

## Annual Report of the Standing Committee

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### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1 Charter

This report covers actions taken by the Standing Committee since the October 1993 Synod session. The duties of the Standing Committee, under the Standing Committee Ordinance 1897 and numerous other ordinances, include -

- (a) Considering and reporting upon matters referred to it by the Synod and carrying out the resolutions of the Synod.
- (b) Making ordinances concerning church trust property.
- (c) Preparing and administering the diocesan budget.
- (d) Making arrangements for Synod sessions and preparing and proposing business for the Synod.
- (e) Acting as a council of advice to the Archbishop (the "Archbishop-in-Council").
- (f) Appointing persons to fill casual vacancies among persons elected by the Synod to boards etc.
- (g) Monitoring the financial affairs of diocesan organisations.

More of the duties of the Standing Committee are referred to in item 3.5 of the *7th Handbook*.

#### 1.2 Access

The Standing Committee meets in St Andrew's House, Sydney Square and mail should be addressed to "The Diocesan Secretary, Standing Committee of Synod, PO Box Q190 Queen Victoria Building, Sydney NSW 2000" (telephone (02) 2651 555 and Fax (02) 261 4485). Office hours are 9 am to 5 pm.

#### 1.3 Meetings and Members

Since 11 October 1994, the Standing Committee has met 12 times and a further 2 meetings are anticipated before the Synod meets on 10 October 1995. The members at the date of this report were -

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<i>The Archbishop</i> Archbishop R.H. Goodhew	<i>The Chancellor</i> Mr Justice K.R. Handley
<i>The Assistant Bishops</i> Bishop P.W. Barnett Bishop B.F.V. King Bishop R.J. Piper Bishop R.G. Smith Bishop P.R. Watson	<i>The Registrar</i> Archdeacon W.S. Skillicorn  <i>The Secretaries of Synod</i> The Rev C.J. Moroney Mr W.G.S. Gotley
<i>The Archdeacons</i> Archdeacon A.F. Donohoo Archdeacon G.R. Huard Archdeacon P.F. Perini Archdeacon R.T. Platt Archdeacon L.M. Stoddart	<i>Laypersons Elected by Synod</i> Professor C.R. Bellenger Mr N.M. Cameron Mr G.A. Collins Mr R.S. Dredge Mr D.J. Fairfull Mr P.C.G. Gerber Dr K. Hawtrey Mrs E.C. Holley Dr S.E. Judd Mr R.H.Y. Lambert Mr A.D. McCarthy Mr I.C. Miller Dr B.C. Newman Mr P.T. Nicholson Mr W.B. Nicholson Mr W.H. Olson Dr S.F. Piggin Deaconess M.A. Rodgers Ms K. Sowada Mr R. Tong Mr R.I. West Mr Justice P.W. Young
<i>The Dean of St Andrew's Cathedral</i> Dean B.A. Jobbins	
<i>Clergymen Elected by Synod</i> Canon L.F. Bartlett The Rev T.K. Dein Canon R.C. Forsyth The Rev N. Jarrett The Rev P.D. Jensen Canon P.F. Jensen The Rev Dr W.J. Lawton The Rev J.R. Livingstone The Rev Dr P.T. O'Brien The Rev J. Ramsay The Rev P.J. Tasker Canon B.C. Wilson The Rev Dr J.W. Woodhouse	

Professor Chris Bellenger has been appointed as Professor of Veterinary Surgery at University College, Dublin from 1 September 1995 and he leaves for Ireland this month. We wish him well in his new appointment and assure him and his family of our prayers that they will quickly find new Christian friends. The vacancy created by his resignation is reported in the Notice of Elections Required.

The Archbishop has appointed Archdeacon Paul Perini as Archdeacon for Ordination and Ministry Development. Archdeacon Perini remains as Archdeacon of South Sydney until replaced in that office. He will not be a member of the Standing Committee when he takes up his new role full-time but he will attend meetings of the Standing Committee by invitation, having the right to speak but not to vote.

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#### **1.4 Management and Structure**

The work of the Standing Committee is done through individuals, committees and the staff of the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat. The major committees of the Standing Committee are listed in item 3.5 of the *7th Handbook*. We are grateful for the people who served on our committees during the year.

