

# Anglican Church of Australia Diocese of Sydney

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 48th Synod

### Business Paper: Tuesday 20 October 2009

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

#### **Members of the Synod are asked to identify themselves each time they speak**

**1. Devotions will be led by the Rev Dr Bill Salier**

**2. Minutes of 19 October 2009**

**3. Answers to questions**

3.1 Dr Robert Mackay to ask –

Given the intended requirement for the Appropriations & Allocations Ordinance to take up certain Bishops expenses, previously funded entirely by the Endowment of the See, and the resultant diminution of regional outlays for parish based initiatives, would the Archbishop please advise the Synod as to the financial status of the Endowment of the See, with regard to –

- (a) 31/12/2008 and current balance sheet positions,
- (b) financial performance for the year ended 31/12/2008 and during 2009,
- (c) the financial/investment strategy going forward?

3.2 The Rev Robert Denham to ask –

Concerning the duties of an Area Dean as outlined in clause 9.10 of the First Schedule to the Parish Administration Ordinance, in the past two years –

- (a) In how many parishes has any Area Dean carried out those duties?
- (b) Has the Archbishop or any Assistant Bishop asked an Area Dean about the results of such duties?
- (c) Has the Archbishop or any Assistant Bishop directly instructed an Area Dean to carry out such duties?

3.3 The Rev Robert Denham to ask –

At which point of the recovery from the Global Financial Crisis will the Archbishop consider it appropriate to appoint an Assistant Bishop with regional responsibility for the Georges River Region?

3.4 The Rev Bob Cameron to ask –

- (a) What were the total amounts that each Regional Council had undertaken to distribute to parishes by way of funding grants in 2010 and 2011?
- (b) Had any undertakings been given by any Regional Council with regard to funding grants beyond 2011?
- (c) What steps have been taken, if any, to consult with parishes who had received such undertakings, as to their capacity to still fund the relevant ministry in the event of no longer receiving the funding grant or of a reduction of the same?
- (d) Have any parishes been asked or offered to voluntarily reduce or withdraw their applications for funding grants in 2010 or later, and if they have, what

percentage of approved grants do the consequent reductions in total applications represent?

- (e) Prior to the investment losses sustained by the Diocese in 2008, what other diocesan organisations or bodies had received specific undertakings by the Standing Committee or the Synod as to funding in 2010, 2011, or later?

3.5 Mr Justice David Lloyd to ask –

- (a) Can a comparison be prepared, preferably in the form of a graph, showing the performance of the Diocesan Clergy Superannuation Fund since the current stewardship took over the administration of that Fund from the Glebe Administration Board, with that of the Endowment of the See administered by the Glebe Board for the same period?
- (b) If so, can and will this information be made available in time for the debate on motion 16.6?

3.6 Mr Ian Cousins to ask –

With respect to item 15 Commitments – premises rental of the 2008 Audited Accounts of the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat –

- (a) What property was newly acquired in 2008 and current year 2009 that is rented/leased and where is the location of these properties?
- (b) What are the terms of the leases/agreements in respect to CPI or/and market review and outgoing in respect to these properties?
- (c) Are there any leases/rental agreements that have a time frame greater than 5 years as at 31 December 2008 and as at 30 June 2009. What are these lease/rental commitments?

3.7 Mr Ian Cousins to ask –

What is the update of the Secretariat on its objection to the Pay-roll tax assessment as detailed in Note 16 on page 347?

3.8 Deaconess Margaret Rodgers to ask –

- (a) When will the Anglicare Council inform the Synod of the results of consultation into Kingsdene Special School?
- (b) What are the decisions about Kingsdene's future role and ministry?

