

BISHOP-IN-COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn



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Foreword from Bishop Trevor

Dear sisters and brothers,

I am very pleased to be able to warmly commend this annual Bishop-in-Council Synod Report for 2017-2018.

It has been a challenging year with the resignation of our Diocesan Bishop, who so capably kept us pursuing our agreed Diocesan strategy, and also the loss of an Assistant Bishop, who provided invaluable back up especially, at a governance level. Nonetheless, the Bishop-in-Council has continued to perform well and has maturely accepted and understood its oversight responsibilities. It remains deliberately outwardly focused in assessing every proposal or decision against three benchmarks, namely whether it sustains or supports or enacts our mission to see the love of Jesus transforming people and communities. It has also worked very hard to ensure the Diocese remains healthy in every way by receiving and considering reports; carefully analysing and weighing risks; and above all ensuring good governance procedures.

I therefore encourage you to read all of the report, including the list of Ordinances passed, which we often gloss over but which remain at the heart of our Synodical processes. Each represents hours of careful work behind the scenes to support and strengthen our mission. In the case of the sale of the church buildings

it is not the result of some centrally imposed decision, but the fruit of careful consultation by local clergy and lay leaders with their communities, supported by their Archdeacons, who understand the missional imperative to relevantly minister in today's not yesterday's world.

I want to pay public tribute to the women and men elected and appointed to serve on the Bishop-in-Council for their diligence in carefully reading and digesting so much material before each bi-monthly meeting and attending faithfully to their responsibilities. For the last meeting alone there were 450 pages to read plus a substantial supplementary pack of material about the National Redress Scheme! This is not for the faint-hearted and takes time plus real commitment, so we honour those who have served us so well in this crucial role on top of their other demanding personal and family responsibilities.

But of course we must also thank those who work so hard behind the scenes to facilitate the work of Bishop-in-Council and its various committees. I acknowledge the real skill and dedication of Trevor Ament, but on this occasion I want to say I am very glad that Emma Body has been properly recognised in the past year as Deputy Registrar. She has been unfailingly helpful and cheerful in assisting folk to navigate our sometimes complex processes.



She has also been patiently accommodating with those tardy in meeting deadlines. Her appointment has been an asset for the smooth running of the key committees in our Diocese.

Finally I want all of us to remain absolutely focused on furthering the mission of God by living for Jesus wherever he has put us and using our gifts in a Christ honouring way to further the interests of his kingdom. As the Apostle Paul wrote in Romans 12 –

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Prayerfully yours,

+Trevor Edwards
Episcopal Administrator
Diocese of Canberra & Goulburn

Overview

CHAPTER 1

Background

This Synod report outlines the work undertaken by Bishop-in-Council during the 2017 calendar year. In addition, it reports on significant activities and decisions made by Bishop-in-Council to 30 June 2018.

Charter

Bishop-in-Council is responsible to Synod as its Standing Committee and advances the mission of the Diocese. The functions and role of Bishop-in-Council are outlined in Part 8 of the *Governance of the Diocese Ordinance 2000* as amended.

Role and Responsibilities

Bishop-in-Council is responsible to Synod:

- a) for establishing strategies and goals for the mission and ministry of this Church in the Diocese and for the execution of those strategies and the attainment of those goals;
- b) for the nurturing and oversight, in consultation with the Bishop, of the well-being of ministry units;
- c) for the effective, efficient and economical management of the property and financial resources of the Diocese for the purposes of carrying out and sustaining the mission and ministry of this Church in the Diocese; and
- d) for the supervision of the affairs of diocesan agencies.

Authority and Independence of Committee

Bishop-in-Council is the Standing Committee of Synod and, in that capacity, exercises the powers and functions of the Synod as it delegates to the Council by ordinance.

Bishop-in-Council has the authority to appoint task groups or committees as necessary to assist it in the discharge of its functions. Provision shall be made by the Bishop-in-Council for the terms of reference, membership and procedures to be followed by such task groups or committees, and give powers or functions to them as it considers appropriate.

Relationship between the Bishop and Bishop-in-Council

The Bishop presides at the meetings of Bishop-in-Council and a decision of Bishop-in-Council does not take effect unless the Bishop agrees to the decision. For further details please refer to the *Governance of the Diocese Ordinance 2000*, as amended.

