

**First Session of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Synod**  
**Daily Papers**  
**18 September 2023**

Business Paper

Anglican Church Diocese of Sydney

## **Bible passage: Monday 18 September 2023**

### **2 Corinthians 4:16 – 5:10**

Dr Ian McFarlane

<sup>16</sup> Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. <sup>18</sup> So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

<sup>5</sup> For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. <sup>2</sup> Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, <sup>3</sup> because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. <sup>4</sup> For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup> Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

<sup>6</sup> Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. <sup>7</sup> For we live by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup> We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup> So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. <sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

**Song:** I will glory in my Redeemer

(Steve and Vikki Cook)

# Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

## First Session of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Synod Business Paper: Monday 18 September 2023

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- A notation “B#” refers to Bills and “M#” refers to motions which are provided in the attached schedule: Bills and motions for the consideration of the Synod.
- The Synod Standing Orders are found on page 399 in Book 3: the Synod Standing Orders Ordinance 2019. See Part 5 of the Synod Standing Orders for ordinance procedures.

1. Prayers are read by the President or a person appointed by him.
2. Bible study is led by the Rev Andrew Rees.
3. Minutes of 13 September 2023
4. Answers to questions asked 12 September

### 4.1 Parish statistics

The Rev Dr Raj Gupta asked the following question –

For each year, 2010-2022, what is the:

- (a) Total parish adjusted net operating receipts including Jobkeeper receipts
- (b) Total parish adjusted net operating receipts excluding Jobkeeper receipts
- (c) Total parish offertories
- (d) Total average attendance
- (e) Total number of licenced clergy

### 4.2 NCLS statistics

The Rev Dominic Steele asked the following question –

In the recent NCLS survey of the Diocese what were the statistics for Sydney Anglicans in the following areas (most recent survey, vs 2011 results) –

- (a) Percentage of members expressing a willingness to talk intentionally about their faith?
- (b) Percentage of members having invited someone to church in the last 12 months?
- (c) Percentage of newcomers in church?
- (d) Percentage of members reporting much growth in faith?
- (e) Percentage of members reporting time spent in prayer, bible reading, meditation, every day/most days?
- (f) Percentage of members reporting their use of gifts ‘to a great extent’?
- (g) Percentage of members born in non-English speaking countries?
- (h) Percentage of our members children retained in church?
- (i) In the period 2011-2020 how many new churches were planted in Greenfields areas?
- (j) In the period 2011-2020 in how many mission areas was the goal of planting two new churches per mission area achieved?

### 4.3 Anglican Church Property Trust

Canon Alistair Seabrook asked the following question –

In each of the past five calendar years –

- (a) How many parishes and organisations have written (emails or letters) to the Archbishop, Bishops, Archdeacons and Executive Assistants to the Bishops to express minor frustrations regarding the work of the ACPT?
- (b) How many parishes and organisations have written (emails or letters) to the Archbishop, Bishops, Archdeacons and Executive Assistant to the Bishops to express serious concerns or complaints regarding the work of the ACPT?
- (c) How many parishes and organisations have written (emails or letters) to the Archbishop, Bishops, Archdeacons and Executive Assistants to the Bishops to express satisfaction regarding the work of the ACPT?
- (d) How many parishes or organisations have received written apologies (emails or letters) from the ACPT board for issues identified in (a) or (b)?
- (e) How many parishes or organisations have received financial compensation from the ACPT board for issues identified in (a) or (b)?

## 5. Answers to questions asked 13 September

### 5.1 Modifications made under certain ordinances

Mr Samuel Doherty asked the following question –

- (a) Which parishes, if any, have had their parish councils modified under rule 2.5 of schedule 1 of the *Parish Administration Ordinance 2008*? And in each case, if any, what was the modification made?
- (b) Which parishes, if any, have had their parish councils modified under rule 2.5 of schedule 2 of the *Parish Administration Ordinance 2008*? And in each case, if any, what was the modification made?
- (c) Which multi-church parishes, if any, have had the election of their parish-elected nominators modified under clause 34(3) of the *Nomination Ordinance 2006*? And in each case, if any, what was the modification made?

### 5.2 Retirements Ordinance 1993

Mr Samuel Doherty asked the following question –

In each year from 2018 to 2022, how many rectors, if any, applied for an extension of retirement age under the *Retirements Ordinance 1993*? And how many, if any, were granted?

### 5.3 Palliative care

Mr Chris Hamam asked the following question –

In follow up to the last question by beloved Synod representative, the late Professor Penelope Coombes, asked at 5.1 on the business paper dated 19 September 2022:

- (a) What work has the diocese done in that regard of palliative care?
- (b) Where may we see the relevant material in current synod policies, procedures, motions, ordinances and other documents/etc?
- (c) Where may we see the relevant material in government policies, procedures, legislation, court rulings, and other documents/etc?
- (d) May Professor Coombes' last question and the response be appended to the response to this question, as a time-saver for current beloved synod?

### 5.4 Standing Committee member skills

Mr Chris Hamam asked the following question –

What are the skill sets of current Standing Committee as elected? Synod may find it of benefit to receive a table of the primary skills/profession of each current Standing Committee member.

## **5.5 Parish property and liability insurance program**

The Rev Andrew Kyrios asked the following question –

Referring to the first entry titled ‘Parish property and liability insurance program’ within the Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2023 Attachment 1, ‘Parochial Cost Recovery Charges for 2024’ –

- (a) Could the amounts be provided separately: i.e., the amount relating to parish property and the amount relating to the liability insurance program both actual to 2023 and proposal for 2024?
- (b) If the breakdown of figures is unavailable, why not?

## **5.6 Audit tender for diocesan entities**

Mr Daniel Armishaw asked the following question –

Noting the answer given by the Archbishop yesterday that PwC were auditors for over 4 decades for our various Diocesan Entities. With reference to the current tender for an auditor for diocesan entities:

- (a) Are any entities of (or related to) the Allegro Group in the list of vendors under review?
- (b) Will there be a maximum number of tenures before we cycle to an alternate vendor?

## **5.7 Non-Disclosure Agreements**

Mr Gregory Engel asked the following question –

What progress is there from the committee set up last year by Standing Committee to review the use of Non-Disclosure Agreements and such like? When is the report expected to be delivered to Standing Committee? How and when might the Synod expect the findings to be reported?

## **5.8 Synod resolution 7/21**

The Rev David Morgan asked the following question –

Can Synod please be updated on any progress made by the SRG concerning research into our ‘ministry to all Australians regardless of education qualifications’ which the 2021 Synod requested them to consider?