3.9 Ms Alicia Watson to ask –

- (a) Is the President able to confirm that land has been purchased or is about to be purchased in the new Oran Park Town development in Sydney's South West Growth Corridor for the purpose of the Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation establishing a new Anglican Kindergarten to Year 12 co-educational school?
- (b) If a new Anglican school is to be established in this development –
- (i) When are the building works proposed to commence and when is it planned for the school to open?
- (ii) Is it the case that the proposed site for this new Anglican school is within walking distance, no more than four (4) kilometres, from an existing Anglican K-12 school?
- (iii) Is it also the case that the proposed fee structure per student for the new school is approximately \$8,000 per annum for the primary years, almost identical to the fee structure of the existing school down the road?
- (iv) Has the SASC commissioned a detailed demographic study of the area, if so by whom and when, examining the viability of establishing a new school in this area considering that there are already five (5)

Anglican schools drawing students from this area, another three (3) Christian schools, at least five (5) Catholic schools and more already planned?

- (v) Has the SASC commissioned a detailed study, if so by who and when, examining the short, medium and long term financial viability of establishing a new school in this development as well as the ongoing financial impact such a new school would have on the three (3) closest existing Anglican Schools operating within the same drawing area?
- (vi) If reports mentioned above were conducted, are the results, or a précis thereof, available for public access and/or comment and are the results still considered relevant in light of the impact the global economic crisis has had on the population in the south west of Sydney?

3.10 The Rev David Clarke to ask –

During 2008 who were the members of the GAB Board Risk and Compliance Management Committee? How many times did they meet? Has the membership of this committee changed during 2009, and if so, who are the current members?

3.11 Dr Stephen Judd to ask –

My question is prompted by a letter received last Friday by synod members from Anglican Retirement Villages (ARV), in which it was stated that “ARV has adopted a governance model consistent with established governance principles”.

- (a) Is it appropriate for a diocesan organisation to “run a ticket” for its own Board and in doing so make negative judgments on other qualified nominations?
- (b) Does this campaigning against other qualified nominees by ARV’s Board constitute interference in the election processes of the Synod?
- (c) Is such campaigning by incumbent diocesan boards deemed best practice?
- (d) Given ARV’s Board stated concern for best practice governance, why is ARV almost alone among Anglican bodies not to have its statutory accounts and annual reports freely available on its website or sent to Synod members – and is this practice in breach of Resolution 20/07 of Synod?
- (e) As the abovementioned letter was sent to all 700 Synod members via expensive Express Post what was the cost of this mailing?
- (f) Finally, has any ARV Board member who has served in the past three years received remuneration or any other benefit from the organisation and, if so, has the required approval from the Minister been sought and received in accordance with s.48 of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (which section does apply to religious organisations exempt under s.7 of that Act to hold an authority to fundraise)?

3.12 The Rev Philip Griffin to ask –

Pursuant to Resolution 14/08 of the 2008 session of Synod –

- (a) What missional plant experiences has the Archbishop’s Liturgical Group taken into account in preparing a new range of templates for Christian Assembly? Has any of these missional plants included –
  - (i) a congregation with low literacy levels?
  - (ii) a congregation in which the majority of members have a Roman Catholic or Eastern Orthodox background?
  - (iii) a congregation whose membership is largely not Anglo-saxon, and where English is not the native language of many of the members?
  - (iv) a congregation with any other distinctive feature?
- (b) Has there been any theological assessment of the statement that the role of the service leader is, according to the “better gatherings” website ‘The responsibility is to lead others to encounter God.’? If not, what is the

process for expressing concerns about the theology expressed in this and other statements on this website?

- (c) Has there been any theological assessment of the two versions of the prayer of humble access drawn from Sunday Services and Common Worship also on this website?
- (d) Has this Synod ever approved the liturgy known as Common Worship?

3.13 Mr John Paul to ask –

This question relates to both the Standing Committee's report and the Strategic Directions 2010-2012 documents. Both documents refer to the Endowment of the See experiencing losses as well as the Diocesan Endowment –

- (a) Will copies of the audited accounts for this Endowment of the See be made available to Synod noting that the Endowment of the See's financial reports are provided to Standing Committee, which in turn is a Committee of Synod?
- (b) If not, why not?