Secretariat and Contact Details

The Registrar is the Secretary to Bishop-in-Council and Ministry Executive and provides policy, operational and business management support and advice. Anglican Diocesan Services provides financial reporting, management and secretariat services. Bishop-in-Council can be contacted through the Registrar as follows:

Mr Trevor Ament
Registrar/General Manager
GPO Box 1981
Canberra ACT 2601

Ph: (02) 6245 7101
Fax: (02) 6245 7199
Email: trevor.ament@anglicands.org.au

Membership

CHAPTER 2



Bishop-in-Council Members

As specified in the *Governance of the Diocese Ordinance 2000*, as amended, the members of Bishop-in-Council are:

- a) the Bishop
- b) the ex officio members
 - (i) the Assistant Bishop or Bishops;
 - (ii) the Dean;
 - (iii) the Archdeacons;
 - (iv) the Registrar;
 - (v) Chancellor;
 - (vi) the Chair of the Finance Committee
- (c) four (4) clerical and ten (10) lay members elected by the Synod;
- (d) two (2) clerical and four (4) lay members appointed by the Bishop; and
- (e) those persons who are members of the Council by virtue of being appointed a member of Ministry Executive.

The appointed members and the elected members hold office from the date of their appointment or election until the last day of the first session of the next Synod. Section 66 of the Ordinance specifies the procedures for the filling of vacancies that may occur. The current membership of Bishop-in-Council is outlined on the following page.

Our primary and daily focus must remain to further the mission of God and live for him wherever he has put us. Moreover as we do these things in the power of the Spirit, we have his promise that we will receive not what we want but all the things we need. ~Bishop Trevor

Meetings

Meetings are held every second month on a Friday, in the board room at Canberra Girls' Grammar School, Deakin ACT.

In 2017 a total of six (6) regular meetings, one (1) special meeting, one (1) electronic vote and one (1) planning day were held (the electronic vote and planning day are not included in the figures below).

For the period 1 January 2018 – 30 June 2018 a total of three (3) regular meetings have been held.

The current membership of Bishop-in-Council comprises the following persons as at 30 June 2018:

Title	Name	No. of meetings attended	No. of meetings eligible to attend
The Bishop	The Rt Revd Stuart Robinson (Resigned 31 March 2018)	6	8
Assistant Bishop (Episcopal Administrator 31 March 2018)	The Rt Revd Trevor Edwards	8	10
Ex Officio Members			
Assistant Bishop	The Rt Revd Dr Stephen Pickard	8	10
The Dean	The Very Revd Phillip Saunders	4	10
Archdeacon (Diaconate)	The Ven Caroline Campbell	9	10
Archdeacon (Goulburn and Southern Tablelands)	The Ven John Barnes	3	10
Archdeacon (North West, Wagga Wagga, South West)	The Ven David Ruthven	8	10
Archdeacon (South Canberra)	The Ven Dr Brian Douglas	7	10
Archdeacon (Chaplaincy)	The Ven Dr Wayne Brighton	9	10
Archdeacon (North Canberra)	The Ven Paul Cohen (Appointed 10 June 2018)	1	1
Archdeacon (South Coast)	The Ven Carol Wagner	5	10
Archdeacon (Queanbeyan, Monaro and Alpine Region)	The Ven Brian Roberts (Honorary Acting from 2018)	3	3
Chancellor	The Hon Justice Richard Refshauge	6	10
Registrar/General Manager	Mr Trevor Ament	10	10
Chair of the Finance Committee	Mr Tim McGhie	8	10
Title	Name	No. of meetings attended	No. of meetings eligible to attend
Clerical appointed by the Bishop (term expires first session of 47th Synod)			
	Revd Lynda McMinn	5	5
	VACANT x 1		
Lay appointed by the Bishop (term expires first session of 47th Synod)			
	Mr Neil James	6	10
	Dr Ian Grant (Appointed December 2017)	3	5
Membership as Member of Ministry Executive			
	Nil		

Elected by Synod (term expires at first session of 47th Synod)

Parish	Name	No. of meetings attended	No. of meetings eligible to attend
Clerical			
F5	Revd Canon Gillian Varcoe	8	10
Canberra	Revd Paul Black	9	10
Holbrook	Revd James Coats	7	10
Arawang	Revd Guerin Tuono (Elected October 2017)	5	6
Lay			
Canberra	Em. Professor John Richards	9	10
Ginninderra	Mr Russell Rupert Hammond	10	10
Hawker	Mr Wayne Harris	7	10
Ainslie	Mr David Holmesby	10	10
Wanniassa	Mr Mark Le Couteur	7	10
Jamieson	Ms Belinda Moss	7	10
Crookwell	Mrs Margaret Wheelwright	5	10
Hawker	Ms Anne McNaughton	3	10
Curtin	Dr John Shellard (Elected October 2017)	5	6
Hawker	Mr Robert Nairn (Elected October 2017)	5	6