## **5.9 Synod resolution 6/21**

The Rev David Morgan asked the following question –

Can Synod please be updated on progress made by the Doctrine Commission on the report requested by Synod at the 2021 Synod pertaining to the public reading of Scripture.

## **5.10 Out of session feedback**

Canon Alistair Seabrook asked the following question –

- (a) On how many occasions during the 52nd Synod were members of the Synod asked to provide feedback on matters out of session?
- (c) On each of these occasions how many responses were received from Synod members?
- (d) What percentage of the total Synod membership responded to each request to provide feedback?

## **6. Calling of motions (including procedural motions) on the business paper.**

## **7. Procedural motions**

### **7.1 Recommendations from the Order of Business Committee**

Synod agrees to reschedule items of business as shown in marked form on the Timetable for Synod Business.

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Archdeacon Anthony Douglas)

### **7.2 Arrangements for consideration of M63 (Diocesan Ministry Strategy for 2025-2040)**

Synod requests the Order of Business Committee to schedule consideration of the motion at M63 (Diocesan Ministry Strategy for 2025-2040) at a suitable time on Tuesday 19 September, unless passed previously during the calling of motions.

(The Rev Dominic Steele / The Rev Jon Kwan)

### **7.3 Notice of motion regarding REACH-SA**

Synod accepts notice of the following motion –

‘Synod, noting –

- (i) the long partnership between the Diocese of Sydney and the Reformed Evangelical Anglican Church of South Africa (REACH-SA), and
  - (ii) that the Synod of that Church met from 11 to 13 September 2023,
- (a) gives thanks to God for –
- (i) the election of the Rev Dr Siegfried Ngubane as the eighth Presiding Bishop of the REACH-SA,
  - (ii) the faithful service of the current Presiding Bishop, the Rt Rev Glenn Lyons who will hand over leadership at a date to be announced, and
  - (iii) the election of three new Area Bishops for the largest regions (dioceses) in REACH-SA, and
- (b) requests that the Archbishop’s office write to Dr Siegfried and Mrs Maureen Ngubane and to Bishop Glenn and Mrs Sandra Lyons assuring them of the prayers of our people, expressing the congratulations of this Synod and the commitment of this Diocese to continued gospel partnership.’

and suspends so many of the Standing Orders as would prevent these arrangements.

(Bishop Malcolm Richards / Archdeacon Simon Flinders)

### **7.4 Motions of thanks**

Synod accepts the following notice of motions, with the names of movers and seconders to be provided on the business paper for tomorrow –

#### **‘Leadership of Bible studies**

Synod records its appreciation for the preaching of the Rev Andrew Rees at the Synod Service and for his encouraging Bible Studies during this session.

#### **Committees and Officers of the Synod**

Synod records its appreciation for –

- (a) the President and his chairmanship,
- (b) the Chair and Deputy Chairs of Committee and their work in the consideration of the text of ordinances,
- (c) the members who helped during the session by giving advice and serving the Synod, especially the Chancellor and Deputy Chancellors, Registrar,

- Archdeacon to the Archbishop, and Chair of Committee, the Synod Secretary, as well as the Order of Business and Minute Reading Committees, and
- (d) the services given by the staff of SDS and the Archbishop's Office, Anglican Media, the music team, Bible readers, Wesley staff, and all those who have helped facilitate this session of Synod.

### **Minutes of 19 September 2023**

Synod authorises the President to sign the minutes of 19 September 2023 upon the production to the Standing Committee of the certificate of any 2 members of the Minute Reading Committee.'

and agrees to consider these 'closure motions' at a time to be determined by the President on Tuesday 19 September 2023, and suspends so many of the Standing Orders as would prevent these arrangements.

(Mrs Briony Bounds / Archdeacon Simon Flinders)

### **8. Motions for consideration by the Synod**

*Motions for consideration by the Synod are printed in the Schedule attached to this business paper.*

## Bills and motions for the consideration of the Synod

- A notation “B#” refers to Bills and “M#” refers to motions. These reference numbers and associated motions will remain consistent throughout this session of Synod.
- *Italicised text under motion headings indicates the arrangements as proposed in the procedural motions on the business paper.*
- *Any amendments to motions listed below, unless otherwise indicated, have not yet been moved. Accordingly, the motion may be put on the callover, and a member must call ‘amendment’ to prevent the motion being passed.*
- Legend –
  - ○ an unscheduled motion, or a scheduled motion which may be taken on the callover
  - ○ cannot be taken on the callover (being a bill for an ordinance, a proposed policy, or a matter which is scheduled for consideration at a particular time)
  - ○ a motion that has been withdrawn.

### 18 September 2023

#### I. Motions for ordinances and policies by request of the Standing Committee

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- ○ **B4 Pastoral Supervision Ordinance 2023**  
*Monday 18<sup>th</sup>, from 8.00pm (evening session); or anytime from 4.30pm if time permits.  
 Following this matter, M16 is to be considered.*

Synod will be asked to consider the Pastoral Supervision Ordinance 2023.

(Bk 1 p.193)

(Bishop Peter Lin / Archdeacon Kara Hartley)

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***Proposed amendments to the text of the Bill in committee***

- (1) Amend the Bill as follows –
- omit clause 3, and
  - omit subclause 4(a),
- with consequential renumbering.

(Bk 1 p.196, line 16; line 25)

(The Rev Gavin Poole /  
The Rev Jason Veitch)


#### II. Motions for ordinances and policies by request of a Regional Council

*There are no proposed ordinances or policies under this heading.*



### III. Other motions by request of the Standing Committee

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 **M7 Archdeacon Narelle Jarrett**  
*Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>*

Synod gives thanks to God for the life and ministry of Archdeacon Narelle Jarrett, who went home to be with the Lord on Friday 4 November 2022.

After graduating from the University of New South Wales (BA and Dip Ed), Narelle started teaching at Sydney Girls High School. There, she was led to Christ by another teacher and began attending St John's, Darlinghurst. After teaching, Narelle studied at Deaconess House, completing her ThL (Hons) in 1969 and London BD in 1970. She was active in ministry within the Sydney Diocese before she was admitted as a deaconess in 1985 upon her appointment as Principal of Mary Andrews College (formerly Deaconess House). She was ordained Deacon in 1989, among the first cohort of female deacons. As Principal of Mary Andrews College, Narelle had a significant role in training and development of the female students at Moore Theological College, as well as serving as a lecturer in Church History and Pastoral Care and training lay women across the Diocese. In 2002, she was appointed Archdeacon for Women's Ministry, while continuing as Principal of Mary Andrews College.

