

# Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

## 1st Session of the 48th Synod Business Paper: Monday 13 October 2008

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*(Page references are to the Standing Committee's Report - see Part 5 of the Synod Business Rules for ordinance procedures.)*

1. **The Synod will assemble in the Wesley Theatre, 220 Pitt Street Sydney at 3:15 pm.**
2. **Prayers will be read by the President or a person appointed by him.**
3. **Procedural motion re start time, Presidential Address and Synod Service**

Synod –

- (a) agrees to commence its meeting forthwith in order to deal with items 4 and 6-14 inclusive on this business paper, and
- (b) notes that the Presidential Address will be delivered from 4:00 pm, and at 8:15 pm the Synod Service will begin, and
- (c) suspends any part of the business rules which would prevent these arrangements.

(Mr Robert Wicks)

4. **The President will table a list of the members of the Synod.**
5. **The President will deliver his address.**

To be taken at 4:00 pm – see item 3.

6. **The President will table a document appointing a commissary.**
7. **Elections**

7.1 Under section 12 of the Anglican Church of Australia Trust Property Act 1917, the Synod declares 4 vacancies in the office of member of the Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney for Mr Gregory Bridge, Mr David Nelson, Archdeacon Peter Smart and Mr Robert Tong who have each come to the end of their term of office.

(Mr Robert Wicks)

7.2 A list of the uncontested elections will be laid upon the table and the results declared.

(Archbishop Peter Jensen)

7.3 A Clerical Secretary and a Lay Secretary of the Synod will be elected.

(Mr Robert Tong)

7.4 A Chairman of Committees will be elected.

(Deaconess Margaret Rodgers)

7.5 A Deputy Chairman or Deputy Chairmen of Committees will be elected.

(Deaconess Margaret Rodgers)

7.6 A Committee of Elections and Qualifications will be elected.  
(Dr Philip Selden)

7.7 A Committee for the Order of Business will be elected.  
(Mr Robert Tong)

7.8 A Minute Reading Committee will be elected.  
(Dr Philip Selden)

**8. The minute book of the Standing Committee will be tabled.**

**9. Petitions**

**10. Notices of questions**

**11. Procedural motions**

**11.1 Presentations at the session**

Synod agrees to the following –

- (a) a Mission presentation from 7:00 pm on Monday 13 October 2008, and
- (b) the Missionary Hour presentation from 7:00 pm on Monday 20 October 2008,

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

(Mr Robert Wicks)

**11.2 Special arrangements for the consideration of business**

Synod –

- (a) agrees in principle to deal with its business in accordance with the Indicative Timetable for Synod Business, and
- (b) requests that the Committee for the Order of Business bring to the Synod at the beginning of each day any recommendations about amending the Indicative Timetable for Synod Business in light of the progress of business, and
- (c) suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements, or as would prevent the Synod from considering any recommendations from the Committee for the Order of Business.

(Mr Robert Wicks)

**11.3 Arrangements to discuss achievements and challenges in becoming a missional diocese**

Synod agrees to the following arrangements to discuss the matters raised in the report “The Diocesan Mission – Midpoint Report: Achievements and Challenges in Becoming a Missional Diocese” –

- (a) a focus on our current status as a missional diocese from 8:00 pm on Tuesday 14 October 2008 as follows –
  - (i) the Chairman of the Mission Board Strategy Committee (“MBSC”) will provide a background briefing concerning the Mission and achievements to date for up to 10 minutes, and
  - (ii) the MBSC will provide an overview of the challenges and road blocks to the Mission for up to 20 minutes, and
  - (iii) for a period of up to 30 minutes, members will be invited by the President to speak to and ask the MBSC questions about these

- challenges and road blocks, each member to speak for up to 3 minutes, and
- (iv) for a period of up to 20 minutes, members will be invited by the President to participate in small group discussion and to provide written feedback, and
- (b) a focus on what we want to be as a missional diocese from 8:00 pm on Wednesday 15 October 2008 as follows –
- (i) the MBSC will provide an overview of the areas for improvement and objectives for the Mission for up to 20 minutes, and
  - (ii) for a period of up to 30 minutes, members will be invited by the President to speak to and ask the MBSC questions about these areas for improvement and objectives, each member to speak for up to 3 minutes, and
  - (iii) for a period of up to 20 minutes, members will be invited by the President to participate in small group discussion and to provide written feedback, and
  - (iv) the motion at item 16.11 on today's business paper will be moved with the mover and seconder speaking to the motion for a combined period of up to 10 minutes,

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

(Mr Robert Wicks)

**11.4 Presentation in connection with the motion concerning the Statement on the Global Anglican Future and Jerusalem Declaration**

Synod agrees to the mover of the motion concerning the Global Anglican Future and Jerusalem Declaration at item 16.14 on today's business paper showing a video presentation of up to 10 minutes during his speech in addition to speaking to the motion for up to 10 minutes and suspends so many of the business rules as would prevent these arrangements.