The following resignations from Bishop-in-Council occurred during 2017-2018:

Title	Name	No. of meetings attended	No. of meetings eligible to attend
Assistant Bishop	The Rt Revd Dr Matt Brain (Resigned January 2018)	7	7
Archdeacon (Queanbeyan, Monaro and Alpine Region)	The Ven Elizabeth Dyke (Resigned 26 March 2018)	4	6
Archdeacon (North Canberra)	The Ven Dr Erica Mathieson (Resigned April 2018)	6	8

Lay appointed by the Bishop (term expired first session of 46th Synod)

	Mr Mark Brandon-Baker (resigned February 2017)	1	1
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Elected by Synod (term expired at first session of 46th Synod)

Parish	Name	No. of meetings attended	No. of meetings eligible to attend
Jamison	Revd Canon Margaret Campbell (Did not stand for re-election)	4	4
Canberra	Dr Ian Dalziel (Did not stand for re-election)	4	4
Moruya	Mr Phillip Davies (Retired October 2017)	3	4

Committees of Bishop-in-Council

CHAPTER 3

Ministry Executive

Ministry Executive was established by Synod to enhance the capacity of Bishop-in-Council to effectively plan and implement decisions concerning the mission and ministry of the Church in the Diocese, and the strategic application of Diocesan resources relating to that mission and ministry. The *Governance of the Diocese Ordinance 2000* outlines the functions and role of Ministry Executive.

During 2017 a total of five (5) regular meetings and two (2) electronic votes were held. Please note that electronic votes are not included in the figures below. For the period 1 January 2018 - 30 June 2018 a total of two (3) regular meetings have been held.

Members are appointed by the Bishop on the advice of Bishop-in-Council. The period of appointment of an appointed member expires in the last day of the first session of the next Synod following his or her appointment, unless terminated sooner.

The current membership of Ministry Executive comprises the following persons as at 30 June 2018:

Title	Name	No. of meetings attended	No. of meetings eligible to attend
Chair The Bishop	The Rt Revd Stuart Robinson (Resigned 31 March 2018)	6	7
Members			
Assistant Bishop (Episcopal Administrator, from 31 March 2018)	The Rt Revd Trevor Edwards	7	8
Assistant Bishop	The Rt Revd Matt Brain (Resigned January 2018)	4	4
Archdeacon	Ven Dr Brian Douglas	5	8
Chancellor	The Hon Justice Richard Refshauge SC	6	8
Registrar	Mr Trevor Ament	8	8
	Mr Wayne Harris	7	8
	Mrs Margaret Wheelwright	4	8
	Mr Mark Le Couteur	6	8

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is established under the *Finance and Annual Reports Ordinance 2003*.

The role of the Finance Committee is to advise the Bishop-in-Council on the financial affairs and policies of the Diocese. In particular the Finance Committee:

- Evaluates proposals by Diocesan Organisations to borrow money;
- Advises Bishop-in-Council in respect to all matters relating to debt commitments in the Diocese, particularly changing terms of existing debt or new/additional debt;
- Reviews the Diocesan budget;
- Assesses financial risk exposures for the Diocese and develops appropriate strategies to manage risk exposures;
- Reviews financial controls and systems in the ADS; and
- Provides advice on matters referred to it by Bishop-in-Council, including matters relating to the financial affairs and policies of Diocesan Organisations.



The Finance Committee is accountable to Bishop-in-Council and has the authority to request any information it requires from any Diocesan Organisation to assist it with providing appropriate advice to Bishop-in-Council.

In 2017 a total of six (6) regular meetings and two (2) special meetings were held, with one (1) electronic vote. For the period 1 January 2018 – 30 June 2018 a total of three (3) regular meetings have been held.

The membership of the Finance Committee comprises the following persons as at 30 June 2018:

Title	Name	Number of meetings attended	Number of meetings eligible to attend
Chair	Mr Tim McGhie	9	9
Members			
Registrar/General Manager	Mr Trevor Ament	9	9
	VACANT x 3		
	Ms Belinda Moss	7	9
Associate	Mr Martyn Mitchell	7	9
Associate	Mr Geoff Girvan	7	9

Mr David Holmesby resigned from the Finance Committee effective as of 28 March 2017 and Mr Robert Arthur resigned effective November 2017.

The Finance Committee has provided a separate report to Synod.