3.14 Mrs Jane Strickland to ask –

In referring to paragraph 4.25 of the 2009 Report of the Standing Committee (page 16 of the 2009 Session of Synod Book) regarding a summary of the Harvest Living Investment Review –

- (a) What was the monetary value of the investment loss to the Glebe Administration Board (GAB) in the Harvest Living group of companies?
- (b) What are the changes that have been made to investment policies and procedures of the GAB that will not allow any investment of a similar nature to be made in the future?

3.15 Ms Lyn Bannerman to ask –

This question refers to the Diocesan Endowment (DE) audited accounts for 2008 –

- (a) The five year financial summary at pages 362-363 of the Annual Report states that the total liabilities to net assets ratio of the DE for 2008 was nearly 200% (195.8%), up from 139.3% in 2007. Noting that all bank debt was repaid, could you please advise Synod what the liabilities of \$205.4 million consist of?
- (b) What was the projected liabilities to net asset ratios for the years 2009 and 2010?
- (c) What do the Glebe Administration Board and Standing committee consider to be an appropriate ratio for the DE?
- (d) Are there strategies in place to reduce the current liabilities to net asset ratio? If so what are they?
- (e) P.397 of the Annual Report refers to "Doubtful Debts" over \$1 million. What are these?
- (f) Referring to pages 333 and 401 of the annual report, please explain to Synod, in laypersons language, what "impairment of investments" means? Which investments fall into this category? On what is \$1.7 million for this purpose being spent?

3.16 The Rev Gwilym Henry-Edwards to ask –

Concerning three General Synod 2007 canons aimed at providing a nationally coherent and consistent policy in matters concerning professional standards and clergy discipline; namely the National Register Canon 2007; the Special Tribunal Canon 2007; and the Offences Canon Amendment Canon 2007 –

- (a) What is their status in the Sydney Diocese?
- (b) Did Sydney representatives oppose the passing of these canons at the 2007 General Synod?

- (c) Is it true that Sydney Standing Committee has declared that these canons affect the order and good government of the church within the diocese of Sydney?
- (d) If so, why was the declaration made?
- (e) What flows from that declaration, and what effect does that declaration have on the promotion of a nationally consistent scheme for clergy disciplinary matters?

3.17 The Rev Greg Olliffe to ask –

How many unique visits to the Connect09.com site have there been each month since its inception to the end of September 2009?

3.18 Ms Caroline Bowyer to ask –

My question refers to the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009 –

- (a) What are the reasons for the discontinuation of all funding for the following –
  - (i) the Primate's Assistant (para 63 of the Ordinance)?
  - (ii) The Anglican Consultative Council (para 65)?
  - (iii) The Australian Defence Force Board (para 66)?
  - (iv) The NSW Ecumenical Council (para 68)?
- (b) Noting that these items are small in the overall budget, why were they not reduced by some percentage, as many other budget items were, rather than discontinued?
- (c) Is there an intention to reinstate funding to any or all of these items in the future, as finances allow? If not, why not?
- (d) In the context of these decisions, and in view of the need for fiscal constraint in 2010, why is funding in 2010 for the NSW Council of Churches –
  - (i) to be continued at all?
  - (ii) continued with a significantly increased allocation (p.314 of the Annual Report)?
- (e) In view of the proposed discontinuation of funding for the NSW Ecumenical Council, what is the policy of this Diocese towards ecumenism?

3.19 The Rev Gavin Poole to ask –

- (a) What was the total amount of money realised from the sale of shares sold by the Glebe Board between 15 September 2008 and 31 December 2008?
- (b) What independent professional advice was obtained by the Glebe Board prior to selling those shares?
- (c) What was the total value of those same shares on the Sydney Stock Exchange on 1 March 2008?
- (d) What was the total value of those same shares on the Sydney Stock Exchange on 15 October 2009?

3.20 The Rev David O'Mara to ask –

- (a) What is the current practice and future plans of Moore Theological College to equip Anglican ordination candidates for cross-cultural ministry in the Diocese of Sydney?
- (b) What is the current practice and future plans of Moore Theological College to develop and equip its theological staff to prepare Anglican ordination candidates for the unique challenges of cross-cultural ministry in the Diocese of Sydney?