(Mr Robert Wicks)

**11.5 Arrangements to recommence debate on motion concerning the ordination of women**

Synod agrees to the following arrangements for the purposes of recommencing debate on the motion moved by the Rev Chris Albany at the last session of the Synod concerning the ordination of women (the "Motion") and the amendment moved to the Motion by Mr Robert Tong (the "Amendment") –

- (a) debate on the Motion and the Amendment shall recommence at 4:30 pm on Tuesday 14 October, and
- (b) Mr Albany shall be permitted to speak again to the Motion for up to 10 minutes, and
- (c) Mr Tong shall be permitted to speak again to the Amendment for up to 5 minutes,

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

(Mr Robert Wicks)

**11.6 Notice re proposed ordinances to assent to canons to amend the 1961 Constitution**

Under business rule 5.2(3)(d) Synod permits, without further notice, the consideration at this session of a motion for the introduction of the General Synod - Constitution Amendment (Section 10) Canon 2007 Assenting Ordinance 2008.

(The Rev Chris Moroney)

## 11.7 Circulation of printed material

Synod authorises the Secretaries to approve the distribution to members of any report or other material from a Diocesan body or organisation.

(The Rev Chris Moroney)

## 12. The President will invite members to give notice of other motions

## 13. Calling of motions on the business paper

## 14. Tabling and reception of accounts and reports etc

- 14.1 Synod notes that the undermentioned reports etc have been tabled, receives them and resolves that they be printed at the discretion of the Standing Committee –

### *Diocesan Organisations - Audited Accounts and Annual Reports*

- (1) Abbotsleigh, The Council of
- (2) Anglican Church Property Trust Diocese of Sydney
- (3) Anglican Education Commission
- (4) Anglican Media Council
- (5) Anglican Retirement Villages: Diocese of Sydney 2006/2007
- (6) Anglican Youth and Education Division
- (7) Arden Anglican School Council
- (8) Arundel House Council
- (9) Barker College, The Council of
- (10) Campbelltown Anglican Schools Council
- (11) Continuing Education for Ministers, Council of
- (12) Department of Evangelism
- (13) Georges River Regional Council
- (14) Glebe Administration Board
- (15) Illawarra Grammar School, Council of The
- (16) Kings School, The Council of the
- (17) Macarthur Anglican Church School Council (The)
- (18) Moore Theological College Council
- (19) Northern Regional Council
- (20) St Andrew's Cathedral Chapter
- (21) St Andrew's Cathedral School Council
- (22) St Andrew's House Corporation
- (23) St Catherine's School Waverley, Council of
- (24) St John's Provisional Cathedral Chapter, Parramatta
- (25) St Michael's Provisional Cathedral Chapter Wollongong
- (26) South Sydney Regional Council
- (27) Sydney Anglican Home Mission Society Council 2006/2007
- (28) Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Committee
- (29) Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation
- (30) Sydney Church of England Finance and Loans Board
- (31) Sydney Church of England Grammar School Council
- (32) Sydney Diocesan Educational and Book Committee
- (33) Sydney Diocesan Secretariat
- (34) Tara Anglican School for Girls, Council of
- (35) Trinity Grammar School Grammar Council
- (36) Western Sydney Regional Council
- (37) William Branwhite Clarke College Council
- (38) Wollongong Regional Council

### *Standing Committee Reports and Synod Fund Accounts etc*

- (39) 2008 Annual Report
- (40) Synod Fund Audited Accounts for 2007
- (41) Affiliated Churches
- (42) Asbestos Inspection Charge for 2009
- (43) Climate Change (17/07)

