

Emma Anderson



Emma Anderson joined SDS last month in the role of Communications Officer. She is responsible for SDS's internal and external communications including SDS News and In Focus.

"I became a Christian at university in Canberra. It was a decision that completely changed my life and career. I was studying science at the time but found that I became much more interested in people and communication.

I retrained as a science communicator and found that the skills I gained applied to all sorts of things including the gospel."

Emma spent two and a half years working as a science communicator and educator for Questacon and the Australian Academy of Science before deciding to move into corporate communications.

Emma and her husband Dan moved from Canberra to Sydney earlier this year. They attend St Philip's Church Hill, where Dan works as a student minister.

Rebecca King

Rebecca King is SDS's resident Paralegal. Rebecca works alongside Legal Officer Priti Pasupuleti and Legal Services Manager Steve Lucas in the Secretarial division three days a week.



When she's not researching a new aspect of the law or looking for legal precedents, Rebecca is studying towards a law degree at Macquarie University. She also likes meeting up with young people to study the Bible.

Rebecca has been working for SDS for one month but says she already finds SDS an exciting place to work.

"The role gives me a great insight into every aspect of the law and compliments my studies really well. The work is very project specific. Sometimes it's straightforward, other times it's more challenging - especially when I'm researching new and different areas of law."

Rebecca is a member of the youth ministry team at Christ Church St Ives, where she has been attending church with her family for as long as she can remember.

Each week Rebecca leads a group of year 12 girls in a Bible study and strictly enforces SDS's policy of chocolate biscuits at meetings.

Priti Pasupuleti

Priti Pasupuleti works three days a week as a Legal Officer for SDS. She provides legal advice to parishes and other Anglican organisations within the Diocese.

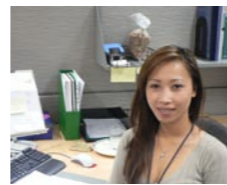


Priti studied science, majoring in mathematics at Newcastle University and completed her graduate law degree in 2003. She spent three years working for law firm Minter Ellison before joining SDS in April.

"I think SDS is a great place to work. The people are really friendly and the work is interesting and challenging."

Ivy Tran

Ivy Tran is Investment Services new Customer Service Representative. Ivy manages the Glebe customer call centre. She answers account enquires and assists customers to interpret different policies and procedures.



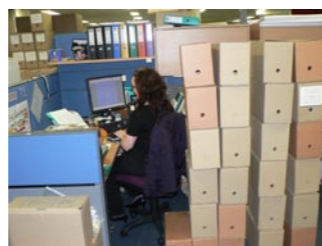
Ivy joined SDS two months ago from the Bank of Queensland where she worked in customer service.

Ivy says the job involved a lot more face-to-face customer contact which she admits she misses a little bit but not all the smiling!

"Most people who ring the Glebe customer call centre are connected to a parish or the wider Anglican community in some way. They're always very friendly."

Ivy attends Sadleir-Miller St Therese's Church and is a member of the Vietnamese Catholic Youth Association. The group reaches out to homeless people and conducts pastoral care visits to older Vietnamese people in community.

Level 1 complete, Level 2 begun



Kim McMahon gets on with the job

The SDS Level 1 refurbishment is complete and Investment Services, Banking, Property, Treasury, Lending and Technology have all moved to their permanent home in St Andrew's House.

The refurbishment, which started in November 2005, has taken time to complete but staff are pleased with the results.

"Before the refurbishment, Property Services were split up around the floor," says General Manager, Property Services Michael Cambridge. "Our Property Manager, Sharyn Miller was at one end of the building, with IT Services separating her from the rest of the team. Now, for the first time ever, we're all sharing the same space. It's a great improvement."

The change towards an open plan office has been an adjustment for some, particularly those who have given up their own offices. But Property Services Secretary, Tona au Brothers thinks the move has brought people closer together.

"I really like the new space and think it has helped improve communication in Property Services. All the artificial barriers to communication have been removed. Information flows much more freely now."

Tona thinks the refurbishment has also helped to improve communication between departments. "It's great to see staff from Ground Floor North using the breakout room at lunchtime. It keeps communication between the different areas of SDS open."

Receptionist, Lorna Cookson has also been affected by the move. She is temporarily greeting SDS visitors on Level 1 but will eventually move to Level 2.

Lorna says she has received lots of comments from staff about her temporary home. "It's a cozy space," says Lorna. "I've been told the area looks like everything from a bank teller to a bus depot! I can't wait until the new reception area is ready on Level 2."