Audit and Risk Management Committee

The Audit and Risk Management Committee is established under the *Finance and Annual Reports Ordinance 2003* (Ordinance).

The functions of the Committee are to determine whether the Diocese has appropriate controls in place which are working effectively to support good governance, compliance with legislation and other regulatory obligations.

The Audit and Risk Management Committee has provided a separate report to Synod.

Property Development Commission

The Property Development Commission was formally established by Bishop-in-Council in April 2016 under the provisions of the Diocesan Property Development Ordinance 2016.

The role of the Property Development Commission is to assist Bishop-in-Council to be good stewards of God's historic provision to the Diocese. As a Committee of Bishop-in-Council it assists in assessing and prioritising the possible developments that have the potential to assist with the delivery of the 3D-vision for the Diocese.

The development of Diocesan assets is an important element of the vision to generate new income streams for the Diocese. The missional purpose for these developments is to ensure the Diocese is in a position to meet financial obligations both now and into the future. This Commission will enable wise and effective decisions to be made concerning the land and capital entrusted to the Diocese.

The current membership of the Property Development Commission is as follows:

Ms Meg Brighton (Chair)
Mr Paul Powderly (Advisor)
Mr Wayne Harris
Archdeacon Paul Cohen (August 2018)
VACANT x1

Mr Rod Purdon (Advisor)
Mr Ian Morison
Mr Bruce Glendinning (November 2017)
Mr Trevor Ament



Commission Secretary: Ms Heather Walsh

Following member resigned during 2017: Mr Eugene Kalenjuk

Work Program

The Commission has identified 5 sites (Deakin, Campbell, Manuka, Kambah and Barton) that are suitable to develop. During 2017 there has been ongoing work in regard to the identified development sites. Meetings have been undertaken with various agencies and consultants. To date development applications for Deakin and Campbell have been lodged with ACTPLA with the approval of Bishop-in-Council. A third site (Manuka) is awaiting approval by the Heritage Council before a Development Application can be lodged. The opportunities for Chapman site are currently being investigated after the merger of the Chapman and Kambah Parishes to form the Parish of Arawang, currently operating from the Kambah site. A number of other opportunities are currently on the schedule for the PDC. These include both regional and sites in Canberra.

The Commission is currently working with Anglicare to further develop the Wollondilly Gardens site.

Anglican Schools Commission of the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn

As a committee of Bishop-in-Council the Anglican Schools Commission of the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn (ASCCG) functions closely with it to provide timely, accurate and relevant reports concerning the financial, educational and missional performance of the schools. The ASCCG has provided a separate report to Synod.

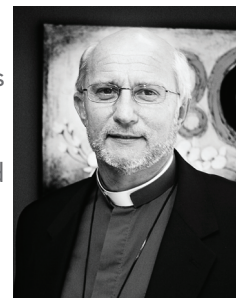


Public Issues Commission

As a committee of Bishop-in-Council, the Public Issues Commission (PIC) has, as its purpose, to address the fourth and fifth marks of mission of the Anglican Communion, namely:

- To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation.
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

The PIC has provided a separate report to Synod.



St John's Anglican Church, Young District Anglican Ministry



Pastoral Care & Oversight

CHAPTER 4

Bishop's Ministry, Leadership and Pastoral Care

The Bishop of the Diocese is elected by the Synod and is the spiritual, pastoral and executive head of the Diocese with wide-ranging legal and administrative responsibilities. The Bishop's roles include: oversight, leadership, vision, preservation of unity, pastoral care to the clergy and laity, teaching and defending the faith, preaching, mission and outreach, nurturer of the poor and needy, proclamation of the gospel, hospitality, being the final decision-maker for professional standards and much more.

The Bishop is supported in these diverse responsibilities by the Vicar-General, Assistant Bishops, Dean of the Cathedral, senior clergy and staff of the Bishop's office. The Bishop works closely with the Diocesan Registrar, the Chancellor and staff of Anglican Diocesan Services in relation to all aspects of Diocesan administration.

The Bishop's Office and Anglican Diocesan Services are located in Canberra. Senior Clergy Leadership meetings are held every second month on the same Friday as Bishop-in-Council.

In specialist matters the Bishop consults with the relevant Ministry Units, Bishop-in-Council, the legal committee and appropriate Diocesan agencies. The Bishop is in regular communication with clergy and lay leaders of the Diocese

through the monthly letter, *Ad Clerum*, and in contact with the wider Diocesan family through the Diocesan website (www.anglicancg.org.au), Anglican News, Pastoral Letters, parish visits and attendance at other functions.