In 2008 she became Archdeacon full time and held this position until her retirement in 2012. Narelle also served on various boards such as the Council of Ministry Training & Development, the Mission Task Force, the Standing Committee and Synod of the Sydney Diocese as well as General Synod. She was active in the governance of the Archbishop's Overseas Mission Fund and Anglican Deaconess Ministries. She also served as an Honorary Minister at South Coogee. Synod gives thanks to God for Narelle's valuable contribution to the life of our Diocese, her passion for advancing the ministries of women and her commitment to biblical truth and making Christ known.


(Archdeacon Kara Hartley / ~~Dr Karin Sowada~~ Mrs Amanda Garlato)

 **M11 Grace City Church**  
*Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>*

*On Monday 11 September, the Synod agreed that the mover and seconder of the motion at M11 may combine for a joint presentation with visuals for up to 10 minutes, including prayer.*

Synod notes that Grace City Church, Waterloo, has been declared to be a recognised church by the South Sydney Regional Council from 1 January 2021 under clause 8 of the *Recognised Churches Ordinance 2000*. Grace City began as an initiative of Evangelism and New Churches, and held its first public service in May 2015. Synod thanks God that from small beginnings, Grace City has grown both numerically and spiritually, and joins in praising God as it celebrates its 8<sup>th</sup> year of ministry.

(The Rev Tim Clemens / Bishop Michael Stead)

 **M13 Partnership with Anglican Schools**

*Monday 18<sup>th</sup> (afternoon session), following the presentation on Anglican Schools*

The Rev Dr Michael Jensen will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

- 'Synod, noting the report 'Recommendations from the Education Committee' –
- (a) acknowledges and thanks Anglican Schools for their work as partners in the mission and ministry of the Diocese,
  - (b) requests the draft statement on Reformed Anglican Education be presented to School Principals and ordained chaplains for their consideration and comment, particularly with reference to the nature and purposes of Anglican Schools within the larger context of Reformed Anglican Education,
  - (c) requests the Standing Committee to form a suitably qualified committee, including current Anglican School principals and ordained chaplain(s), to finalise the draft statement for adoption by the Synod in due course, and

- (d) encourages participation by Anglican School staff in mentoring, professional development and networking through diocesan associations and professional bodies.’

(Bk 2 p.259)

(The Rev Dr Michael Jensen / Bishop Chris Edwards)



#### **M14 Archbishop’s Education Advisor**

*Monday 18<sup>th</sup> (afternoon session), following M13*

Synod requests –

- (a) the Archbishop, in consultation with Anglican School principals, to consider appointing a suitably qualified education advisor to support advocacy on behalf of Anglican Schools and to assist the Synod and schools to form an effective partnership towards their shared ministry goals, and
- (b) the Standing Committee to consider ways to fund such a role.

(Bk 2 p.259)

(Bishop Chris Edwards / Canon Craig Roberts)

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#### ***Proposed amendments***

- (1) In paragraph (b), omit all the text, and insert instead the matter ‘the Archbishop to consult with the Anglican Schools in order to determine how such a role might be funded’.

(The Rev Andrew Bruce / Mr John Pascoe)



#### **M15 Training opportunities for Anglican educators**

*Monday 18<sup>th</sup> (afternoon session), following M14*

Synod recommends that the Standing Committee –

- (a) request SDS to include instructional training that provides contextual information about the Diocese and its structures in conjunction with SDS supported AICD governance courses, and to offer this training or an alternate version to diocesan school staff (possibly using a similar online platform as is currently operating for safe ministry training),
- (b) request the education advisor (or, in the absence of an education advisor, the Archbishop’s delegate) to report to the Standing Committee on the creation of tertiary training programs for school chaplains, assistant chaplains, and Christian Studies teachers, including the development of a sample K-12 Christian Studies curriculum,
- (c) request Youthworks to develop training units to support the teaching of the Bible in primary schools, and distinctive Christian teaching, and
- (d) consider ways to fund such requests.

(Bk 2 p.259)

(The Rev Dr Gavin Perkins / Bishop Chris Edwards)

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#### ***Proposed amendments***

- (1) In paragraph (d), omit all the text, and insert instead the matter ‘consult with the Anglican Schools in order to determine how such initiatives might be funded’.

(The Rev Andrew Bruce / Mr John Pascoe)

- (2) Insert a new paragraph (c), with consequential re-lettering –

‘(c) request the education advisor (or, in the absence of an education advisor, the Archbishop’s delegate) to develop partnerships with university Christian fellowships in order to promote training


opportunities and access to tertiary courses with cross-institutional credit which train teacher education students in distinctively Christian teaching.’

(Mr Lachlan Field / The Rev Graeme Howells)

- (3) Amend the motion as follows –
- (a) in paragraph (b), following the matter ‘Archbishop’s delegate)’, omit all the text and insert instead the matter ‘to consult and work collaboratively with suitably qualified chaplains and heads of Christian Studies to determine time- and cost-effective models and pathways for inter-school Christian Professional Development for Christian teachers, including proposals for suitable tertiary institutional engagement (if any),’, and
  - (b) in paragraph (c), omit all the text, and insert instead the matter ‘request the education advisor (or, in the absence of an education advisor, the Archbishop’s delegate) to report to the Standing Committee the findings at (b) for review and presentation to Synod, and’.

(The Rev Emma Newling / The Rev Kylie Wilson)

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 **M16 Pastoral Supervision in the Diocese of Sydney**

*Monday 18<sup>th</sup> (evening session), following B4*

Bishop Peter Lin will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

- ‘Synod, noting the report ‘Pastoral Supervision in the Diocese of Sydney’ –
- (a) affirms the importance of Pastoral Supervision, both as a measure to enhance the ministry wellbeing and development of church workers in the Diocese, and to implement a recommendation of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, and
  - (b) requests the Archbishop-in-Council to approve a Pastoral Supervision Policy as provided for by the Pastoral Supervision Ordinance 2023.


Synod also requests that –

- (i) consideration be given to exempting from the requirement for pastoral supervision new assistant ministers and other church workers undertaking the 3-year post-college Ministry Development program, given their program already involves guided reflection, mentoring, participation in 360-degree feedback and use of other psychometric tools,
- (ii) in the production of the Pastoral Supervision policy, consideration be given to including options for costless or low-cost forms of pastoral supervision, including but not limited to group pastoral supervision, and
- (iii) alongside and in conjunction with the production of the Pastoral Supervision Policy, a holistic consideration of the whole suite of expectations on ministry workers’ time (with regard to training, support and development) be conducted in order to determine if there are redundancies that can be eliminated to make up for the added time and potential cost of pastoral supervision.’