- (44) Connect09 Costs for 2009
- (45) Connect09 Progress Report
- (46) Diocesan Mission (The) – Midpoint Report: Achievements and Challenges in Becoming a Missional Diocese
- (47) Diocesan Policy Statement on Education Amendments (30/06)
- (48) GAFCON Statement
- (49) General Synod 2007 Legislation
- (50) General Synod Session 2007
- (51) Greenoaks Apartments
- (52) Human rights, legal frameworks, and Christian responses
- (53) Lay and diaconal administration of Holy Communion Legal Impediments (26/03)
- (54) Review of the Synod's consideration of the Law of the Church of England Clarification Canon 1992 and the Ordination of Women as Presbyters
- (55) Ordinances passed by the Standing Committee
- (56) Safe Ministry Board Annual Report
- (57) Stipends, Allowances and Benefits for 2009 (2/05)
- (58) Theology of Christian Assembly (35/07)
- (59) Towards a Diocesan Policy on Same-Sex Relationships
- (60) Georges River Regional Council – Annual Report for 2007
- (61) Northern Regional Council – Annual Report for 2007
- (62) South Sydney Regional Council – Annual Report for 2007
- (63) Western Sydney Regional Council – Annual Report for 2007
- (64) Wollongong Regional Council – Annual Report for 2007
- (65) Explanatory Statements and reports on Bills

(The Rev Chris Moroney)

- 14.2 Synod notes that the Anglican Retirement Villages: Diocese of Sydney and Anglicare Diocese of Sydney have a financial year ending 30 June and that they are not due to submit their annual reports and a copy of their audited accounts until 30 September.

(The Rev Chris Moroney)

## **15. Motions for proposed ordinances referred to the 1st session of the 48th Synod**

There are no motions under this heading.

## **16. Motions by request of the Standing Committee**

### **16.1 Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2008.

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(Bishop Peter Tasker/Mr Peter Kell)

### **16.2 Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2008.

*(Page 395)*

(Bishop Peter Tasker/Mr Peter Kell)

### **16.3 Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2008.

*(Supplementary Report page 12)*

(Bishop Robert Forsyth/Mr John Pascoe)

### **16.4 Parish Administration Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the Parish Administration Ordinance 2008.

*(Page 261)*

(Bishop Robert Forsyth/Mr Robert Wicks)

#### **16.5 Parish Administration (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the Parish Administration (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance 2008.

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(Mr Robert Wicks/Bishop Robert Forsyth)

#### **16.6 General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Section 10) Canon 2007 Assenting Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Section 10) Canon 2007 Assenting Ordinance 2008.

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(Mr Neil Cameron)

#### **16.7 General Synod – National Register Canon 2007 Adopting Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod – National Register Canon 2007 Adopting Ordinance 2008.

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(Mr Neil Cameron/Mr Philip Gerber)

#### **16.8 Clergy Removals Fund Ordinance 2003 Amendment Ordinance 2008**

Synod permits the introduction of the Clergy Removals Fund Ordinance 2003 Amendment Ordinance 2008.

*(Supplementary Report page 5)*

(Mr James Flavin/Mr John Pascoe)

#### **16.9 Connect09**

Synod gives thanks to God for –

- (a) the vision, drive and commitment of the Archbishop in leading the Connect09 campaign and in encouraging our ministers, leaders and people across the Diocese to pray and persevere in turning the vision for Connect09 into action;
- (b) the commitment of our Diocesan leaders, ministers and people who are working hard at turning the resources of the Diocese toward this great campaign and who are implementing strategies for Connect09 at the local level; and
- (c) the energy and commitment of the Connect09 team members, volunteers, Connect09 Ambassadors and Parish Co-ordinators who are helping to turn the vision of Connect09 into a reality;

and calls on all ministers, leaders, parishes, fellowships, congregations, Anglican schools and Diocesan organisations to remain committed –

- (d) to praying for the people of Sydney, the Blue Mountains and the Illawarra;
- (e) to reaching out and genuinely connecting with their communities as they share their lives and the Word of God;
- (f) to developing innovative and generous partnerships with parishes and organisations as together we expect lives to be transformed by the Word of God; and
- (g) to driving the Connect09 campaign at the local level.

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(Canon Jim Ramsay/TBA)

#### **16.10 Theology of Christian Assembly**

Synod welcomes the report of the Doctrine Commission, "Theology of Christian Assembly", endorses its recommendations and requests that –

- (a) ministers, ministry teams and other leaders in the churches of the Diocese give careful attention to the report and take steps to implement its recommendations, as appropriate; and
- (b) the Liturgical group prepare a new range of “templates for Christian assembly” suitable for the contemporary church, taking account of the Doctrine Commission’s report.