#### **1.5 Major Activities Since October 1994**

The major activities since October 1994 have been -

- (a) The preparation of legislation for the Synod on Regionalism.
- (b) The forwarding of the Preaching and Administration of Holy Communion by Lay Persons and Deacons Ordinance 1995 to the Appellate Tribunal.
- (c) The preparation of the Synod Appropriations Ordinance 1995 and the administration of the Diocesan Income and Expenditure Ordinance 1994.
- (d) The filling of casual vacancies on committees etc.
- (e) The passing of 37 ordinances.
- (f) The preparation of other business for this Synod session.

### **2. Parish Administration**

#### **2.1 Actions Under the Extra-Parochial Ordinance 1919 and the School Chapels and Chaplains Ordinance 1975**

The Archbishop-in-Council has declared the Tara Anglican School for Girls and the St Luke's Grammar School Dee Why as extra-parochial. Page 111 of the 1995 Year Book has a list of the buildings, institutions and schools which have been declared extra-parochial under the 1919 and 1975 Ordinances.

#### **2.2 Actions under the Parishes Ordinance 1979**

PARC recommends that Merrylands/South Granville become a parish from 1 January 1996, and that Quakers Hill become a provisional parish from 1 January 1996.

The Standing Committee declared that the "local revenues" test should not apply to the Parish of Leura for 1991.

The Archbishop declared Lilyfield to be an Assisted Provisional Parish for 3 years from 1 January 1995.

The Standing Committee amalgamated the parishes of Botany/Mascot/Eastlakes and Pagewood to form the parish of Pagewood and altered the boundaries of Pagewood and Kensington with effect from 12 December 1994 and 1 January 1995 respectively. The Archbishop changed the parish name from Pagewood to Eastgardens from 6 April 1995.

For 1994 the following parishes did not meet the "local revenues" test under clause 8 of the Ordinance.

<i>1993 and 1994</i>	<i>1994</i>
Bexley	Arncliffe
Malabar	Enmore with Stanmore
Northbridge	Mortdale
North Ryde	
South Sydney	
Sydney - St Michael	

This year there are no parishes which have not met the test for 3 consecutive years. The threshold of local revenues for 1994 was \$37,900.

### **2.3 Actions under the Presentation and Exchange Ordinance 1988**

The Archbishop-in-Council -

- (a) was not required to determine any disputes under this Ordinance; and
- (b) approved of the parish representatives for Springwood being elected by the annual vestry meetings of Springwood (4) and Winmalee (1).

### **2.4 Actions under the Church Administration Ordinance 1990 and the Church Grounds and Buildings Ordinance 1990**

The Archbishop-in-Council modified the constitutions of the parish councils of Concord West with Concord North, Pagewood (now Eastgardens) and Yagoona. The parish of Concord West with Concord North was given authority to have a combined annual vestry meeting.

In relation to the parish of Peakhurst, a disputes committee ruled that a vestry meeting held on 1 May 1994 was conducted substantially in accordance with this Ordinance, that no injury had been caused and that no further meeting was required to be called.

Further, the disputes committee ruled that another vestry meeting held on 22 May 1994 at Peakhurst was properly called and conducted.

## **3. Financial and Property Administration**

### **3.1 Accounts Ordinance 1975**

A supplementary report will be made on the audited accounts and annual reports of diocesan organisations, lodged under clauses 7 and 8 of the Accounts Ordinance 1975.

MADCOM did not respond to requests from the Standing Committee and Synod in 1994 to lodge audited accounts and a

liquidity report for 1993. As the 1994 audited accounts and liquidity report had not been lodged by the due date (30 June 1995), the Standing Committee has withheld \$13,000 from the Synod grant to MADCOM pending receipt of the 1993 and 1994 documents. Grants of about \$100,000 were paid to MADCOM during 1993 and 1994.

In the circumstances, the Standing Committee has called on the members of MADCOM to furnish the documents.

### 3.2 Audited Accounts of the Standing Committee

The Standing Committee has the custody of all property belonging to the Synod. The Secretariat keeps the Standing Committee's books of account and the audited accounts of the Synod Fund for 1994 have been printed with this report. The 1994 audited accounts of the Sydney Diocesan Account, a group of small sub-trusts and clearing accounts, will be tabled at the Synod session.