The Bishop is the President of Synod, the Chair of Bishop-in-Council and Chair of the Property Trust among others. No ordinance of Synod can come into force without the Bishop's assent. The Bishop is called to be an agent of change, as well as being the chief pastor and defender of the faith in the Diocese.

Bishop's Office

Diocesan Bishop: Right Revd Stuart Robinson (resigned 31 March 2018)

Bishop's Executive Officer: Ms Bev Forbes

Assistant Bishop/Vicar General: Right Revd Trevor Edwards (Episcopal Administrator from 31 March 2018)

Assistant Bishop/Ministry Training and Development: Right Revd Dr Matt Brain (resigned 31 December 2017)

Archdeacon Goulburn & Southern Tablelands: Ven John Barnes

Archdeacon Chaplaincy: Ven Dr Wayne Brighton

Acting Director for Ordination: The Reverend Peter Rose (2018)

Registrar/General Manager

The Registrar provides secretariat, executive support and strategic advice to Synod, Bishop-in-Council, Ministry Executive, the ADS Board, Property Trust, the Investment Advisory Committee, the Finance Committee and the Pelican Foundation.

The Registrar is also responsible for the implementation and coordination of policy decisions for these forums (e.g. permissions to incur debt; trust investment, management and advice to parishes; trust withdrawals).

Other administrative functions overseen by the Registrar include: Coordination of the annual Synod; Parish Returns; Clergy Removals and general administration (including the production of the administrative circular).

Registrar/General Manager: Mr Trevor Ament

At the October 2017 Synod an amendment was made to the Governance of the Diocese Ordinance 2000 to include a provision for the Registrar to appoint a Deputy Registrar. After consultation with the Bishop and approval by Bishop-in-Council in December 2017, Ms Emma Body was appointed to this role by the Registrar effective from 1 February 2018.

Legal Committee (see page 26)

The Legal Committee is responsible for the drafting of Ordinances, the drawing up of legal documents and general advice on legal matters/questions.

The Chancellor for the Diocese is the Hon Justice Richard Refshauge.

The Legal Committee comprises the Chancellor, Mr Tony Beal, Mr Rupert Hammond, Ms Anne McNaughton and Dr Darryn Jensen.

Professional Standards Unit (see page 24)

Professional Standards Director: Reverend Peter Barnett

Please refer to the Professional Standards Report for further details.

Anglican Diocesan Services

Corporate services to the Diocese are provided through the Anglican Diocesan Services (ADS).

The ADS commenced operations on 1 July 2013 and is now in its fifth year. The ADS model consolidates core administrative functions within a single shared services entity to provide a framework that will enable continuous service improvements to all Agencies within the Diocese and drive efficiency benefits from the consolidation of the identified shared services.

This will enable the Diocese and its partner agencies to better focus on their core business and mission.

Please refer to the Anglican Diocesan Services Synod report for further details.



Change in Leadership

CHAPTER 5

2017-18 has seen significant changes in terms of leadership. In early October 2017, after four years of consideration, the new Episcopal Election process was approved by Synod. It was not anticipated that it would be initiated almost immediately and yet within a few months that became a reality when Bishop Stuart announced his intention to resign and declared a vacancy in the See of Canberra and Goulburn effective from 31 March 2018.

This was closely followed by the announcement in late December 2017 that Bishop Matt had been elected as the new Bishop of Bendigo. Bishop Matt was installed as the 10th Bishop of Bendigo at St Paul's Cathedral on 17 February 2018.

Bishop Matt came to the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn in 2010 from the Diocese of North West Australia to take up the role of Director of Synergy Youth and Children's Ministry. On 7 July 2012, he was collated as Archdeacon for Youth and Children's ministry. In 2013 he became Director of Parish Support, Chaplaincy and Mission and was consecrated as Assistant Bishop in 2015, taking up the further responsibility for Ministry Training and Development. More recently Bishop Matt served as Rector of Arawang Parish following the amalgamation of the former Chapman and Kambah Parishes as well as serving on numerous Diocesan Boards/Committees.

Whilst he and his family are greatly missed we give thanks to God for Bishop Matt's and Rachael's ministry among us.



Bishop Matt and Bishop Stuart with the beautiful Huon pine music stand that was the gift to Bishop Matt from the Diocese.

The following is an excerpt from the Anglican News:



Bendigo Installs Bishop Matt

On a mercifully mild and golden summer day, Saturday 17th February, former Assistant Bishop of this Diocese, Matt Brain, was installed as the 10th Bishop of Bendigo, in a service held in the recently refurbished St Paul's Cathedral.