*(Supplementary Report page 26)*

(Canon John Woodhouse/TBA)

#### **16.11 Strategic plan for the Mission**

Synod –

- (a) endorses generally the matters raised in the report “The Diocesan Mission – Midpoint Report: Achievements and Challenges in Becoming a Missional Diocese”, and
- (b) invites members to make further comments to the Diocesan Secretary by 27 October 2008 about the matters raised in the report, and
- (c) notes that, in accordance with the Synod Estimates Ordinance 1998, a strategic plan will be prepared for Synod’s consideration next year which takes into account the comments of members and which reflects the challenges and objectives referred to in the report.

*(Special report)*

(Mr Peter Kell/Mr Steve McKerihan)

#### **16.12 Lay and diaconal administration**

Synod –

- (a) accepts the report concerning legal barriers to lay and diaconal administration of the Lord’s Supper which was submitted to the 3<sup>rd</sup> session of the 47<sup>th</sup> Synod; and
- (b) affirms again its conviction that lay and diaconal administration of the Lord’s Supper is consistent with the teaching of Scripture; and
- (c) affirms that the Lord’s Supper in this diocese may be administered by persons other than presbyters.

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(Bishop Glenn Davies/Archdeacon Narelle Jarrett)

#### **16.13 Affiliated Churches**

Synod warmly welcomes, as an expression of our partnership in the gospel, the formal affiliation between this Diocese and the following churches –

Northern Lakes Evangelical Church

Albury Bible Fellowship

The Point Community Church

The Lakes Evangelical Church

Maitland Evangelical Church

Stanthorpe Evangelical Community Church

and requests the Standing Committee to consult with each of our affiliates about the ways in which our partnership in the gospel can be strengthened and to report back to Synod next year about any action taken for this purpose.

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(Bishop Al Stewart/Dr Philip Selden)

#### **16.14 Statement on the Global Anglican Future and Jerusalem Declaration**

Synod endorses the Jerusalem Declaration as exemplifying the tenets of orthodoxy which underpin our Anglican identity and invites all Anglicans in Australia to endorse the Declaration.

*(Page 109)*

(Bishop Glenn Davies/Dr Karin Sowada)

## 16.15 Human rights framework for Australia

Synod –

- (a) welcomes the proposed Federal Government consultation process on the protection of human rights in Australia, and
- (b) thanks the Social Issues Executive for the work they have undertaken in the area of human rights to date and requests that they maintain a watching brief on developments in this area, and
- (c) requests the Diocesan Doctrine Commission, in consultation with the Social Issues Executive, to prepare for the Standing Committee as a matter of priority a paper clarifying our theological understanding of human rights, and
- (d) requests the Standing Committee to engage with the Federal Government consultation process and report progress to the next session of the Synod.

*(Supplementary Report page 34)*

(Justice Peter Young/Mr Robert Tong)

## 17. Motions by request of a regional council

*There are no motions under this heading.*

## 18. Motions received by the Standing Committee

### 18.1 Ordination of women

Synod notes that –

- (a) within both the Anglican Church of Australia and the wider Anglican Communion there is a diversity of practice in regard to the ordination of women, and
- (b) Synods of this Diocese have consistently voted not to permit the ordination of women as priests, based on the understanding that whilst scripture encourages the ministry of women, it denies the eldership of women in the congregation.

However, Synod also notes that there is another understanding of scripture held by a small but significant minority within the diocese. This understanding holds that scripture supports and endorses women being involved in all aspects of the life and ministry of God's people including eldership of the congregation and so in Anglican Polity being ordained as priests and Bishops. Synod therefore asks the Archbishop to explore ways in which these different views can be creatively lived out in the life and practice of the diocese.

*(Page 189)*

(The Rev Chris Albany)

### 18.2 Archdeacon Terry Dein

Synod gives thanks to God for the ministry of the Venerable Terrence Dein who retires from the Synod at the end of this year, and in particular –

- (a) his 35 years membership of this synod since his election as a lay member in 1964 and a member of Standing Committee since 1991,
- (b) his skilful administration and pastoral ministry as Archdeacon of North Sydney since 2004,
- (c) his faithful ministry of the word as rector of St Andrew's Wahroonga for over 18 years (1986-2004) and the parish of Yagoona for 7 years (1979-1986), having begun his ordained ministry at St Stephen's Willoughby (1969-1973),
- (d) his visionary leadership as Director of the Anglican Youth Department (1974-1979), and
- (e) his tireless energy in promoting the cause of Christ through his contributions to many Diocesan organisations, including the Cathedral Chapter, Anglicare



and the Anglican Retirement Villages, as well as membership of the General Synod.

