, consistent and long-lasting service of Christ, through his service of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney. This includes various roles at St Michael's Wollongong; in the Wollongong Region; at this Synod, notably as Deputy Chair and Chair of Committees; on the Standing Committee, as Ordinance Reviewer and Chair of Committees; as well as on other committees over the years, including the Moore College Council, the Mission Property Committee, the Mission Board Strategy Committee, and most notably in recent times, as CEO of Anglicare, and as Chairman of the Archbishop's Strategic Commission.

Synod thanks God for Peter's public civic ministry seeking the welfare of the cities in which he has lived and served, both greater Sydney, and his own beloved Wollongong. Synod also acknowledges the sacrificial and loyal support of his wife, Faye.

Synod expresses its appreciation for Peter's clear and logical thinking, his calm and organised manner, his ability to attend both to detail and to the 'big picture', for

his ability to work with a variety of personalities and situations, for his teamwork and loyalty, and especially for his commitment to Christ as Lord and Saviour, to the Scriptures as God's Word, to the gospel as the power of salvation, and to loving good works as the appropriate fruit of the gospel. We pray for God's blessing on Peter and Faye in a continued active retirement.

(Canon Sandy Grant)

#### **9.27 Retirement of the Rev Dr John Woodhouse**

Synod gives thanks to God for the ministry of the Rev Dr John Woodhouse, the Principal of Moore College since 2002, as he plans to retire from the position in early 2013. Spanning nearly four decades, his contribution to the work of the gospel both in our Diocese and throughout the world as a pastor, as a scholar, as a writer and, in particular, as the Principal of the College has been marked by his unwavering commitment to the authority of the Scriptures and his deep and passionate concern for the growth of God's people.

During his time as the Principal, the College has been richly blessed by God with the growth in the number of godly and gifted students and the corresponding expansion of the well-qualified and equipped faculty that have produced significant academic works which do not go unnoticed by the Christian communities around the world. Furthermore, under his leadership, the College has been able to establish a number of significant achievements, including being granted self-accrediting authority by the Federal government for its courses, entering into agreements with various universities to supervise PhD students, establishment of the Pricilla and Aquila Centre for the encouragement of the ministries of women in partnership with men, as well as the Centre of Christian Living for assisting Christians to think theologically about various aspects of social issues. He has also paved the way for the redevelopment of the Newtown campus by overseeing the process of obtaining the approval for the master plan from the State government. In initiating, overseeing and facilitating these often complex and challenging works, his primary concern has always remained with the nurturing of the students and their development as ministers of the gospel.

Synod expresses its most profound gratitude to John and wishes him and his wife Moya God's blessing upon their future life and ministry.

(The Rev Kevin Kim/The Rev Andrew Graham)

#### **9.28 Churches Together NSW/ACT**

This Synod –

- (a) notes that the NSW Ecumenical Council, trading as Churches Together NSW/ACT, of which this Diocese has been a long standing member, has undergone a process of prayerful reflection, evaluation and reinvention, resulting in a simpler structure, as it seeks to encourage and support churches in ecumenical co-operation;
- (b) sends its prayerful good wishes to Churches Together as it seeks to serve the churches and bear witness to Christ; and
- (c) notes that the Diocese is currently not able to make a financial contribution to the work of Churches Together NSW/ACT, but encourages interested individuals and parishes to consider making a financial contribution to the Council as part of their giving.

(The Rev Dr James Collins/The Rev Bruce McAteer)

#### **9.29 Youthworks' 2012 Webby award**

Synod congratulates the CEO and staff of Youthworks on being awarded the 2012 Webby in May 2012, following the adjudication of FERVR as the top internet site in the world in the "Religion and Spirituality" category. Synod assures Youthworks of

its prayerful support as the staff work with churches and schools in Word ministry to children, youth and families, to raise mission-minded disciples for the glory of God. Synod also commends FERVR to all members and leaders of the youth groups in Diocesan churches and schools.