The CEO, Secretarial, Parish Services, Finance, Investment Services, and HR and Corporate Services are now temporarily located on Ground Floor North as the demolition of Level 2 beings.

As our pictures show, staff have handled the move to the interim office with great aplomb and are getting on with the job of servicing the Diocese and supporting its Mission as best they can.



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A winning partnership in the UK

In the past couple of years, SDS has been fortunate to build a number of valuable business and church contacts in the UK.

This April, CEO Rodney Dredge and General Manager, Secretarial Robert Wicks traveled to England to spend time with their counterparts in the areas of ministry development, investment, finance, administration and law.

The Head of the Church Commissioners' Policy Unit, Mr Philip James is SDS's key contact in London. The Church Commissioners manage the Church of England's historic assets to support the Church's ministry.

Philip acted as Rodney and Robert's host and UK guide and Robert says he was encouraged and challenged by the time they spent together.

"We go to the UK because we want to explore different and better ways of supporting mission," says Robert. "Philip James is personally and professionally committed to mission, so it was great to spend time with him."

Robert believes it is important for SDS to maintain its networks and contacts overseas. "It's difficult for SDS to develop strategically without talking to people who do similar things to what we do. In the Anglican context, this often means looking overseas."

"In many respects the Church Commissioners set the benchmark in Church investment and administration and we have a lot to learn from them. It was also great to have the opportunity to speak about developments in Church law and to consider the significant impact secular law can have on mission," said Robert.

An incidental benefit of the trip for Robert was the Christian encouragement and hospitality received and given by those that he met. "It was nice to observe the warmth of the relationship that has developed between Rodney and Philip, and Philip's family over the years," said Robert.

The trip was also an opportunity for Rodney and Robert to establish new contacts in the Church of England.

"I was particularly pleased to meet Mr Stephen Slack who is Director of Legal Services in the Archbishops' Council," said Robert.

"We discussed a number of legal issues common to both the Church in the UK and Australia, for example, freedom of religion, the status of clergy, charities and clergy discipline.

"For us it's like looking into a crystal ball and getting a better idea about the issues we will need to grapple with in Australia in a few years time."



Robert Wicks meets with Philip James in London

Rodney and Robert also visited the Diocese of Liverpool. Robert says the Diocesan Secretary, Mr Mike Eastwood, challenged them greatly with his strategic thinking and mission initiatives he has been able to launch with modest financial resources.

"The Diocese of Liverpool is putting resources into strengthening and replicating 'invisible ministry networks' across the Diocese. These networks complement the 'visible' ministry that goes on in parishes.

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After the Fire



Barneys temporary pulpit

Imagine watching your church go up in flames; the anguish of losing your meeting place, all of your church records and contacts.

That's exactly what happened to the congregation of St Barnabas Broadway (Barneys) when their church building was gutted by fire in May last year.

Despite the loss, churchwarden David Britton says Barneys has never been better. Thanks, in part, to SDS.

When news of the fire spread members of the Parish Services team including Insurance Officer Cindy Wong, met with the churchwardens

onsite to offer prayerful and practical support.

For the next seven weeks, SDS housed Barneys' church office. "This was a vital part of our recovery," says David. The temporary office allowed Barneys to plan a thanksgiving service for the Sunday after the fire.

"The fire happened on Wednesday morning. SDS was there right away. With the computer, telephone and fax they provided we were able to reconstruct our database and bring the congregation together at a new location.

"We booked the Great Hall at Sydney University and over 600 people turned up! That's almost everyone on our roll. We could not have pulled it off without SDS's help," says David. "They were able to help us rebuild the church's administration system, from the ground up."

Barneys now meets at Moore College - just a few blocks from the church's original site. Although the move was forced, Rector Ian Powell says there have been some unexpected benefits.

"God has blessed Barneys with genuine growth, more than we could have expected," said Ian.

The church's evening service outgrew the

college's main lecture theatre and has begun broadcasting the service to an extra room downstairs. This makes the service accessible to the disabled. Their new office in Broadway was also an early adopter of SDS's DAWN (Diocesan Area Wide Network) technology and is using our internet-telephone and super fast broadband service.

The fire at St Barnabas has been a learning experience for SDS too. "We've never dealt with a major fire claim before," says Cindy Wong.

Cindy says a number of individuals and organisations were instrumental in helping SDS manage the process. "MSM Loss Management prepared the claim and our insurer, EIG-Ansvar, are very supportive.

"Several members of the EIG-Ansvar Executive Team visited the site to inspect the damage. I think Ansvar understand the needs of the church because they specialise in insuring places of worship. Peter McCarthy, who represents our Insurance Broker, Marsh, has also been a tremendous help."