(Bk 2 p.237)

(Bishop Peter Lin / Archdeacon Kara Hartley)

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 **M26 Diocesan Governance Policy – Statement of Personal Commitment to Organisational Faithfulness**

*Monday 18<sup>th</sup> (afternoon session), following formal matters*

*On Monday 11 September, the Synod agreed that the mover of M26 speak for up to five minutes, and up to three minutes in reply; the motion will be moved without a seconder's speech; and each other speaker may speak for up to three minutes.*

Synod endorses the approach of requiring governors and leaders to provide a signed Statement of Personal Commitment to Organisational Faithfulness substantially as proposed in the Exposure Draft, noting that this requirement is not intended to be a substitute for requiring that governors and leaders be of Christian faith and character, and that feedback has been requested on this approach.

(Bk 2 p.273)

(Ms Anne Robinson AM / Mr Greg Hammond OAM)


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***Proposed amendments***

- (1) Omit the word 'endorses' and insert instead the words 'encourages the Governance Policy Review Committee to continue exploring'.

(Canon Phillip Colgan)

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 **M31 Box Hill**


*Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>*

Bishop Gary Koo will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

'Synod praises God for the acquisition of the property at 158 Boundary Rd, Oakville for the establishment of a new church in the Box Hill area. We thank God for the partnership of the parishes of Pitt Town and Rouse Hill, the Anglican Church Growth Corporation and Evangelism and New Churches, and for the appointment of the Reverend Chris Mann as the church planter.'

(Bishop Gary Koo / The Rev Philip Wheeler)

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 **M37 Conversion Practices Legislation**

Synod –

- (a) reaffirms Synod Resolution 31 of 2018, in particular that –
- (i) “the Anglican Church in the Diocese of Sydney does not practise, recommend or endorse ‘gay conversion therapy’”, defined as practices that “seek to re-orient sexual attraction to heterosexuality”, and that
  - (ii) Synod “values prayer for same-sex attracted Christians who wish to live celibate lives, noting that prayer is not a form of ‘gay conversion therapy’”,
- (b) notes that the *Conversion Practices Prohibition Bill 2023* (NSW), introduced by Mr Alex Greenwich, has been closely modelled on the Victorian *Change or Suppression (Conversion) Practices Prohibition Act 2021*, and adopts its expansive redefinition of Conversion Practices by including the broad and vague concept of suppression, according to which the following are illegal –
- (i) a religious leader meeting one-on-one with a member of their congregation to encourage them not to act on same-sex attraction by practising celibacy,
  - (ii) religious teaching that someone is “broken” because of their sexual orientation or gender identity,
  - (iii) the provision of support through group prayer to a young person to help them fight a desire to act on their feelings of same-sex attraction,

- (iv) a religious leader telling a member of their congregation that they will be excommunicated if they continue their same-sex relationship,
  - (v) parents declining to support their child’s request for puberty blockers if a health professional recommends it, or otherwise restricting their child access to any health care services that would affirm their child’s gender identity, and
  - (vi) a teacher telling a student that God does not accept them unless they keep the sex they were assigned at birth and dress accordingly  
(All examples from <https://www.humanrights.vic.gov.au/change-or-suppression-practices/have-you-experienced-a-change-or-suppression-practice/> ),
- (c) notes the pre-election commitments of the Premier and other members of the ALP that its legislation would prohibit ‘dangerous and damaging’ conversion practices, but that it would not ban a consenting individual seeking prayer or other advice and assistance, nor would it ban the expression of religious belief through religious teaching,
  - (d) notes that the government’s Consultation Paper on Banning Conversion Practices has proposed an approach that is very similar to the Victorian legislation and the Bill introduced by Mr Greenwich, which is inconsistent with the ALP’s pre-election commitments,
  - (e) calls on the Minns Labor Government to uphold its commitments regarding LGBTQ conversion therapy by introducing legislation that –
    - (i) bans dangerous and damaging practices that seek or promise to *change sexual orientation*, but does not use the broad and vague concept of “suppression”,
    - (ii) does not prohibit a consenting individual from seeking the support and assistance that they consider appropriate for themselves,
    - (iii) does not prohibit religious instruction and guidance that encourages church members to live in conformity with the ethical teaching of the Scriptures by not acting on desires that are contrary to this teaching,
    - (iv) does not expose parents to prosecution for failing to affirm and support their child’s sexual orientation or gender identity, and
    - (v) does not introduce a bias towards gender-affirming treatment and the threat of prosecution for health professionals who recommend a different treatment approach, and
  - (f) encourages Sydney Anglicans to meet with, or write to, their local MP to express their concerns and requests, and notes that Freedom for Faith has developed resources to assist in organising meetings and writing letters (<https://contactyourmp.org.au>).

(Bishop Michael Stead / Mr Michael Southon)

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***Proposed amendments***


- (1) Omit paragraph (a).  
  
(The Rev Andrew Barry / Mr Craig Stevens)
- (2) Amend the motion as follows –
  - (a) in subparagraph (e)(i), omit the matter ‘but does not use the broad and vague concept of “suppression”,’,
  - (b) insert a new subparagraph (e)(ii) as follows, with consequential re-lettering –
    - ‘(ii) clarifies that prayer for same-sex attracted Christians who wish to live celibate lives, if offered in a genuinely non-coercive and ethically acceptable manner, would not constitute a change or suppression practice within the scope of the legislation,’
  - (c) in re-lettered subparagraph (e)(iii), following the matter ‘appropriate for themselves,’, insert the matter ‘but includes a requirement that religious organisations and leaders in religious communities are not

to withhold from such an individual access to broader sources of support and full information as to the documented long-term risks and harms associated with change and suppression practices,’ and

- (d) in re-lettered subparagraph (e)(vi), omit all the text, and insert instead the matter ‘takes account of relevant health professionals’ ethical guidelines and codes of conduct, and’.