3.21 The Rev Philip Bradford to ask –

This question refers to several items in the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009 –

- (a) \$35,000 has been allocated in 2010 under Policy 1a for spiritual renewal through prayer (p. 308 of the Annual report). Please advise –
  - (i) How this estimate has been derived?
  - (ii) What are the costed components that make up this allocation?
- (b) Para 49 of the proposed Ordinance states that: “Synod provides as much funding as possible for Moore Theological College”. In view of the cuts to funding across the board, including some previous budget lines being allocation \$0 for 2010 –
  - (i) What does “as much funding as possible” actually mean?
  - (ii) Is there an intention to allocate more to the College than the budget contained in the Ordinance before Synod currently specifies?
  - (iii) Is Synod being asked to endorse an open ended amount for the College?
- (c) \$288,000 has been allocated under Policy 1b, to the “Work Outside the Diocese Committee”. The only item mentioned at para 30 of the Ordinance in respect of this item is GAFCON.
  - (i) Does this mean that all the allocation of \$288,000 is to support the Diocese’s involvement in GAFCON?
  - (ii) If not, how much of these funds will be GAFCON related and what other activities will be funded under this line?

3.22 Professor Jocelyn Chey to ask –

This question refers to the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009 and the Strategic Directions paper –

- (a) What provision has been made in 2010 to meet the Diocese’s obligation to ensure pastoral support and professional development to its clergy?
- (b) Is it true that the cost of such support (see paras 33 and 47 of the Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance) will be dependent on fund raising by parishes?
- (c) What will the Diocese do to assist clergy if such fund raising is not adequate?
- (d) Who will provide pastoral support to clergy, given that the new structures proposed in the Strategic Directions paper appears to eliminate the traditional roles of Archdeacons and Deaneries, and given that Assistant Bishops will have increased workloads implementing policies in the Strategic Directions?

3.23 The Rev Martin Robinson to ask –

- (a) How many ordained priests were in active service in the Diocese in 2001?
- (b) How many are there in 2009?

3.24 The Rev Martin Robinson to ask –

Is it the case that the Diocese has withdrawn from ICCOREIS (the Inter-Church Commission on Religious Education in Schools)? If so –

- (a) When was this decision taken?
- (b) How and when was it drawn to the attention of the Diocese at large?
- (c) Why was this action taken?

**4. Petitions**

**5. Notices of questions**

6. **Procedural motions from members**
7. **The President will invite members to give notice of other motions**
8. **Calling of motions on the business paper**
9. **Motions**

*To be taken today from 4.30 pm*

9.1 **Archbishop of Sydney Appointment Amendment Ordinance 2009**

Synod permits the introduction of the Archbishop of Sydney Appointment Amendment Ordinance 2009.

*(Supplementary Report page 4)*

(Mr Robert Tong/Mr Peter Kell)

9.2 **Questions of principle relevant to electing the Archbishop**

Synod requests the Standing Committee to review the questions of principle relevant to electing a person to the office of Archbishop of Sydney including –

- (a) whether a notice to summon an election Synod to fill a vacancy which the Standing Committee has resolved to be filled under clause 2(2) of the Archbishop of Sydney Appointment Ordinance 1982 should be given shortly after the Standing Committee's resolution and before the occurrence of the vacancy, and
- (b) whether the election Synod itself may be held before the occurrence of such a vacancy, and
- (c) whether a person should be elected to the office of Archbishop of Sydney for a fixed term,

and requests the Standing Committee to report to next year's Synod about this matter.

(Bishop Glenn Davies)

9.3 **General Synod – The Solemnization of Matrimony Canon Amendment Canon 2007 Assenting Ordinance 2009**

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod – The Solemnization of Matrimony Canon Amendment Canon 2007 Assenting Ordinance 2009.