### 3.3 Ordination Training Fund

Bursaries of \$304,485 were paid direct to Moore Theological College in 1994 as an offset to the fees of candidates for ordination in our Diocese (\$274,118 in 1993).

### 3.4 Ordinances Passed Since last Report

The following table shows the numbers of ordinances passed and assented to for the years 1989 to 1994 and for 1995 so far.

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Standing Committee	40	40	55	46	43	48	22
Synod	12	15	10	7	17	9	-
	52	55	65	53	60	57	22

A list of the ordinances passed by the Standing Committee since the last report to Synod has been printed with this report and an updated list will be tabled at the Synod session.

A great deal of time has been taken up with the processing of a bill for an ordinance to authorise the sale of the Peakhurst church properties, which is part of a proposal for the amalgamation of the Parishes of Peakhurst and Mortdale. The ordinance was passed with amendments. The amalgamation proposal has not been received by the Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee reconstituted the Tara Anglican Girls' School, at the request of the Council, the details being -

	Old Constitution	New Constitution
The Archbishop Elected by Synod -	1	1
Clergy	6	5
Lay	6	5
Appointed by the Council	2	2
Appointed by the Archbishop	-	2
	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>

The Standing Committee has appointed a committee to review the composition of church school councils, some members of which are elected by Synod or appointed by the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat or the St Andrew's Cathedral Chapter, on a range of matters (including size, method of election, mix of members, appointment of chairpersons, limitation on tenure, etc).

To achieve economies, the Standing Committee has been interested in reducing the numbers of central executive-type committees having financial activities and some time ago it called for the consideration of a proposal to unite the Finance and Loans Board and the Car Board.

The Finance and Loans Board has promoted an ordinance to revamp its constitution and the Standing Committee has requested the consideration of a proposal to replace the present members of the Finance and Loans Board and the Car Board with the members of the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat. An ordinance is to be prepared for the consideration of all parties.

### 3.5 Ordinance Fees and Large Receipts

The Standing Committee approved the following scale of fees from 1 January 1996 -

	\$
Ordinances requiring a Review Panel	1,000
Other complex Ordinances	500
Other Ordinances	240
Synod Ordinances	Nil *

\* But a contribution may be sought towards printing costs.

These costs are based on a 76% to 83% recovery of costs, and equate favourably with the cost of briefing solicitors and barristers for an Equity Court hearing, which is an alternative.

To address the uncertainty of what is required of the promoters of ordinances with 'large receipts', to reduce the potential for ill-feeling that can be generated through hearings of ordinances with large receipts, and to be an ongoing benefit to the whole Diocese by boosting the capital of the Diocesan Endowment in a time of easing revenue (see item 25 of the report on the Synod

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Appropriations Ordinance 1995), the Standing Committee has approved the following guidelines.

*Church Trust Property*

1. Property is "church trust property" if it is subject to any trust for or for the use, benefit or purposes of the Anglican Church in the Diocese of Sydney or any parochial unit or diocesan organisation in the Diocese.
2. All church property in this Diocese has been donated to trustees, or has been acquired with money placed in the hands of trustees, for the purposes of parochial units or diocesan organisations or for specific or general purposes within the Diocese.
3. Church trusts are not private trusts for the benefit of individual beneficiaries but are charitable trusts under which the property (subject to the power to vary those trusts under S32 of the Anglican Church of Australia Trust Property Act 1917) is devoted to designated purposes in perpetuity. It is not held on trust solely for a group of persons who may have the right to use it for the time being and the obligation to maintain it.
4. When an Ordinance is promoted to provide for the sale or lease of church trust property the Standing Committee represents the interest of the Diocese as a whole and has established these guidelines to assist promoters in an appropriate sharing with the Diocese.