(Ms Elise Christian / Professor Bernard Stewart AM)

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
 **M39 Archdeacon Neil Atwood**  
*Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>*

Synod, noting that Archdeacon Neil Atwood begins leave on the 23 September 2023 and will officially retire in March 2024, gives thanks to God for Neil and his wife Robyn’s service of the gospel for over 45 years. Having served in the parishes of Dapto, Normanhurst, Willoughby, Tregear, Mt Druitt, Toongabbie and Springwood before taking up his current role in the Western Region from 2011 first as the Assistant to the Bishop and most recently as Archdeacon, Neil has demonstrated a great love for the people of the Western Region with its great number of communities, cultures and churches. We are also thankful to God for the additional responsibilities he assumed in support of Bishop Ivan Lee, Bishop of Western Sydney, during his sustained illness. Further, we note that since 2014 Neil has combined his regional role with that of ODSM Parish Consultant, leading the production of online Safe Ministry Training, and supporting parish Safe Ministry Representatives.

As Neil and Robyn retire, Synod prays that the Lord would continue to use them to his honour and glory.

(The Rev Roger Cunningham / Bishop Gary Koo)

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 **M47 Doctrine Commission Report: The Doctrine of Concupiscence and its Relevance to the Experience of Same-Sex Attraction**

Synod, having received the Doctrine Commission Report: The Doctrine of Concupiscence and its Relevance to the Experience of Same-sex Attraction, in the context of provision for ‘Tabling and reception of accounts and reports etc’ is aware that such procedure does not provide any opportunity for Synod members to be aware of why any particular publication was sought, be informed of its content, or alerted to its availability as a resource in particular circumstances.

In respect of the Doctrine Commission report in question, Synod acknowledges misgivings of some members concerning specific matters including –

At 1.2, when identifying ‘one of the most contentious issues facing the Christian churches at this moment’, the report does not provide contextual information to the effect that even within the Anglican Church of Australia, bible-believing Christians contend with God-given diversity as to whether a legally-affirmed life-long exclusive and voluntary commitment between two adults of the same gender is inherently and necessarily sin in every instance and indicate that this report is premised on one interpretation of scripture in relation to this matter.

At 3.7, Jesus’ statement at Mat 5:28 addressing adultery should be specified in scripture as immediately following Christ’s teaching about murder (Mat 5 5:21-22), and other sins, as introduced by the words ‘You have heard that it was said...’. The report might acknowledge that the primary teaching from this scripture involves the futility of relying on compliance with the law as a means of achieving salvation any other consideration is secondary.

At 4.4, where concupiscence is recognized as an ‘infection of nature’ and much more than sexual lust, the report should warn that a sense of desire is inherent in all sin involving gratification including the sin about which Jesus explicitly warned most, namely the self-focused accrual of personal financial wealth.

At 6.5, although the report specifies that actual sin only occurs when we fail to resist temptation and allow ourselves to be enticed - an interpretation re-affirmed at 6.6, such a determination

is not consistent with Mat 5:29 and the specification at 4.4 that concupiscence is not only on sin, and inclines to sin, but is sin itself.

(Prof Bernard Stewart AM / The Rev Dr James Collins OAM)

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●● **M49 Indigenous Governor General**

*This motion has been withdrawn.*

~~Synod, recognising that in our nation's system of government, the primary voice to Parliament is our Governor General, respectfully requests that our Indigenous brother Rev Neville Naden be endorsed by this Synod to be appointed to stand as a future Governor General of this nation.~~

(Withdrawn by Mr Chris Hamam)

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●● **M50 Foster Carer and Kinship Week**

Synod, on the occasion of "Foster Carer and Kinship Week" (September 10-16) –

- (a) notes with grave concern the dire shortage of residential foster carers in New South Wales, resulting in an alarming number of children being placed in alternative emergency housing such as hotels, motels, and various sorts of group homes (<https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/no-safe-place-to-call-home-vulnerable-children-housed-in-hotels-amid-foster-carer-crisis-20230908-p5e35f.html>), and therefore
- (b) exhorts all rectors to –
  - (i) inform their parishioners about the current need for foster carers,
  - (ii) ask their parishioners to consider prayerfully whether foster care might be a way that they are called to fulfill the biblical injunction to care for children in need (cf. James 1:27),
  - (iii) connect their parishioners to Anglicare's excellent foster care information and resources (available at: <https://www.anglicare.org.au/what-we-offer/foster-care-adoption/foster-care/> and <https://fostercare.anglicare.org.au>),
  - (iv) encourage all parishioners to pray for, and to support practically, other Christians who serve as foster carers, and
  - (v) consider making "Foster Carer and Kinship Week" each September something that their parish notes, celebrates, and prays for.'

(The Rev Dr Matthew Wilcoxon / The Rev Tom Hargreaves)

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●● **M51 Encouragement to speak of the Christian hope**

The Rev Chris Braga will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

'Synod recognises –

- (i) that in his death and resurrection, Jesus Christ defeated sin, death and the devil (Col 2:14, Heb 2:14),
- (ii) that through Jesus' death and resurrection, Christians have the sure hope of life with God and his people forever (1 Peter 1:3, 2 Cor 4:14),
- (iii) that God has given life and it is not ours to take away (Job 10:12, Deut 30:19-20, Gen 9:5-6, Exo 20:13), and
- (iv) the tragedy when a person desires to end their life or the life of the unborn,


and encourages –

- (a) Christians to speak of –
  - (i) the hope that can be found in Jesus for all people, including any who are considering ~~to~~ ending their life or the life of the unborn (2 Cor 4:13), and
  - (ii) the life of faith and love that can be found following Jesus (Col 1:5),

- (b) local church leaders to consider how they can equip their members for this task, and
- ~~(b)~~(c) pastors, youth group leaders, chaplains and other faith leaders to commend that this priority of cherishing life flows out of the fullness of God's salvation story in creation, fall, redemption, and glorification.'

(The Rev Chris Braga / Mr David Braga)

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 **M52 Professor Penelope Coombes**

*Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>, if not passed on the callover*


Mr Chris Hamam will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

'Synod gives thanks to God for the life, work, and lay ministry of the late synod member of the Synod, Professor Mrs Penelope (Penny) Coombes, and prays for her widowed husband Warwick.

Professor Penny Coombes was Head of Occupational Therapy at the University of Sydney from 1972 to 1981, and then Managing Director of *People for Places and Spaces* from 1982, ~~and~~ Penny was a dedicated Synod lay member, representing Woollahra (2004-2006), and Bondi and Waverley (2016-2022).'