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A winning partnership in the UK

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"Strategically, Diocesan resources are put into people who can establish self-replicating ministries rather than into people who perform the ministries themselves. The model is certainly something we should keep an eye on."

Rodney and Robert also spent time with Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham, the Rt Rev George Cassidy. Bishop Cassidy is a member of the House of Lords and Robert says it was interesting to discuss how Bishops in the UK can influence the political landscape in the House of Lords.

"Unlike in England, the Australian Church is not the established Church which means that we do not have this level of direct access to the political process," said Robert.

"Bishop Cassidy's comments brought home to me the need for Christian organisations in Australia to more effectively engage in the political process on issues which affect mission with whatever means are available to us."

While in London, Rodney and Robert made a priority of going to church and fellowshiping with others. In their first week they attended St Helen's Bishopsgate in the morning and heard the Rev William Taylor speak on Ezekiel. In the evening they attended a service at All Souls Church Langham Place to mark the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the slave trade.

"We were there for one week, so it was a very busy time," says Robert. But it wasn't all work.

"Our last day in London, we had lunch with Mr Bill Seddon from the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (UK). After lunch, I visited the Natural History Museum.

"Growing up in England, I can remember going to the Museum with my family and seeing some remarkable exhibits. It was nice to see many of them again as an adult," said Robert.

Although SDS and GAB is a smaller organisation than the National Church bodies visited by Rodney and Robert in the UK, Robert believes SDS and GAB are operating on a comparable level, in most areas. "Having seen what's happening overseas; I think SDS and GAB are well-equipped to deliver services to the Diocese."



Philip James' children



From the CEO

A Tangible outcome

Shortly, Standing Committee is going to appropriate \$20 million from the Endowment and spend it on a range of important mission projects. I personally hope the money is used to at least build the Hoxton Park and Rouse Hill churches and to do so to a standard befitting the importance of the gospel message. Having \$20 million to spend all at one time is, as far as I can determine, unique in our Diocesan history. On no other occasion have we been faced with decisions of such importance as are implied in spending a sum this large.

All SDS staff can be justly proud of their part in this exciting event. Just knowing that, in some way, you contributed to providing those new facilities is reward in itself. Knowing further, that from those churches, ministry activity will assist many people to come to know and love Jesus puts all of our jobs into perfect perspective. Well done to all - enjoy the moment.

All change

How did you feel when we moved offices? I have to say that I am really enjoying my open office on Ground Floor North. I am seeing more people, interacting with more staff and I feel more accessible. Certainly more people are dropping by to say hello or to talk. I know a small number of you are a little inconvenienced and that people traffic or the noise levels can be disruptive. Can I say "be patient". August will be around in no time and then we will all move to our permanent locations. Well done to you all, but particularly to those who planned and arranged the move.

Rodney Dredge

After the Fire

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The parish is committed to rebuilding on their old site at Broadway. SDS's Property Trust Manager, Greg Ellem says he's amazed and greatly encouraged by the effort the churchwardens have put into the project. "The parish has recently appointed a Project Manager to steer the rebuilding project and we're all looking forward to seeing some tangible progress once tenders are called."

"We've been able to forge a great partnership with the Barneys churchwardens. I speak to at least one of them several times each week," says Greg. "They're all busy, professional people but they're doing a great job of staying on top of the project. God's hand is certainly evident in the calibre of stewards he has called to the Warden's role.

"There are so many stakeholders involved in the rebuilding of St Barnabas including the local Council. At times it feels like a very slow and frustrating process. But all of the stakeholders are committed to rebuilding Barneys and working together to help the church fulfil its vision for ministry."

David Britton is optimistic too. "Barneys is in a really good place right now. I think we're doing well because we started well. In fact, despite the fire, we never really stopped."

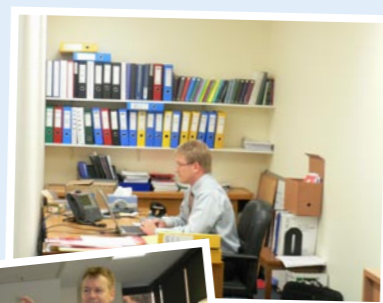
SDS Lightens Up!



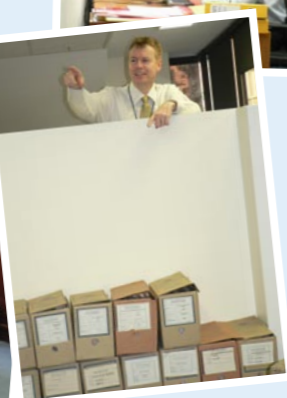
Michael Cambridge readies excavator for Level 2 demolition



Parish Services Manager deploys customer-friendly tactics



Is it me or are these walls closing in?