*Large Receipts*

5. The Synod and the Standing Committee have recognised that many sale ordinances (and some leasing ordinances) may contain a "windfall" element.
6. Among several Synod and Standing Committee resolutions on this subject, 3 can be summarised as -
  - (a) Where parishes have greatly enhanced receipts which are beyond their reasonable needs, then the surplus should be shared with the rest of the Diocese.
  - (b) It is not in the interests of any parish to be in a position where free-will offerings of the people are not needed to maintain its work.
  - (c) Parishes should review their resources and incomes to identify any which might be allocated to new housing areas.
7. A bill for an ordinance involves a "Large Receipt" if -
  - (a) expected sale proceeds exceed \$300,000; or
  - (b) expected leasing income exceeds \$20,000 pa.

*Sharing with the rest of the Diocese*

8. The normal expectation for a large receipt is that 15% of the proceeds will be added to the capital of the Diocesan Endowment and benefit the Diocese generally by helping to increase distributions of income available to the Synod.

9. A higher percentage may be appropriate if the large receipt exceeds \$1million.

10. In addition to any allocation under 7 or 8 the promoters of an ordinance may recommend specific allocations for parochial or extra-parochial purposes.

11. A bill for an ordinance meeting these guidelines would not normally be referred to an ordinance review panel.

12. *The promoters of a bill may give reasons why these guidelines should not be followed for their bill."*

**3.6 Distributions of Funds Under Ordinances**

Several distributions of funds were approved -

*St Matthew's Botany Variation of Trust and Sale Ordinance 1973:* \$12,000 to carpet the St Matthew's Church, Botany.

*Richmond (Agnes Banks) Sale Ordinance 1992:* \$7,000 to repay a parishioner's loan and to repair the hall and rectory.

*Thornleigh (DMR) Sale and Variation of Trusts Ordinance 1985:* \$32,400 to repair and modify church buildings to provide parish worker accommodation.

*Pitt Town Land Sale and Variation of Trusts Ordinance 1984:* \$10,000 for the refurbishment and renovation of the Rectory.

*St Clement's Marrickville Vesting and Variation of Trusts and Land Sale Ordinance 1973:* the balance of capital and income (\$7,664) for repairs to the Church.

*Berrima cum Moss Vale Land Sale Ordinance 1983:* the balance of capital and income (\$16,475) towards development and capital works on parish buildings.

*West Wollongong Land Sale Ordinance 1994:* \$9,031 towards the maintenance and refurbishment of the church building.

*Hurlstone Park Sale Ordinance 1983:* \$18,000 for MADCOM for an English as Second Language Co-ordinator.

*Milsons Point Sale Ordinance 1985:* \$5,000 to HMS to help support an Anglican evangelist to the Chinese.

### 3.7 Assessment Authorisation Ordinance 1975

Upon the discovery of an error, assessment relief of \$1,431 was granted to Burwood.

Any gift of \$3,000 or more by 1 donor is an allowable deduction for assessment purposes. That limit was lowered to \$2,500 from 1 January 1995.

### 3.8 Arrears of Assessments Payable by Parochial Units

The following table compares the arrears as at 15 August 1993 and 1994, and 31 July 1995.

	1993 \$	1994 \$	1995 \$
<b>Arrangements to Pay</b>			
Annandale	2,870.00	4,990.00	3,440.00
Ermington	5,185.00	4,997.25	-
Kurrajong	-	3,517.50	-
Littleton	-	2,000.00	-
Minto	5,699.75	2,419.75	-
<b>No Arrangements</b>			
Abbotsford	6,424.50	-	-
Ashbury	-	-	-
Auburn - St Philip	3,710.50	6,597.00	-
Berrima	2,120.75	-	-
Bexley	-	-	700.00
Blakehurst	922.00	-	-
Canley Heights	-	-	1,400.00
Canterbury	-	-	700.00
Chester Hill	-	-	2,800.00
Drummoyne	-	-	1,606.00
Dulwich Hill	-	1,000.00	-
Forestville	3,046.50	1,851.25	-
Greenwich	-	1,786.25	-
Harbord	-	-	1,400.00
Hunters Hill	-	976.00	-
Northmead	-	3,088.75	-
Nowra	2,824.00	-	-
Picton	-	-	2,272.00
Richmond	-	1,426.25	-
Robertson	-	1,000.00	-
Rooty Hill	-	-	2,779.00
Rozelle	1,594.00	-	-
Sydney - Holy Trinity	-	-	700.00
Wentworthville	2,716.00	1,000.00	-
West Ryde	1,948.50	5,897.00	4,217.00
West Wollongong	-	2,767.75	-
Wilberforce	901.00	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<u>39,962.50</u>	<u>45,314.75</u>	<u>22,014.00</u>