(Mr Chris Hamam / Bishop Michael Stead)

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 **M53 The Kigali Commitment - Gafcon IV 2023 Global Conference**


The Rev Robin Kinstead will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

~~This~~ Synod, noting the Kigali Statement from the gathering at Gafcon IV 2023 -

- (a) gives thanks for –
- (i) the Gafcon movement which guards and proclaims the unchanging Biblical truth in a changing world,
  - (ii) God's grace in gathering together over 1,300 faithful Anglicans (including 315 bishops, 456 other clergy and 531 laity) from around the world at the Global Anglican Future Conference in Kigali, Rwanda in April 2023,
  - (iii) the generous hospitality of Archbishop Laurent Mbanda, his family, and the Anglican Church of Rwanda,
  - (iv) the faithful commitment of The Rev Canon Daniel Willis as Gafcon Director and Mr Paul Mirrington as Conference Director with their teams and volunteers in organising the conference,
- (b) receives "The Kigali Commitment" (available online at <https://www.gafcon.org/news/gafcon-iv-the-kigali-commitment>) with thanksgiving, and encourages Sydney Anglicans to read it for encouragement and prayer,
- (c) rejoices in the generous provision, through the ~~Diocese's~~ Work Outside the Diocese Committee, of 48 bursaries, allowing delegates from 9 under-resourced partner countries to attend Gafcon IV, and
- (d) undertakes to pray for Gafcon to remain a Bible-based, ~~Orthodox-orthodox~~ Anglican, and ~~Gospel-gospel~~ mission focused global movement under the direction of His Spirit for the honour of our Lord Jesus.'

(The Rev Robin Kinstead / Mrs Nicky Fortescue)

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 **M54 Persecution of Christians in Manipur**

The Rev Stephen Cook will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –




Synod –

- (a) expresses its deep ~~concerns-concern~~ and prayers ~~for~~ regarding the violent persecution of Christians in the Indian state of Manipur,
- (b) recognises the media reporting about the burning of Christian churches and the brutality of ongoing violence suffered by the Kuki-Zo tribe, particularly the sexual violence perpetrated against women. Further recognises that within the two tribes clashing (Meitai & Kiki-Zo), Christians and Churches of both communities are affected,
- (c) calls on the Australian Government to formally call upon Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his administration to take immediate and substantial measures to address the ongoing violence in Manipur, and
- (d) requests parishes to pray for the protection of our brothers and sisters in Manipur and ~~for Anglican Aid to consider any avenues by which assistance may be offered~~ encourages churches to support through Anglican Aid's tax-deductible "Aid for Manipur" fund <https://anglicanaid.org.au/projects/aid-for-manipur/>.

(The Rev Stephen Cook / The Rev Mark Dickens)

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 **M55 50th Anniversary of Sydney Diocesan Services**


Synod –

- (i) noting that Sydney Diocesan Services was first constituted as the central administrative service provider of this Diocese 50 years ago on 30 July 1973 - initially with a membership comprising all members of the Standing Committee, and
- (ii) recognising the significant contribution made by SDS, and its members and staff, during this time in supporting our shared purpose of making disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ,

gives thanks to God for the work of SDS and prays that SDS will continue to faithfully and effectively serve this Diocese as its central provider of professional services and administrative support during this time of increasing change and complexity.

(Mr John Pascoe / Mr Robert Wicks)

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 **M56 General Synod Long Service Leave Fund**

Synod –

- (a) notes the General Synod Long Service Leave Fund was established by a General Synod canon more than 60 years ago when the forms of paid ministry were very different to the various ministries which exist now,
- (b) notes there are organisations which are currently not able to include their theologically trained ministers as participants of the fund because some General Synod authorities do not regard them as having an association with the Anglican Church of Australia, even those who have a licence or authority from the Archbishop of Sydney or another Australian Bishop, and
- (c) asks the Standing Committee –
  - (i) to consider whether the circumstances have changed so much over the last 60 years that it may be wise to establish a Sydney Long Service Leave Fund which could have the flexibility to reflect modern ministry arrangements,
  - (ii) to consult with the Board of the General Synod Long Service Leave Fund, former members of the Board and others as appropriate, and take whatever action it considers to be in the best interests of the ongoing ministry both in the Diocese of Sydney and the wider Australian church.

(Mr James Flavin / Dr Robert Tong AM)

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🕒 **M57 New Anglican Youthworks Year 13 Director**

Synod praises God for the crucial ministry of Anglican Youthworks and the exciting news of the appointment of the new Year 13 Director, the Rev Steve Carlisle of Helensburgh Anglican, starting 27 November 2023.

(The Rev James Warren / Miss Jenny Flower)

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🕒 **M58 Long Term Pooling Fund**

The Rev Andrew Schmidt will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

‘Synod –

- (a) notes that the transfer of trusteeship in the Long Term Pooling Fund from the Anglican Church Property Trust to the Glebe Administration Board has been completed in accordance with the resolution of Synod last year,
- (b) commends the Anglican Church Property Trust on its successful trusteeship of the Fund over 25 years,
- (c) prays for the continued successful stewardship of the Fund by the Glebe Administration Board, and
- (d) ~~encourages notes that~~ parishes holding funds not immediately needed for ministry ~~to consider how they might~~ may consider, in a spirit of good stewardship, ~~maintain the real value of those funds~~ investing them in the Long Term Pooling Fund and further notes that the *Long Term Pooling Fund Ordinance 2012* provides that the Trustee is to maintain the real value of the Fund.’

(The Rev Andrew Schmidt / Dr Robert Tong AM)

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🕒 **M59 ~~Transitional~~ Temporary arrangements for diocesan schools**

Bishop Michael Stead will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

‘Synod, noting –

- (i) that it has endorsed the approach of requiring governors and leaders to be of Christian faith and character, as outlined in the Exposure Draft of the revised Diocesan Governance Policy, to be further considered at the Synod next year, and
- (ii) that the Synod has not yet made a decision whether the new Diocesan Governance Policy will require a signed Statement of Personal Faith,

encourages the Standing Committee to consider approving appropriate temporary ~~transitional~~ arrangements for Diocesan schools based on the proposed “Christian faith and character” model, provided that the temporary arrangements also require a signed Statement of Personal Faith in the form currently required by ordinance from the majority of Diocesan schools.’

(Bishop Michael Stead / The Rev Marcelo Morbelli)

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🕒 **M60 Bishop Rick Lewers**  
*Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>*

Synod notes that Bishop Rick Lewers is due to retire in October 2023 after 35 years of ordained ministry, and has served at Liverpool (1988-1992), Wanniasa in Canberra (1992-2002), the Department of Evangelism (2002-2005), Engadine (2005-2012), as Bishop of Armidale (2012-2021), and finally at Shoalhaven Heads (2021-2023).