The Vicar General of Bendigo, The Very Reverend John Roundhill, welcomed those gathered, acknowledging that Bendigo's joy comes as a loss to Canberra and Goulburn, before beginning:

'We offer God our thanksgiving, we turn to God in repentance, we seek Christ's grace and blessing and the guidance of the Holy Spirit for all that lies ahead.'

'With the arrival of Bishop Matt Brain we begin a new era in the life of the Church in this Diocese. Pray that it will be a time of flourishing and grace as we continue to grow together in Christ into the fullness of human life and invite others to go with us on the journey.'

Bishop Stuart Robinson and Trevor Ament, Registrar, as representatives of the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn, presented Bishop Matt to the Diocese of Bendigo, with the words 'We thank God for Matthew's ministry among us, and pray that he will be welcomed and loved here'.

In his inaugural sermon on the lectionary texts Matthew 2:13-18 and 1 John 1:5-2:2, Bishop Matt preached that it was from the terrible story in Matthew 2 and the paired Epistle that we find God's call for our future: to be people both of humility and hope.

He concluded by exhorting those gathered:

'Friends, just as the call to take seriously, to participate in God's light is a high call, the joyful reality of the way being made for us to do so is an expansive call ...'

... We live in an exciting time to be God's people, to be God's church. The demands upon us that bring us low are also a grace for us so that we may be a people of humility desperate to experience provision through Jesus ... and in doing so holding out hope to a world in despairing need.'

Bishop Matt came to the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn in 2010 from the Diocese of North West Australia. In 2013 he became Director of Parish Support, Chaplaincy and Mission and was consecrated as Assistant Bishop in 2015, taking up the further responsibility for Ministry Training and Development. He and his family will be greatly missed by Canberra and Goulburn.

On 31 March 2018, Bishop Stuart laid up his Pastoral Staff and was formally farewelled from the Diocese in his 10th year as Diocesan Bishop.

Bishop Stuart was elected by the Synod as the 10th Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn on 2 November 2008 and consecrated and installed at St Saviour's Cathedral on 31 January 2009 (affectionately referring to himself as "Mitre 10").

Prior to this Bishop Stuart had served as an Anglican Priest and church planter in Australia and North-West Europe for more than 20 years. He was the National Mission Facilitator for the Anglican Church in Australia and Chaired a number of Christian organisations as well as serving as the rector of St. Paul's Chatswood from November 2005 until December 2008.

During his episcopacy Bishop Stuart set an unwavering Christian example and helped to shape clear Diocesan mission initiatives which has set the trajectory for the Diocese over the past decade. He will be remembered for his Diocesan dream

'I dream of a Diocese in which the love of Jesus transforms people and communities.'

and for his 3D vision of:

Deployment – To identify, train and deploy gifted and able people into situations where they can effect transformation and life change.

Debt reduction – To address debt as it can (and does) easily distract from strategic deployment.

Development – To creatively and courageously deploy the

right people and to address debt we will, among other strategies, develop property and plant as responsible stewards of the resources that God has given us.

He sought to assist in addressing issues of viability and sustainability particularly in our regional areas as well as encouraging the planting of new churches and supporting new models of ministry. Bishop Stuart was active at both a Provincial and General Synod (National) level. His aptitude and skill in Chairing Synod, Bishop-in-Council, the Property Trust and associated governance bodies was recognised and valued.

However, the burden he shouldered in responding to survivors of abuse and addressing professional standards matters and the response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse can never be underestimated.

Most importantly though he cared for and encouraged his people – both clergy and lay – within the Diocese and more broadly in the wider community.

We give thanks to God for Bishop Stuart's and Jane's ministry among us.

An excerpt from the Anglican News can be read on the next page.

And so, having put his retirement on hold, Bishop Trevor has assumed the role of Episcopal Administrator and, with the support of the senior clergy and Diocesan team, is ably leading us through this time of transition. Furthermore, the Episcopal Election Nominations Committee (EENC), elected at the March 2018 Synod, has embarked on the processes for the election of our next Bishop. Please continue to uphold them all in prayer.

The Registrar Trevor Ament presenting Bishop Stuart with a gift from the Diocese.



Bishop Stuart's Last Hurrah

On Easter Saturday, in the final moment of his episcopacy, Bishop Stuart laid up his pastoral staff at St Saviour's Cathedral, Goulburn.

It was a magnificent autumn day and a service glowing with warmth and thankfulness to Bishop Stuart and Jane for their ministry amongst us.