### 3.9 St Peter's Hornsby Variation of Trusts and Land Sale Ordinance 1978

This Fund is held upon trust to apply the income as directed by ordinance of the Synod. Appropriations of income feature regularly in diocesan income and expenditure ordinances. A condition at the time the Fund was created was that interest-free loans be made to St Mark's Berowra and St Luke's Hornsby Heights. As at 27 July 1995, the status of these interest-free loans was -

	<i>Berowra</i>	<i>Hornsby Heights</i>
Balance owing		\$18,139
\$42,300		
Annual Repayment Rate	\$1,000	\$7,600

The repayment rate of the Hornsby Heights loan will be reviewed by 31 December 1995 and the Berowra loan by 31 December 1996.

### 3.10 Parramatta '54 Free Fund

This Fund is held upon trust to distribute the income among objects of the Diocese of Sydney determined by the Archbishop-in-Council. A distribution of \$7,000 was made this year towards hospitality costs of the 1995 Australian Bishops' Conference (\$7,000 for 1994) held at Gilbulla.

### 3.11 Endowment of the See (Various Approvals)

The stipends, allowances, superannuation, long service leave, housing and office costs of the Archbishop, assistant bishops, the registrar and archdeacons, the salaries of the deputy registrar, and registry staff (including the archivists), and the stipend, allowances, superannuation, long service leave and housing costs of the Dean are met from the Endowment of the See. These costs are not a charge on Synod funds.

During the year, provision was made to pay the stipend etc of the Archdeacon for Women's Ministry from the Endowment of the See, less the amount provided by the Synod, and to pay the following grants to the Anglican Media Council -

	1995	1996
	\$	\$
Contributions for Media Work for the Archbishop	25,000	25,000
Research Officer for Briefing Documents	9,375	15,000
	<u>34,375</u>	<u>40,000</u>

### 3.12 Estate of Late M.A. Grant (Sisters' Endowment)

The Archbishop-in-Council appropriated \$60,000 from this Estate for distribution by the Archbishop in assisting clergy, clergy widows and clergy children or orphans who are in need.

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### **3.13 Increases in Borrowing Limits**

Increased borrowing limits were approved for 2 organisations.

### **3.14 Crawford Village Parramatta North**

The Standing Committee has passed an ordinance reconstituting the Crawford Village Board so that the members are 3, 4 or 5 members of the ARV Board appointed by that body.

Planning for the redevelopment of Crawford Village has proceeded but extensive delays have occurred through heritage processes, which may jeopardise the whole project and require the sale of the site. This will have serious implications for the parish and the Endowment of the See, which has a \$1.9m investment in the project.

### **3.15 Superannuation for Senior Assistant Ministers and Lay Ministers**

The Standing Committee has resolved that from 1 January 1996 superannuation contributions for assistant ministers and lay ministers with 7 or more years experience will be equal to the contribution for ministers.

### **3.16 Clerical Enquiries: the Rev D.W. Gilmour & Pymble**

In passing the Diocesan Income and Expenditure Ordinance 1994, the Synod earmarked \$80,000 from Contingencies for possible payment of legal assistance to the Rev David Gilmour, should the Standing Committee so decide.

Under the Incapacity and Inefficiency Ordinance 1906, the Archbishop removed David Gilmour from the Parish of Pymble on 1 December 1994.

The Standing Committee, through 2 of its members, negotiated a settlement with David Gilmour of \$65,000 towards his legal fees, a deed of settlement has been signed and the money has been paid to his solicitor at David's request.

## **4. General Administration**

### **4.1 Elections**

The appointment of persons to serve on committees etc, the filling of casual vacancies among the members of organisations under ordinances and resolutions of the Synod, and the appointment of persons to represent the Diocese on other organisations is an important part of the business of the Standing Committee.

From October 1994 to July 1995, 65 such positions were filled (215 for the same period last year). This includes persons elected to the committees in item 1.4.

## **4.2 Copyright**

A circular is being prepared by the Legal Officer on this complex matter. See item 6.3 for a report on Copyright Licences for Parishes.

