

Proposal to change the Provisional Parish of Menai to a Parish

(A report from WARC)

Initiation of Proposal

1. A proposal was made to the Archbishop by the Minister and Churchwardens of St Paul's Menai on 1 May, 1994 in accordance with clause 4(1) (b) of the Parishes Ordinance 1979 (called "the Ordinance").

Details of Meeting

2. A meeting of the Wollongong Anglican Regional Council was held on 12 July 1994 to consider the proposal in accordance with clause 5 of the Ordinance.

3. WARC certified that all procedural requirements under clauses 4 and 6 of the Ordinance had been complied with and noted that no objections had been received.

History of the Provisional Parish

4. The Provisional Parish of Menai was formed from the Parish of Sutherland by the Archbishop on 8 October 1985 and the church was planted by the Rev Robert Barrie and the Parish of Sutherland. The provision of staff and land and buildings was facilitated by the Vision for Growth and Vision 2001 in partnership with the local congregation and the link parishes -GyMEA, Nowra, Longueville and West Wollongong.

Details of the Proposal

5. Church property held by the Property Trust upon trust for Menai-

Buildings	VG, UCV \$	Replacement Estimate \$	Debts \$	Condition
St Paul's Church complex	625,000	800,000	430,955	Good
Minister's Residence - 2 Driscoll Place	380,000	180,000	Nil	Good
Other Houses - 5 Reid Place	135,000	225,000	Nil	Good
18 Broughton Place	*	140,000	139,388	Good
Broughton Place	*	343,765	Nil	Poor

* Built on the church complex site.

6. The Minister's residence and the staff housing at 5 Reid Place and 18 Broughton Place are modern buildings in excellent repair and comply with the diocesan standards. The Broughton Place house last mentioned is about 65 years old and will be used for Sunday School, church offices and mid-week purposes until about the year 2,000. The church seats 450 people.

7. The Minister is paid not less than the minimum stipend last recommended together with an adequate allowance for travelling expenses. These amounts have been met from local revenues.

8. All assessments and superannuation contributions payable by Menai have been paid.

9. The Provisional Parish is in a sound financial position. The debts on the buildings are being reduced. Staff consists of 3 full time ordained ministers and part time staff. These are all paid from local resources except for one staff member part paid with an HMS grant which will reduce to nil over the next 2 years. A summary of receipts follows-

	1991	1992	1993
	\$	\$	\$
Offeratories	122,085	162,913	177,552
Missions	23,103	20,549	19,734
Other	2,372	2,971	2,726
Loan Repayment Fund	9,192	10,580	14,230
HMS Grants	127,849	25,000	20,000
Total	<u>284,601</u>	<u>222,013</u>	<u>234,242</u>

10. There are approximately 2,200 families and 300 single persons residing in the proposed Parish who claim adherence to the Anglican Church of Australia. The weekly Sunday attendance at church is 345 (220 adults and 125 children) and in addition there are regular baptism and special children's services not included in these statistics.

11. Attendance at services -

Service Time	1983	1991	1992	1993
8.00 am	Nil	23	34	38
9.30 am - adults	44	121	125	127
- children	34	104	119	122
7.00 pm	Nil	37	46	58

12. Six youth groups have 65 teenage members; the Sunday School has 150 children; there are active CEBS and GFS groups; 190 members are in Home Fellowship Groups and Bible studies; Christianity Explained and Discovery Groups run; there are active ministries with lay participation - Men's, Women's, OP Shop, Coffee Shop, Welcoming, Young Adults, Music, Hospitality, Community Care, Library, Sound and other ministries.

13. SRE is taught by staff and 14 lay people in 2 High Schools and 4 Public Schools.

14. The population of the Provisional Parish has grown rapidly over recent years to 25,000 and further development of high quality homes in this growth area of southern Sydney is anticipated

Recommendation

15. That Synod assent to the proposal for the Provisional Parish of Menai to become a Parish from 1 January 1995.

For and on behalf of the Wollongong Anglican Regional Council

L.M. STODDART
Archdeacon of Wollongong

June 1994