In his last homily, Bishop Stuart shared memories of his father playing and singing his favourite hymn 'Standing on the Promises of God', explaining that he stills sings this hymn, with its theology informed by the Gospel reading in Matthew 28:1-10, as it serves as a powerful reminder that God is trustworthy and true, even when 'the howling storms of doubt and fear assail'. He encouraged those present, from the readings for the day, to look to God with confidence: as the one who slakes this world's spiritual thirst, whose word is life-giving and efficacious (Isaiah 55:1, 11); as our Refuge and our Deliverer, our Strong Fortress, the one who hears our cries for mercy and salvation (Psalm 31); as the source of renewal and release from the rule of sin and death; as the One in whom we have the hope of resurrection and eternal life (Romans 6).

Bishop Stuart then stood on the Chancel steps and handed over responsibility to Bishop Trevor Edwards to be Administrator of the Diocese, until his successor is elected.

Speeches of farewell were made by The Most Reverend Dr Glenn Davies, Metropolitan of NSW, representing the Anglican Church of NSW, The Venerable Carol Wagner and The Venerable Dr Brian Douglas representing the Clergy and Justice Richard Refshauge and Mrs Lynette Glendinning representing the Laity of the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn and The Honourable Pru Goward, Member for Goulburn, representing the Community of Goulburn. Archbishop Glenn Davies, shared how he was with Bishop Stuart when he was informed of his election to the role, and told those gathered 'your bishop is a man of action and of prayer'.

Those who spoke from the Diocese paid special tribute to Bishop Stuart for the burden he had taken up and

carried in response to the Royal Commission and his humble efforts to put the needs of victims first, with Archdeacon Brian Douglas reminding us that everything Bishop Stuart did was 'for Jesus'.

The Honourable Pru Goward, spoke of Stuart's lovability and his love for others as the characteristic that had enabled such effective leadership and of how much of what he did in Goulburn was 'unexpected', but appreciated all the more, concluding that 'our lives will be a little dimmer for his leaving'.

The gifts from the Diocese were presented to Bishop Stuart by the Registrar, Trevor Ament, including a wooden box from Bungendore Wood Works containing the letters and cards from parishes, a rural scene painted by Bungendore artist Jenny Becker, and an artwork of Canberra landmarks by Jim Kaucz.

In his response Bishop Stuart thanked all those who have aided him in his role – the Episcopal team, the Registrar Trevor Ament, his Executive Officer Bev Forbes, the ADS, the Clergy, and in particular his wife, for her unfailing support, which raised a standing ovation for Jane.

Finally he thanked all the people of the Diocese, saying 'you are our greatest asset ... through you the love of Jesus is manifested, the community is being transformed'.

Bishop Trevor and Archbishop Glenn Davies prayed for Stuart and Jane, who then left the Cathedral to rousing applause.



In line with the Bishop's dream "of a Diocese in which the love of Jesus transforms people and communities" the following mission initiatives were adopted in 2010.

Changing Lives Transforming Communities

Bishop's Focus

Encouraging missional engagement with our communities

- Facilitating partnerships with Diocesan agencies and local ministry units
- Developing regional Archdeaconry strategies
- Deploying a Diocesan Mission Facilitator

Raising a new generation of disciples and leaders

- Resourcing Synergy Youth & Children
- Developing pioneer, indigenous and multicultural leaders
- Investing in Christian education through the ministry of schools

Responding to human need through ministries of care and advocacy

- Supporting an innovative and effective Anglicare
- Providing a public voice for the voiceless
- Acknowledging and welcoming the gifts and insights of all people living with mental illness and physical disability

Equipping all God's people for ministry and mission

- Sustaining the employment of a Director of Ministry Training and Development and Diocesan Mission Facilitator
- Establishing a Diocesan centre for lay training
- Promoting and extending the influence and programs of St Mark's National Theological Centre

Connecting the church and the world

- Inspiring local Churches to be 'salt and light'
- Encouraging lay people to live out their baptismal promises
- Empowering the ministry of Chaplains and distinctive Deacons

Inspiring and nurturing a culture of worship and mission

- Ensuring the Cathedral is a centre of excellence for worship and community engagement
- Developing resources for ministry units and fresh expressions of church

Promoting and practising environmental stewardship

- Ensuring a properly resourced and well led Environment Commission
- Encouraging communities to actively engage in environmentally sustainable practices

Ensuring transparency and effective governance

- Reviewing and monitoring of boards of management
- Reviewing and developing the clergy appointment process
- Ensuring the Registry serves ministry units

Encouraging healthy communities confident in Christ

- Proclaiming the gospel in regional missions that stress the making of new disciples
- Promoting a culture of theological learning and spiritual maturity
- Supporting our Tri Diocesan partner dioceses and our link diocese abroad

Many of these initiatives continue to be actively addressed and realised throughout the Diocese by our Diocesan agencies and local ministry units. Since 2015, however, the missional focus has shifted to the 3D-vision outlined by Bishop Stuart of deployment, debt reduction and development.