## **4.3 Employment Policy**

The Standing Committee has passed the following resolutions on this subject.

“.... Standing Committee requests that job information be sent, where appropriate, to the minister and churchwardens.

.... Standing Committee recommends that for an initial trial period of 2 years all organisations .... be requested to advertise all job vacancies which are full time, permanent, or greater than 0.5 full time for longer than 6 months, in the new diocesan newspaper, and requests other diocesan organisations to adopt a similar policy and to report their response to the request.

.... Standing Committee requests the Secretariat, HMS Council, ARV Board, Moore Theological College Council, the Council of Trinity Grammar School, the Council of St Catherine’s School Waverley and the Anglican Media Council to review their personnel recruitment and employment policies and their implementation and provide the Standing Committee with reports detailing current policy of their organisations.

.... Standing Committee requests that the reports referred to in the previous motion form the basis for discussion of a possible diocesan employment policy.

.... Standing Committee requests the Doctrine Commission to prepare a report for the 1997 Synod on the biblical doctrine of work.

.... Standing Committee requests the Principal and Council of Moore College and the Director of Post Ordination Training to consider if the training of clergy may be usefully amended to enable ministers to better understand, support and equip church members for ordinary working lives in the world.”

## **4.4 Outdoor Education and Conference Centres**

We reported last year that the future of Gilbulla as a diocesan conference centre was under review.

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We have received an updated business plan from the Gilbulla Board and noted encouraging financial results for the year to March 1995.

The Board has been encouraged to pursue its objectives, with a further review no later than 31 March 1996.

#### **4.5 Parish Counselling Services**

Having received a request from a few parishes for confirmation of professional indemnity insurance cover for parish counselling services, the Property Trust advised the Standing Committee that it was concerned about the cost of this cover. This cost is part of the overall cost of parish insurances funded by the Synod.

There are at least 2 types of parish counselling services.

- (a) Where parish property is used by a professional counselling service under a lease or licence agreement.
- (b) Where counselling is provided by employees of a parish and/or voluntary workers.

Insurance for the first type of counselling service is clear: the proprietors of the counselling service must pay for their own insurance and the churchwardens should sight the insurance policy.

Insurance for the second type of counselling service is not clear and raises questions. A committee has been established to report on the matter with a view to the Standing Committee establishing guidelines and/or making a policy statement for the guidance of the Property Trust and parishes.

#### **4.6 Use of Parish Buildings for Public Entertainment Taking Deposits from Parishioners Termination of Employment**

Circulars on these matters were sent to Ministers and Churchwardens, and have been reprinted with this report.

#### **4.7 Pre-Schools, Kindergartens, Schools, Colleges or Similar activities Operated by Parishes**

Since October 1994, the Standing Committee has not consented to the commencement by any parish or church of any new pre-school, kindergarten, school or college or similar educational activity requiring governmental registration, licence or authorisation. This consent is not required for an activity commenced under a lease or licence granted by the Property Trust.

There is a list of the previously approved pre-schools etc on page 308 of the 1992 Year Book and in 1993 the Standing Committee consented to a pre-school being started by the Parish of Manly. This year the Standing Committee approved of the continuation of a pre-school at Northbridge, which has had a pre-school for many

years but through oversight was not included in the 1991 approvals.

There are 5 groups of pre-schools etc within the Diocese, being -

- (a) those under the Sydney Anglican Pre-Schools Council operated by "local committees";
- (b) those approved under clause 12 of the 1990 Ordinance that receive government funding;
- (c) those approved under clause 12 of the 1990 Ordinance that do not receive government funding;
- (d) those that are not approved pursuant to clause 12 but are nevertheless operating (and may have been doing so before the introduction of the 1990 Ordinance); and
- (e) those operated privately under licence agreements.

The Department of Community Services ("DOCS") now requires that parish pre-schools etc must be incorporated to receive funding from the New South Wales Government. This involves the group in item (b), some of which have already incorporated.

To enable parish pre-schools etc to qualify for Government funding, the Standing Committee has paid for the preparation of standard documents and advised each parish to incorporate its pre-school etc under the Associations Incorporation Act, adapting those standard documents to fit the situation.