*(Page 268)*

(Bishop Glenn Davies/Justice Peter Young)

9.4 **General Synod Legislation Repeal and Exclusion Ordinance 2009**

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod Legislation Repeal and Exclusion Ordinance 2009.

*(Page 257)*

(Mr Neil Cameron/Bishop Glenn Davies)

*To be taken today from 7.00 pm*

9.5 **Diocesan Endowment investment losses**

In light of the global financial crisis and recent large capital losses experienced by the Diocesan Endowment, Synod continues in thankfulness to and dependence on our Almighty God and Loving Heavenly Father, who owns the cattle on a thousand hills, is no man's debtor and knows our needs better than we know ourselves.

Synod also –

- (i) notes that the strategy of the Glebe Administration Board (GAB) of borrowing to invest (gearing) was exercised completely within the authorities given to it and was clearly reported on a monthly basis to Standing Committee and annually to Synod,
- (ii) notes that both the CEO and members of the GAB, and the Standing Committee have –
  - (a) accepted their respective responsibilities for management and oversight of the Diocesan Endowment (DE) investment strategies, and
  - (b) expressed their regret at the losses stemming from the implementation of this strategy of gearing, and
  - (c) admitted in particular that mistakes were made in risk management procedures related to this gearing, and
- (iii) joins with the GAB and Standing Committee in expressing this regret.

Synod also –

- (iv) notes that while the GAB has repaid all bank debt, an undrawn line of credit of \$50 million has been maintained for prudential purposes and, if this facility is drawn on, the GAB has undertaken to provide a full explanation to the next Standing Committee meeting, and
- (v) notes that borrowing in the form of deposit raising by church funds similar to the DE is a widely accepted practice among other dioceses and denominations.

Finally, Synod seeks to honour God in faithful stewardship of our resources, trusting in the promises of his word and seeking to be content both in times of need as well as plenty, knowing that we can do all things through God who gives us strength.

(Mr Peter Kell/Mr Robert Tong)

***To be taken on Wednesday 21 October 2009 from 4.30 pm***

**9.6 Moore Theological College Ordinance 1984 Amendment Ordinance 2009**

That the Synod resolve itself into the Synod in Committee to consider the text of the Moore Theological College Ordinance 1984 Amendment Ordinance 2009.

(Supplementary Report page 11) (Bishop Glenn Davies/Mr Robert Tong)

**9.7 Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2009**

Synod permits the introduction of the Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2009.

(Page 245) (Mr Glenn Murray/Mr Robert Wicks)

**9.8 General Synod – Special Tribunal Canon 2007 Declarations Ordinance 2009**

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod – Special Tribunal Canon 2007 Declarations Ordinance 2009.

(Page 266) (Mr Robert Tong/The Rev Dr Mark Thompson)

**9.9 General Synod – Offences Canon Amendment Canon 2007 Adopting Ordinance 2009**

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod – Offences Canon Amendment Canon 2007 Adopting Ordinance 2009.

(Page 263) (Mr Neil Cameron/Dr Karin Sowada)



**9.10 General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Suspension of Bishops) Canon 2007 Assenting Ordinance 2009**

Synod permits the introduction of the General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Suspension of Bishops) Canon 2007 Assenting Ordinance 2009.

(Page 254)

(Mr Neil Cameron/Mr Robert Wicks)

**To be taken on Wednesday 21 October 2009 from 7.00 pm**

**9.11 Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009**

That the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009 be approved in principle.

(Page 296)

(Mr Peter Kell/The Rev Stephen Semenchuk)

**9.12 Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2009**

Synod permits the introduction of the Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2009.

(Page 277)

(Mr Peter Kell/The Rev Stephen Semenchuk)

**To be taken on Monday 26 October 2009 from 4.30 pm**

**9.13 Synod Membership (Nominated Indigenous Representatives) Ordinance 2009**

Synod permits the introduction of the Synod Membership (Nominated Indigenous Representatives) Ordinance 2009.

