

North Sydney Regional Council Annual Report 2001

Regionalism

1. When the current shape of regionalism was set up by Synod in 1997, it must be said that we were reluctant starters. But we have to make regionalism work, for it gives a sense of identity to the Northern Region. It's the region to which we belong. So we have this annual Regional Conference and other conferences from time to time, Annual Dinners, several Lecture Series and Special events. As part of our strategy Regional Council has appointed a number of Task Forces to cover key areas -

Finance & Administration, Communication, Children & Youth, Special Ministries (CCM) & a Parish Review Panel

2. In 1997 our budget for the Northern Region was a modest \$130,000. Next year our allocation will be \$330,000. As well Regional Council will take over the disbursement of the *Parish Assistance Fund*.

Evangelism

3. It has been our long term goal to encourage a "*culture of evangelism*" in every parish of the region. This led to the appointment of John Dickson as our first part-time evangelist and trainer, based at St. Clement's Mosman. Then came the appointment of Barry Newman with a different style of parish evangelism - working in one parish at a time from Sunday to Sunday and various speaking opportunities during the week. Many parishes in the region have reaped the benefits from John and Barry's leadership in evangelism and outreach, with their contrasting styles. Barry will conduct a mission at St. John's Asquith from this Sunday.

4. A number of parishes have used the resources of the Department of Evangelism, and also Kim Hawtrey from *Impact Evangelism*.

5. If John Dickson is unavailable in 2002 then Regional Council wants to appoint another ½ time evangelist next year and will budget accordingly.

Children & families - John & Deborah Clewer

6. John began his ministry with us in February as the region's Specialist Children's Worker, very ably supported by Deborah.

7. They have their own web site with excellent resources including puppetry. Just this month we were able to increase John's employment from 3 to 4 days. John is already getting around the parishes and following up a survey of your needs in the area of children's ministry which is closely linked to reaching

families. He is working in conjunction with the SRE ministry of Cathy Hewitt and Youthworks.

Specialist ministries

8. These are conducted by -
- Cathy Hewett (Youthworks)
 - Cathy Leader (Parish Support Worker, Anglicare)
 - Rosemary Anderson (ESL / CCM)
 - Youth ministry in the parishes of - Berowra, Denistone East, Frenchs Forest, Hornsby Heights, Longueville, Narrabeen, Pymble, Roseville, Roseville East, St Ives, Turramurra & West Pymble
 - Lay Stipendiary / Pastoral Workers spread right across the region
 - TAFE (Phil Hirons and Ruth Mahaffey)

Revitalisation of parishes

9. Examples of revitalisation of parishes are -
- Successful church plants at Naremburn & Cammeray led by teams from St Thomas' North Sydney
 - Parishes like Frenchs Forest, West Ryde & Harbord have been revitalised & are moving ahead
 - Out of 64 parishes in the region 9 are provisional with 3 of them working steadily towards full parish status - West Ryde, Harbord & Christ Church North Sydney

Church plants (2002-2004)

10. The following areas of ministry for the future are being considered -

- Warriewood Valley (in Mona Vale parish)
- Chinese fellowship in Hornsby for Mandarin speakers
- The CCM task force has identified major ethnic groups in the region
 - Chinese (both Cantonese & Mandarin)
 - Japanese (from Frenchs Forest through to Northbridge)
 - Korean
 - Smaller groups from Iran & Afghanistan (Hornsby area)

Schools & Chaplaincies

11. There are numerous chaplaincies in the Northern Region -

Schools	Shore	Ian Powell - to be replaced by Matthew Pickering
	Barker	Jeff Ware & Graham Errington (large school community)
	Abbotsleigh	Colin Watson

	St Luke's Grammar Roseville College Arden	Philip Andrew (there has been a church plant) Mark Calder & Elizabeth Smart Geoff Collison
Hospitals	RNS Hornsby & Kuringai Macquarie Hope Health Care	Ross Weaver (after nearly 3 years Ross will finish up & move to Hope Health Care) Dianne Jeffrey (Anglicare) John Wise (Anglicare) John Henderson

12. We are grateful for these ministries working alongside and strengthening the parishes.

13. The Northern Regional Council believes that great benefits flow from parishes working together, especially those side by side. This is helpful for 'synergy-in-ministries' but also for encouragement to those engaged in work that is sometimes lonely and discouraging.

For and on behalf of the North Sydney Regional Council.

PAUL BARNETT
Regional Bishop

20 June 2001