Synod expresses its gratitude to Terry and wishes him and his wife, Barbara, God's blessings upon their future life and ministry.

(Bishop Glenn Davies)

### 18.3 Anglican school councils

Synod –

- (a) affirms the strategic role of the Anglican schools in the Diocesan Mission through their Christian education programs and their outreach to students and families,
- (b) acknowledges the valuable contribution made by the 400 lay and clerical members of Anglican school councils,
- (c) commends the Archbishop and the Anglican Education Commission for holding a meeting in May this year to thank these members of school councils for their service and to encourage them for the future, and
- (d) respectfully requests the Archbishop to hold further meetings at times that he feels appropriate, to continue to encourage school councils and to help them to feel partners in the Diocese's mission.

(The Rev Ian Millican)

### 18.4 Educational practices and ministry in parishes

Synod, in the light of the Diocesan Education Policy adopted in 2007 –

- (a) expresses its appreciation to the Anglican Education Commission for its production of an explanatory booklet *Your Way Around the Education Policy*,
- (b) encourages every parish to use the explanatory booklet to review its educational practices and ministry during 2009 in the light of the Diocesan Education Policy, and
- (c) requests the Anglican Education Commission to provide suitable support to parishes which request it.

(The Rev Dr Bill Salier)

### 18.5 Competition with regular Sunday church meetings

Synod, recognising that we are not under law but grace, encourages all Sydney Anglicans not to forsake regular weekly meeting together in their own congregations and therefore requests all Anglican schools and other Anglican organisations to avoid scheduling activities (whether regular or occasional) on Sunday so as to avoid competition with our regular Sunday church meetings, and thus avoid tempting Christians to skip church.

(Canon Sandy Grant/The Rev Neil Macken)

### 18.6 Towards a More Appropriate Response

Synod, recognising that TAMAR (Towards a More Appropriate Response) has accomplished its prophetic role in supporting victims of sexual abuse and noting its decision to discontinue in view of initiatives now being undertaken by the Diocese –

- (a) encourages the Diocese to maintain and enhance the protocols and processes now in place relating to sexual abuse in the Church,
- (b) notes with appreciation and gives thanks to God for the untiring work of members of TAMAR, who, for over a decade have offered support for victims of sexual abuse by clergy and Church workers, and
- (c) acknowledges the important part played by TAMAR in its educative, advisory and advocacy role involving parishes and diocesan organisations in relation to sexual abuse.

(Bishop Robert Forsyth/Mr Philip Gerber)

**18.7 Voting on clergy remuneration**

Synod considers that, in order to avoid any actual or perceived conflict of interest, members of the Standing Committee whose remuneration is set by reference to the minimum stipends and allowances determined from time to time by the Standing Committee should not vote on any motion before the Standing Committee concerning the remuneration or any other entitlement pertaining to the office of minister, assistant minister or lay minister.

(Mr Bruce York)

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# Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

*References to items and motions are references to items and motions in the business paper for Monday 13 October 2008.*

<b>Monday 13 October 2008</b>	
3:15 – 4:00 pm	Formal matters (items 1-14)
4:00 – 5:30 pm	Presidential Address
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Mission Presentation
8:00 – 9:15 pm	Synod Service

<b>Tuesday 14 October 2008</b>	
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 – 5:45 pm	18.1 Ordination of women 16.9 Connect09 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 – 8:00 pm	16.1 Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2008 16.2 Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2008 16.3 Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2008 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
8:00 pm +	Discussion on achievements and challenges in becoming a missional diocese Thereafter, other business as per the business paper

<b>Wednesday 15 October 2008</b>	
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 – 5:45 pm	16.4 Parish Administration Ordinance 2008 16.5 Parish Administration (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance 2008 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 – 8:00 pm	16.10 Theology of Christian assembly Thereafter, other business as per business paper
8:00 pm +	Discussion on achievements and challenges in becoming a missional diocese 16.11 Strategic plan for the Mission Thereafter, other business as per business paper

<b>Monday 20 October 2008</b>	
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 – 5:45 pm	16.7 General Synod – National Register Canon 2007 Adopting Ordinance 2008 16.12 Lay and diaconal administration 16.13 Affiliated Churches Thereafter, other business as per business paper
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Missionary Hour
8:00 pm +	16.14 Statement on the Global Anglican Future and Jerusalem Declaration Thereafter, other business as per business paper

<b>Tuesday 21 October 2008</b>	
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4:30 – 5:45 pm	16.15 Human rights framework for Australia Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7:00 pm +	Business as per the business paper