(Page 323)

(Archdeacon Deryck Howell/Archdeacon Ken Allen)

**9.14 Tertiary Ministry Oversight Committee**

Synod agrees to form a Tertiary Ministry Oversight Committee (TMOC), consisting of 6 persons elected by Synod for a 3 year term and one person appointed by the Archbishop. The committee to be charged with coordinating and developing ministry to tertiary students throughout the Diocese, including responsibility for –

- (a) recruiting, training and supporting tertiary chaplains and promoting their ministries,
- (b) recommending the allocation of resources in accordance with strategic priorities,
- (c) in consultation with appropriate bodies, preparing for Synod's consideration a diocesan policy on ministry in TAFE institutes, and
- (d) exploring the possibility of further creative partnerships with Anglican University colleges, AFES, Anglican Education Commission and other relevant bodies.

(Page 200)

(Mr Andrew Frank/Canon Sandy Grant)

**9.15 People affected by disability**

Synod, mindful that meeting together in Christ, we learn of receiving our bodies as given by God; we continue to discover practices of love towards all people in their particular circumstances; we discern with them how to 'carry each other's burdens' (Gal. 6:2); and we each learn together how to 'carry our own load' (Gal 6:5), therefore –

- (a) recognises that for people with disabilities, their families and carers, daily life can be practically, financially, socially and emotionally more difficult than it is for most people,

- (b) notes that there are many obstacles for people with disabilities, their families and carers, which prevent them hearing the gospel and sharing in Christian fellowship, which we have not always considered,
- (c) requests that all parishes and organisations in the Sydney Diocese of the Anglican Church develop and implement a plan to remove those obstacles that currently prevent people affected by disability from hearing the gospel and sharing in Christian fellowship, and
- (d) requests Sydney Anglicans and the Diocese in particular to continue to advocate for Government policy that promotes the wellbeing and interests of people with disabilities and their families and carers.

(Deaconess Margaret Rodgers/Mr Darren Mitchell)

**To be taken on Monday 26 October 2009 from 8.00 pm**

**9.16 Grievance policy and procedure**

Synod receives the report on procedures and sanctions for all standards in *Faithfulness in Service* and, noting the proposed Grievance Policy and Procedure and Parish Relationships Amendment Ordinance 2009 attached to the report –

- (a) requests that members provide comments on the proposed Grievance Policy and Procedure and Parish Relationships Amendment Ordinance 2009 to the Diocesan Secretary by 31 March 2010, and
- (b) requests that a form of the Grievance Policy and Procedure and Parish Relationships Amendment Ordinance 2009 be brought to the Synod in 2010 incorporating, as appropriate, comments made by members.

(Page 163)

(Archdeacon Ken Allen/Canon Sandy Grant)

**To be taken on Tuesday 27 October 2009 immediately after the formal matters**

**9.17 Artarmon: Reclassification as a Parish**

Synod assents to the reclassification of Artarmon as a parish with effect from 1 January 2010.

(Page 234)

(The Rev Ernest Chau/Ms Kitty Ho)

**9.18 North Ryde: Reclassification as a Parish**

Synod assents to the reclassification of North Ryde as a parish with effect from 1 January 2010.

(Page 236)

(The Rev John Chappell/Mr Peter Bliss)

**To be taken on Tuesday 27 October 2009 from 7.00 pm**

**9.19 Policy on consumption of alcohol in the parish context**

Synod receives the report on the consumption of alcohol in the parish context and, recognising that alcohol is a gift from God to be enjoyed in moderation but also recognising that alcohol abuse has caused significant damage in our community, requests that the minister and parish council of each parish –

- (a) study the information in the report, and
- (b) determine the parish's own policy on the consumption of alcohol having regard to the report's recommendation –

“Except for –

- services of public worship where wine is provided as part of the Lord's Supper,

- private activities in ministry residences, and
- activities undertaken pursuant to a commercial lease of church trust property signed by the Property Trust,

no alcohol should be consumed or made available in the context of any ministry activity of the parish or any private activity held on church trust property, without the approval of the parish council.”