(The Rev Philip Griffin/Mr Graham Slee)

### 9.30 **Prayer for the 2013 Special Session of Synod**

That this Synod, believing that the next Archbishop of Sydney is already known to God, calls upon all parishes to conduct at least one special day of prayer and quiet contemplation before the Special Session of Synod in August 2013, praying that –

- (a) all Synod representatives will approach the Special Session of Synod in a spirit of humility, prayerfulness and unity of purpose;
- (b) all debate and election processes will be conducted to the glory of God; and
- (c) that God will guide Synod members towards the person of His choice.

(Ms Lyn Bannerman/The Rev Phillip Bradford)

### 9.31 **Responding to cases of abuse**

Synod –

- (a) agrees that the protocols of *Faithfulness in Service* should be adhered to by Sydney Anglicans,
- (b) supports transparency and accountability in all dealings with the past failures of any organisation which has, or had, a duty of care toward children to prevent and appropriately respond to cases of abuse,
- (c) grieves with the victims of abuse (and their families) over any form of suffering caused by the actions of ministers or other leaders in any church, and
- (d) is grateful for the ministry and leadership of the Archbishop in responding to instances of abuse within our Diocese.

(The Rev Craig Roberts)

### 9.32 **Biblical view of marriage in Anglican schools**

Synod, noting the contestability within the community of the meaning and significance of marriage, encourages the Heads of all Anglican Schools to ensure that their teaching staff are adequately informed and equipped to explain, promote and defend the biblical view of marriage to their students and school community.

(The Rev Nigel Fortescue/The Rev Ian Millican)

### 9.33 **The Rev Kara Gilbert**

Synod –

- (a) gives thanks for the appointment of Rev Kara Gilbert as the Archdeacon for Women in our Diocese; and
- (b) commits to praying for Ms Gilbert as she seeks to equip, encourage, recruit and train women for ministry throughout the Diocese.

(The Rev Nigel Fortescue/Miss Jane Tooher)



# Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

References to items and motions are references to items and motions in the business paper for Tuesday 9 October 2012.

<b>Tuesday 9 October 2012</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 Relationships Amendment Ordinance 2012 9.2 Discipline Ordinance 2006 Amendment Ordinance 2012 9.3 Amendments to <i>Faithfulness in Service</i> Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7.00 – 7.45 pm	Consideration of Funding Principles and Priorities and acquisition of land for new church sites
7.45 pm +	9.4 Bishopscourt Sale Ordinance 2012 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper

<b>Wednesday 10 October 2012</b>	
3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.30 – 5.45 pm	9.5 Special Religious Education 9.6 Diocesan Policy Statement on Education Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7.00 pm +	9.7 Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2012 9.8 Parochial Cost Recoveries and Church Land Acquisitions Levy Ordinance 2012 Thereafter, other business as per business paper

<b>Monday 15 October 2012</b>	
3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.30 – 5.45 pm	9.9 Towards 2050 9.10 Department of Evangelism and New Churches Ordinance 2010 Amendment Ordinance 2012 Thereafter, other business as per business paper
7.00 – 8.00 pm	Missionary Hour
8.00 pm +	9.11 Thanksgiving for leadership of the Diocesan Mission 9.12 Review of the Diocesan Mission and the next phase of mission 9.13 United Mission Campaign in 2014 9.14 Actions of the Bishop of Gippsland Thereafter, other business as per business paper

<b>Tuesday 16 October 2012</b>	
3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.30 – 5.45 pm	9.15 Shoalhaven Heads: Reclassification as a Parish 9.16 Minchinbury: Reclassification as a Parish Business as per the business paper
7.00 – 8.30 pm	9.17 <i>Common Prayer: Resources for Gospel-Shaped Gatherings</i> 9.18 Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission
8.30 pm +	9.19 Archbishop Peter Jensen Thereafter, other business as per the business paper