## 5. General and Provincial Synod Matters

### 5.1 1995 General Synod Session

The 10th General Synod was held from 2 to 7 July 1995 in Melbourne. A separate report has been printed on General Synod matters.

### 5.2 Provincial Synod Session

The Provincial Synod met at Gilbulla in February 1994. The 1902 Constitution was revised: see the report on the Provincial Synod - Constitution Ordinance 1994 Adopting Ordinance 1995 which was deferred by the Sydney Synod last year.

## 6. Sydney Synod Matters

### 6.1 Resolutions Passed by the Synod in 1994/95 and not Otherwise Mentioned in this Report

Circulars were sent to parishes and organisations about the matters arising from the 1994/95 Synod session. Copies of Synod resolutions were sent to appropriate persons and organisations.

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## **6.2 12/84 Conduct of Marriage Services Involving Divorced Persons**

This resolution asked the Diocesan Doctrine Commission to draw up guidelines to assist in deciding whether a marriage service should be conducted if it involves a divorced person whose previous partner is still living.

The Doctrine Commission believes this referral is now effectively irrelevant.

## **6.3 7/94 Copyright Licences for Parishes**

Synod resolution 7/94 was -

“This Synod requests Standing Committee to continue the investigation concerning the option of obtaining copyright licences which would make available to all parochial units in the Diocese a wide range of music to be used in conjunction with overhead projector equipment, and to report back to the Synod after such investigations (including likely costs and the desirability of this resource for parishes).”

In 1994 the Standing Committee reported that discussions were taking place with Christian Copyright Licencing Incorporated (“CCLI”) on the development of a diocesan copyright licence.

A further meeting took place with representatives of CCLI and, in March 1995, CCLI was invited to put a formal proposal and they are working on it. Before the proposal is submitted, CCLI must widen the scope of its copyright licence so that it permits the photocopying of music.

## **6.4 10/94 Experimental Sunday Services: Wording of the Creeds**

This resolution asked the Diocesan Doctrine Commission to prepare a report for distribution to parishes explaining and commenting on the changes in wording to the Creeds in the Experimental Sunday Services booklet.

The Doctrine Commission believes this referral is irrelevant now that the Anglican Prayer Book for Australia has passed in the General Synod.

## **6.5 14/94 Retirement Housing for Church Workers**

Synod resolution 14/94 asked the Standing Committee to investigate alternative accommodation or remuneration packages that enabled church workers to retire with equity in a residence.

The mover of the resolution, the Rev T.K. Dein, was invited to prepare a report for the Standing Committee, but he has been unable to do so. We have appointed a committee comprising the Rev J.A. Burrows, Mr R.S. Dredge, Dr K. Hawtrey, Archdeacon L.M. Stoddart and the Rev T.K. Dein (chairman and convenor) to

investigate the matters raised in the Synod resolution and report to the Standing Committee by 31 March 1996.

#### **6.6 Retirements Ordinance 1993**

Proposals for the amendment of this ordinance are being considered to provide for the Regional Bishops, rather than the Retirements Board, to make recommendations to the Archbishop on extensions of service for parish clergy.

#### **6.7 Divorced Persons, Marriage of Christian Teachers, Programme to Recruit (35/92)**

The persons responsible for these matters did not lodge reports within the main Synod printing deadlines.

#### **6.8 Clergy Discipline Ordinance 1994**

The second reading of the bill for this Ordinance was deferred by the Synod in 1993 and again in 1994. Instead of reprinting the bill again, it has been referred to the Select Committee re Clerical Enquiries.

#### **6.9 Special Reports**

A number of special reports have been printed as supplements to this report: see the Contents pages for details.

#### **6.10 Ordinances for this Session**

The drafting and language of bills for ordinances for this session promoted by request of the Standing Committee or Synod has been or will have been examined by members of the Standing Committee's Ordinance Drafting Panel before the Synod meets. See the Contents pages for details.

The only bill not "by request of Synod or Standing Committee" is the Elections Ordinance 1970 Amendment Ordinance 1995" which is printed now so that members will have the text.

For and on behalf of the Standing Committee

WARREN GOTLEY  
*Diocesan Secretary*

11 October 1995