(Page 99)

(Archdeacon Deryck Howell/Dr Barry Newman)

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

**9.20 Parish Review Repeal Ordinance 2009**

Synod permits the introduction of the Parish Review Repeal Ordinance 2009.

(Page 271)

(The Rev Stephen Semenchuk)

**9.21 Regions (Transitional Provisions and Miscellaneous Amendments) Amending Ordinance 2009**

Synod permits the introduction of the Regions (Transitional Provisions and Miscellaneous Amendments) Amending Ordinance 2009.

(Supplementary Report page 26)

(Bishop Ivan Lee/Canon Sandy Grant)

**9.22 Inspiring People**

Synod commends Andrew Nixon and the Connect09 Team of volunteers, for organising the Inspiring People series of public outreach events. Synod gives thanks for the work of God in the lives of notable Australian Christians who shared their stories of faith in Christ at these events, and for those who heard them. Synod prays for those who are exploring the life of Jesus further as a result. Synod also acknowledges the partnership with Connect09 of the City Bible Forum, John Dickson and the Centre for Public Christianity, Karl Faase, and the Bible Society in organising and promoting the Inspiring People events. Synod requests consideration be given to retaining the concept and the Inspiring People 'brand label' for use in similar campaigns in future years, taking into account any improvements suggested by rectors and other interested Christians.

(Canon Sandy Grant/The Rev Michael Kellahan)

**9.23 Anglican Retirement Villages**

In recognising the fiftieth anniversary of Anglican Retirement Villages, Synod thanks Almighty God for the vision of the late Archbishop Howard Mowll and his wife Dorothy to establish residential accommodation for retired missionaries and clergy; for the opening of Mowll Memorial Village on 24 October 1959; for 50 years that Anglican Retirement Villages has been 'Creating Communities of Christian Care', and prays for God's blessing upon 5,500 Residents and Community Clients all over Sydney Diocese and upon the Board of Directors and 2000 staff who provide care and Christian witness.

(Bishop Ivan Lee/Mr Rob Freeman)

**9.24 Ordination candidates**

Synod gives thanks and praise to God for the record number of Sydney Ordination Candidates exiting Moore College at the end of the year (48), as well as the record number of ministry positions so far offered for next year, although some of these positions will be taken by current assistant ministers seeking their second

appointment. Quite a number of candidates and existing assistant ministers, approximately 20, are currently without ministry positions organised for 2010, and Synod therefore encourages Rectors and Parish Councils to consider creating new positions, and in particular positions for a number of very fine women who are to be deaconed, so that all our candidates are employed into the Diocesan Mission.

(Bishop Ivan Lee/Archdeacon Narelle Jarrett)

#### **9.25 Pastoral Care of Seniors Conference**

Synod notes that the School of Christian Studies is sponsoring a Pastoral Care of Seniors Conference at Robert Menzies College, Macquarie University on November 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> which focuses on training lay people for effective ministry to and by seniors as they connect with our wider community.

(Dr Grant Maple/Professor Chris Bellenger)

#### **9.26 Support of Regional Councils**

Synod requests that Standing Committee adopts policies whereby regional councils can be supported to continue their important role of funding ministry strategies in their regions. In particular, Synod requests a change in the large receipts policy for sale and leasing ordinances to be modified so that the portion usually added to the capital of the Diocesan Endowment may be allocated to a regional council instead.

(Bishop Glenn Davies)

#### **9.27 Nowra Anglican College (Bomaderry)**

Synod –

gives thanks and praise to God for the ministry of the College and for the many families reached with the Gospel of Christ since its foundation in 2000;

recognises the significant contribution of the full time Staff and Student Chaplain, the Rev Graham Thomas, and expresses its thanks for his ministry noting his decision to move to the parish of All Saints Nowra in 2010;

notes that in November 2008 a request was lodged by the College Council asking for the Archbishop-in-Council to declare the College extra-parochial to reflect the nature of its ministries across the Shoalhaven. The request carried the unanimous support of the Council;