Synod gives thanks to God for Rick, a sinner saved by grace, who is a lover of the Lord Jesus Christ, wonderfully partnered with Janene, persistent evangelist, shepherd of the flock, valiant

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for truth, pastorally caring, encourager of others in faithfulness, and always a 'straight shooter', and prays for God's continued blessing on Rick and Janene in their life and ministry together.

(Dean Sandy Grant / Archdeacon Anthony Douglas)

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**M61 Closure of Anglicare's Mary Andrews Village Retirement Living Centre at South Hurstville**

Mr James Mayfield will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

'Synod –

- (a) notes the ~~proposed~~ planned closure of Anglicare's Mary Andrews Village Retirement Living ~~Centre~~ Village at South Hurstville, including the plan to ~~require~~ offer residents of the ~~centre~~ Village to ~~vacate their homes~~ alternate accommodation at Woollooware Shores, Donald Robinson Village or another Anglicare village,
- (b) recognises the profound impact that being ~~evicted~~ asked to relocate from their home can have on the elderly and vulnerable residents within a retirement living ~~centre~~ Village,
- (c) understands the importance of a financially sustainable business model for Anglicare's retirement living services in the provision of high-quality, sustainable housing for its many residents,
- (d) notes that Anglicare's rationale in closing a Village is to ensure residents are living in safe, fit for purpose communities.
- ~~(d)~~(e) notes that in these complex situations there can be a disconnect between what may be best for ~~the individual residents~~ and what may be financially best for Anglicare, and

therefore –

- ~~(e)~~ requests the Board of Anglican Community Services (Anglicare) to investigate the circumstances of the proposed-planned closure, including inviting the perspectives of impacted residents and their families who wish to engage, and to ensure the long term wellbeing of the current residents of the Mary Andrews Village—
- ~~(f)~~ the committee being made up of persons who are not directly or indirectly employed by Anglicare,
- ~~(g)~~ the committee to, amongst other information gathering, speak with impacted residents and their families, and
- ~~(h)~~ the committee to make any recommendations it sees fit regarding this closure, and/or the processes for closure of any retirement living or other residential facilities to best cater for the long term well-being of all Anglicare residents, and
- ~~(i)~~(f) respectfully requests Anglicare pause processes relating to the closure of the Mary Andrews Village Retirement Living Centre South Hurstville site until such time as the board of Anglicare has reviewed and responded to any recommendations of the Standing Committee.'

(Mr James Mayfield / The Rev Stephen Cook)

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**M62 Appreciation of AFES and FIEC**

Synod notes, with appreciation, our gospel partnership with the Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students (AFES) and the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC) and is thankful, in particular, for their raising up of men and women for ministry, and study at Moore Theological College.

(The Rev Andrew Barry / The Rev Adrian Russell)

The Rev Zac Veron will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

'Synod –

- (a) gives thanks to the Lord for –
- (i) the faithful Anglican ministry efforts of both laity and clergy since 1788<sub>1</sub>,
  - (ii) the crucial work of Moore Theological College, Anglicare, Youthworks, diocesan schools and other ministry organisations, in supporting the ministry of the Diocese' churches<sub>2</sub>,
  - (iii) the visionary and theological leadership of archbishops, past and present, and
  - (iv) the property and financial resources which facilitate the ministry of the Word,
- which have all contributed to almost 40% of the national Anglican Church's weekly attendance being within the geographical boundaries of the Diocese of Sydney,
- (b) ~~yet Synod~~ recognises, according to the statistics revealed to Synod on 12 September 2023, that –
- (i) average attendance per week in the Diocese, in this current generation, peaked in 2015, and then began a steady downward trend, and
  - (ii) average attendance per week in the Diocese was approximately 18.5% lower in 2022 compared to 2015,
- (c) ~~Synod~~ encourages all Sydney Anglicans to pray for the lost, so that the Lord would open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in Christ (Acts 26:18),
- (d) ~~and Synod~~ notes –
- (i) the baby boomer generation, which constitutes a large percentage of the average attendance per week, has begun its progression to glory,
  - (ii) infant baptisms across the Diocese, according to the most recently available statistics revealed to Synod on 12 September 2023, were on a downward trajectory,
  - (iii) the population within the boundaries of the diocese is booming and is projected to include an additional one million people by 2041,
  - (iv) ~~with~~ the majority of that net population growth is expected to reside within the brownfield areas of Sydney, and
  - (v) the challenges of ministering with ageing and often inadequate infrastructure within those brownfield areas~~brownfields~~,
- (e) further notes the external, forthcoming government-imposed challenges to overcome, that may adversely affect the impact of our ministries, including Voluntary Assisted Dying legislation, and the proposed speech suppression, misinformation and disinformation legislation, at both a state and national level, and
- (f) requests the Standing Committee to initiate a broad review of recent and current Diocesan ministry strategies and foci, together with an analysis of average attendance trends, and an assessment of the likely impact of social changes upon average attendance, with a view to recommending a fresh, comprehensive and integrated Diocesan ministry strategy for 2025-2040, and report back to Synod in 2024.'

(The Rev Zac Veron / The Rev Geoff Bates)

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### **Proposed amendments**

- (1) In paragraph (e), omit the matter 'including Voluntary Assisted Dying legislation, and the proposed speech suppression, misinformation and disinformation legislation, at both a state and national level,'.

(The Rev Dominic Steele / Mrs Fiona Taylor)

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### **M64 Sports Chaplaincy**

Synod, noting that Sports Chaplaincy Australia has nominated the second Sunday in September as "Sports Sunday" encouraging churches to hear about, pray for and encourage involvement in the ministry of Sports Chaplaincy,

- (a) gives thanks –
- (i) for the ministry of Sports Chaplaincy Australia over many years in placing chaplains in sporting clubs & communities, and
  - (ii) for the chaplains involved across many different sporting codes in our diocese and beyond, and
- (b) asks ministers to prayerfully consider how to support the work of Sports Chaplaincy Australia through promotion in our local churches and encouraging those already involved in sport to consider training as chaplains in a ministry which seeks to be a faithful presence and witness for the Lord Jesus in a mission field that sees 14 million people participating across the country.