On his soap box again...

Dr Louise Trott is passionate about archives administration and records management.

As the Sydney Diocesan Archivist, Louise manages the business records of the Diocese. She liaises with the staff of the Archbishop's Office, SDS, parishes and churches, and diocesan organisations, to select those records which are suitable for permanent retention as archives.

In 2006, the Diocesan Archives celebrated 30 years of service to the Diocese of Sydney, caring for and administering diocesan records. Louise has been the Sydney Diocesan Archivist for the past 11 years. Her archival training and background as a research academic provides her with the necessary skills to manage this unique and important research collection, which dates back to the late 1700s.

"The Church of England played a crucial role in the development of the Colony of NSW, the city of Sydney, and the Anglican Church in Australia," says Louise. "The Diocesan Archives collection contains information not available anywhere else in the world, and so is of international importance.

"I ensure that the records selected for permanent retention have value as authentic evidence of the administrative, corporate, cultural and intellectual activities of the Diocese of Sydney. This includes records which are being created in the Diocese today, which will be the unique archival records of the future.

"Every archival collection reflects the uniqueness of the organisation which creates the records. There are no duplicates in an archive; once records are lost or destroyed there is often no other accurate record."

Once records are deposited into the

Archives, Louise arranges and describes, stores, and documents them on an archival management database. The records can then be made available to in-house staff to assist their work and also to independent visiting researchers.

In March 2007, Louise launched a new website to help people understand the importance of the Sydney Diocesan Archives and the services she provides. It is an outreach tool to publicise the work of the Archives, as part of the work of this Diocese.

"The website is an easily accessible source of detailed information for the many different user groups who access the Archives including diocesan staff, parishes, professional researchers, heritage architects, family historians, and the general public," says Louise.

Manager, Online Business Services, Matthew Smith thinks the new Archives website is a great example of how technology is enhancing the Diocese's business services and communication via the web. He says Anglican Media were a great help in assisting the Registry and Archives get online.

"Now the whole world knows what Archives does, what information and services are provided, and who to contact, without being limited by location," said Matthew.

"This information has never been easily available before. SDS is now hoping to link its centrally stored database with Archives to build a robust record management system," said Matthew.

In 1977 two parishes deposited their non-current records into the Archives. Today, the archival records of more than 300 churches are held in the Diocesan Archives.

"Each year, another church or parish



Dr Louise Trott

finds itself in the position of having amassed a collection of older records which need storage and care. In most cases they do not have the facilities, time, or funding to properly care for the records, so they turn to me for help."

Parishes are not compelled by ordinance to deposit their records into the Diocesan Archives, but many choose to do so as the most convenient way to solve their space and storage problems.

"This service to parishes is a way of solving a problem which is going to expand as our parishes get older and the work of ministry achieves larger congregations", says Louise.

"Like any form of Risk Management, the proper administration of current, non-current and archival records is a vital step to ensure organisational efficiency and accountability. Effective ministry depends upon effective administration."

You can find out more about the Diocesan Archives by visiting www.sydneyan Anglican archives.com.au



You've just been elected to parish council. You're happy that your church values your leadership but are unsure of your role and responsibilities. Who can you talk to?

SDS has developed a new conference to help churchwardens, treasurers and parish councillors understand their role. Event organiser, Michael Newman, says so far the response from parishes has been great.

"We sent out registration forms to parishes a couple of weeks ago," says Michael. "We also started advertising on the web through the your.sydneyan Anglicans.net website and on the SDS homepage.

"We know there is a high level of awareness about the conference among

parishes because we're taking calls and getting hits on the website everyday."

A number of large groups have registered for the conference which is an encouragement to SDS's Parish Services team.

"Ten people from one parish have already registered and there's another big group from Port Kembla traveling to Sydney for the day. That tells us people are keen to gather the tools and information they need to help them run their parish well," says Michael.

One of those tools is the next Parish Risk Management module which will be released at the event.

"The conference will be a great opportunity for parish officers to share information,

establish good practices and new networks," says Michael.

"I hope churchwardens, treasurers and parish councillors come away with a better understanding of their role and know they're not alone in facing up to the task."

Conference participants will each receive a range of resources to take back to their parish. SDS staff will also be on hand to meet people on an individual basis and discuss their questions and concerns.

To register contact Kim McMahon on 9265 1634 or email kmp@sydney.anglican.asn.au.