notes the request was supported by the Wollongong Regional Council and, in line with the provisions of the associated Ordinance, the opposition of Bomaderry Parish to the change was first taken into consideration by both the College and Regional Councils;

notes that processing the request was initially delayed, for a number of reasons, and discussed at the September 2009 meeting of the Standing Committee, having been deferred in August due to agenda pressure, and a decision taken to defer it until the associated Ordinance is subjected to a major review; and

recognising the support of the Wollongong Regional and College Councils for the change, respectfully asks the Standing Committee not to defer its decision pending the Ordinance review, but consider the matter now and allow the College to join the other 21 Anglican Schools already declared extra-parochial as listed on page 143 of the 2008 Year Book.

(Mr Geoff Kyngdon/Mr Andrew Guile)

**9.28 Response to The Episcopal Church 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention's Resolution D025**

Synod notes The Episcopal Church 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention's Resolution D025 that recognises the inclusion of gay and lesbian persons in the baptised membership, various ministries and ordained ministries of The Episcopal Church.

Synod requests that The Episcopal Church Ministers and Bishops not baptise, ordain or consecrate any person who has made it known that they are practising homosexuality until they have sincerely repented. This should be done lest the fabric of the Anglican Communion be further torn by The Episcopal Church continuing to ignore the plain teaching of the Scriptures in matters concerning human sexuality.

Furthermore Synod requests the Diocesan Secretary to write to The Episcopal Church Standing Committee and Presiding Bishop informing them of this motion.

(The Rev Gavin Poole)

**9.29 Special Religious Education (Scripture)**

Synod –

- (a) gives thanks for the work of Special Religious Education (Scripture) teachers in NSW schools since 1880,
- (b) recognises the impact that this important work has had in reaching young people for Christ, and
- (c) encourages all our parishes to continue to pray for and resource Scripture in each of the primary and secondary schools within their parish, and where possible, beyond.

(The Rev Nigel Fortescue)



# Indicative Timetable for Synod Business

*References to items and motions are references to items and motions in the business paper for Tuesday 20 October 2009.*

<b>Tuesday 20 October 2009</b>	
3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.30 – 5.45 pm	9.1 Archbishop of Sydney Appointment Amendment Ordinance 2009 9.2 Questions of principle relevant to electing the Archbishop 9.3 General Synod – The Solemnization of Matrimony Canon Amendment Canon 2007 Assenting Ordinance 2009 9.4 General Synod Legislation Repeal and Exclusion Ordinance 2009 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7.00 pm +	9.5 Diocesan Endowment investment losses Thereafter, other business as per the business paper

<b>Wednesday 21 October 2009</b>	
3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.30 – 5.45 pm	9.6 Moore Theological College Ordinance 1984 Amendment Ordinance 2009 9.7 Discipline Amendment Ordinance 2009 9.8 General Synod – Special Tribunal Canon 2007 Declarations Ordinance 2009 9.9 General Synod – Offences Canon Amendment Canon 2007 Adopting Ordinance 2009 9.10 General Synod – Constitution Amendment (Suspension of Bishops) Canon 2007 Assenting Ordinance 2009 Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
7.00 pm +	9.11 Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009 9.12 Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2009 Thereafter, other business as per business paper

<b>Monday 26 October 2009</b>	
3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.30 – 5.45 pm	9.13 Synod Membership (Nominated Indigenous Representatives) Ordinance 2009 9.14 Tertiary Ministry Oversight Committee 9.15 People affected by disability Thereafter, other business as per business paper
7.00 – 8.00 pm	Missionary Hour
8.00 pm +	9.16 Grievance policy and procedure Thereafter, other business as per business paper

<b>Tuesday 27 October 2009</b>	
3.15 – 4.30 pm	Bible Study/prayer Formal Matters 9.17 Artarmon: Reclassification as a Parish 9.18 North Ryde: Reclassification as a Parish Thereafter, other business as per the business paper
4.30 – 5.45 pm	Business as per the business paper
7.00 pm +	9.19 Policy on consumption of alcohol in the parish context Thereafter, other business as per the business paper