(The Rev Dr Richard Wenden / The Rev Stuart Crawshaw)

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### **M65 Anglicare Northern Inland**


The Rev Dr Andrew Ford will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

'Synod –

- (a) gives thanks for vibrant work of Anglicare in the Diocese of Armidale,
- (b) notes that in 2018 –
- (i) the Diocese of Armidale and Anglicare Northern Inland approached Anglicare Sydney with a request for help and proposed a possible merger,
  - (ii) the viability of Anglicare Northern Inland was significantly compromised due to the inability to undertake effective tendering, branding and marketing, and
  - (iii) Anglicare Northern Inland had 13 staff, 3 volunteers and insufficient funds to sustain its operations,
- (c) acknowledges the careful negotiations between Anglicare Sydney, Anglicare Northern Inland and the Diocese of Armidale that led to the merger of Anglicare Northern Inland and Anglicare Sydney in July 2018,
- (d) notes that in 2023 Anglicare Northern Inland –
- (i) has 40 staff and 20 volunteers,
  - (ii) has more than \$3.5million ~~dollars~~ in funding, including ~~Government~~ government and donation income;
  - (iii) offers services in Mental Health, Aged Care, Counselling, Financial Counselling & Assistance, Community Pantries, Housing, Out of Home Care, Aboriginal Cultural Advisors and Trainees, Chaplaincy, Partnership Development with local churches and a revamped Disaster Recovery team, and
  - (iv) serves around 1000 people in need each year across the Diocese of Armidale,
- (e) notes that –

- (i) since the merger the Diocese of Armidale and Anglicare have built a fresh, mutually beneficial relationship that has seen rapid growth in services and local parish/Anglicare partnerships,
- (ii) the relationship with the Diocese of Armidale is on a strong footing with both the former Bishop and the current Bishop Rod Chiswell, supportive of the work of Anglicare, and
- (f) commits to pray for the ongoing growth in the partnership between Anglicare Northern Inland and the parishes of the Armidale–Diocese of Armidale, that together their love and concern for the local communities might adorn the Gospel–gospel and open doors into unreached communities and areas of need, so together they might share the love of Jesus in word and deed.’

(The Rev Dr Andrew Ford / The Rt Rev Rick Lewers)


 **M66 Assistant Director of Evangelism and New Churches**

The Rev Philip Wheeler will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

‘Synod, noting the increased allocation of funds to Evangelism and New Churches (ENC) in 2024 for the position of Assistant Director, gives thanks for the appointment of Mr David Jensen to this position with ENC for 2024. David will be known to many in the Diocese and comes to this role with experience as an evangelist, church planter, preacher/teacher and trainer in churches in Sydney, Ireland and the Central Coast of NSW. David will build on the good work begun by the Rev John Lavender assisting churches in the Diocese in their evangelistic endeavours to see lost people find life and hope in Jesus.

Synod encourages parishes to pray for David and others in the ENC team and to utilise him and the others available like him to sharpen their evangelistic effectiveness for the salvation of many to the glory of God.’

(The Rev Philip Wheeler / The Rev Andrew Barry)


 **M67 Notice of dinner for younger members of the Synod**

*This motion has been withdrawn.*

~~Synod notes that there will be a dinner for its younger members on Wednesday 13 September 2023 for the purposes of encouragement and nourishment. The dinner group will meet at the Pitt Street entrance of the Wesley Theatre at the conclusion of the evening session, with the intention of dining in The Galleries food court.~~

~~All Synod members feeling their youth places them in a minority, or otherwise feeling the weight of their inexperience, are warmly invited to attend.~~

(Withdrawn by Mr Tristan Anlezark / Mr Robert Gifford)

 **M68 Support for Anglican Defence Chaplaincy**

Synod, noting –

- (i) the ongoing work of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide, and
- (ii) the recent loss of an Army MHR90 Taipan helicopter with four crew members in a training exercise,
- (a) acknowledges with thanks the daily commitment of every member of the Australian Defence Force as they protect our nation, and the significant cost of that service,
- (b) recognises the vital ministry of the 101 Anglican Defence Force Chaplains currently serving alongside, and providing pastoral and spiritual support to, those sailors, soldiers and aviators (and their families) both at home and on operations around the globe, and

- (c) commends the annual observance of Defence Sunday (the Sunday preceding Remembrance Day – see [defenceanglicans.org.au](http://defenceanglicans.org.au)) to parishes as a day to –
  - (i) remember the service and sacrifice of all who have served their nation in peace and war, especially those who died in theatre or afterward from injuries sustained,
  - (ii) pray for the physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing of all serving ADF members and their families, and
  - (iii) hear from, support, encourage and pray for Defence chaplains as they seek to share Jesus' love with all who serve.

(The Rev Andrew Nixon / The Rev Tim St Quintin)

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 **M69 Non-Disclosure Agreements**

Canon Alistair Seabrook will move the motion in the following form (marked to show changes) –

‘Synod –

- (a) gives thanks for the important work of the committee established by the Standing Committee to review the use of Non-Disclosure Agreements and Non-Disparagement Clauses in the Diocese,
- (b) grieves that such agreements ~~have on some occasions been~~ could be used to silence victims and cover up sin,
- (c) requests that the committee's report be presented at the next session of Synod with a recommendation concerning the use of such agreements in our Diocese, and
- (d) prays for those impacted negatively by these agreements.’

(Canon Alistair Seabrook / The Rev Michael Doyle)



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# Timetable for Synod Business

A notation "B#" refers to Bills and "M#" refers to motions per the attached schedule.

| <b>Monday 18 September 2023</b> |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 3.15 – 5.40 pm                  | Bible Study/prayer and Formal matters<br><u>M26: Diocesan Governance Policy – Statement of Personal Commitment to Organisational Faithfulness</u><br>Presentation: Anglican Schools in the Diocese<br>M13: Partnership with Anglican Schools<br>M14: Archbishop’s Education Advisor<br>M15: Training opportunities for Anglican educators<br><i>Thereafter, other business as per the business paper</i> |
| 5.40 – 5.45 pm                  | Presentation: Defence Force Chaplaincy   |
| 7.00 – 8.00 pm                  | <i>Mission hour</i>  |
| 8.00 pm +                       | B4: Pastoral Supervision Ordinance 2023 ( <i>May commence anytime from 4.30pm if time permits</i> )<br>M16: Pastoral Supervision in the Diocese of Sydney<br><i>Thereafter, other business as per the business paper</i>   |

| <b>Tuesday 19 September 2023</b>   |   |
|--|---|
| 3.15 pm +<br><br><i>(further scheduling to be proposed on Tuesday if required)</i> | Bible Study/prayer and Formal matters<br><i>Thereafter, other business as per the business paper</i><br>M7: Archdeacon Narelle Jarrett<br><u>M52: Professor Penelope Coombes (if not passed on the callover)</u><br>M11: Grace City Church<br>M31: Box Hill<br>M39: Archdeacon Neil Atwood<br><u>M60: Bishop Rick Lewers</u><br><i>Closure motions and hymn</i> |