Mission and Ministry Initiatives for the Diocese

CHAPTER 6

We dream of a Diocese in which the love of Jesus transforms individuals and communities

Re-seeding the gospel; growing the body of Christ

As we find ourselves in a transition period, it is an opportune time to reflect on the past decade, acknowledge our present and look with hope and optimism towards the future.

The Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn, as part of the Anglican Church of Australia, is a church in transition. We live in a period of significant change. Inherited and cherished ways of being church are under stress. The story of the gospel is being erased from the memory of the young, the church's voice within the public, political and intellectual life of the nation is muted at best. Moreover, we are increasingly aware of the remarkable diversity of the peoples of Australia with respect to cultures, ethnicity and religious traditions. The religious landscape is changing fast and more people today than ever before do not associate with any religion. The strains on the church's resources are great, the challenges equally great. But there remains an indestructible spiritual hunger in our society. Truly, we live in exciting times to be a Christian and part of the world-wide body of Christ.

This is the context in which our Diocese undertakes its ministry and mission initiatives. Perhaps we might best depict the present challenge for our Diocese as one of re-seeding, of planting and growing the gospel in the church and society for the sake of the coming kingdom. In the church garden, there are parts that look healthy and are thriving, other sections are overgrown and require pruning back or weeding while new exotic varieties seem to appear from nowhere. In this context, a major challenge is to till the ground, re-fertilise and continue the patient task of re-seeding and tending the new shoots.

Since 2010, the mission initiatives outlined on page 18 were adopted to facilitate the overarching mission of the Diocese – to see the love of Jesus transforming people and communities.

Over the past eight years there have been different foci in different seasons. Some initiatives were for a limited time, others have since been refined and further adapted, but many continue to be actively addressed and realised throughout the Diocese by local ministry units and our Diocesan agencies.



St Peter's Anglican Church, Sutton

In 2013, Anglican Diocesan Services was established as a strategic initiative to consolidate core administrative functions within a single shared services entity. The purpose of embracing shared services was to provide a framework to enable continuous service improvements to the Diocese and its agencies and drive efficiency and missional benefits

Since 2015, the missional focus has been sharpened to the 3D-vision of:

Deployment – of skilled and well trained lay and ordained leaders, so that the right people are appropriately deployed to the right places to facilitate mission, e.g. pioneer ministers/church planters; lay leaders; parish curates and leaders; specialist staff.

Development of:

- Income generating capital works projects – to generate income streams to facilitate deployment and address debt reduction
- Financial structures that facilitate mission. This also includes exercising wise stewardship of varied assets so that workers, lay and ordained, may be deployed throughout our Diocese
- Parish partnerships with Diocesan and other agencies.

Debt Reduction as it relates to:

- Parish contributions
- Interest rates
- Professional Standards implications / settlements
- Diocesan entities (e.g. schools)

Following on from this, in 2016 the strategic decision was taken to create three new Commissions, which are subcommittees of Bishop-in-Council:

- Property Development Commission
- Public Issues Commission
- Anglican Schools Commission

In 2017 we found ourselves confronting a number of very important matters relevant not only to the church but to our broader society at large:

Royal Commission

A significant focus in 2017 was reporting to, engaging with and responding to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse; particularly the recommendations that were presented in the Royal Commission's final report as they pertain to Religious organisations in general and more specifically the Anglican Church.

Bishop-in-Council continues to work hard to ensure that Diocesan policies and practices are aligned with the recommendations and with what is rightly demanded by our communities. While this has, and continues to take time and energy, responding well to the questions others have about our past and present action is essential to assist the Church to regain trust and the capacity to reach out to our communities.

The Diocesan aspiration is to be 'victim-centric' to ensure that we care for people in the short term and the longer term (the rest of their lives, in some cases). To this end, we offer 'process support', 'pastoral support', and access to 'professional support' – in addition to financial care and assistance packages. Whilst it is incumbent upon us to offer this level of care to those affected, the financial costs to the Diocese are (and will continue to be) very significant.

The Royal Commission has further strengthened our resolve to continue to faithfully respond to those who have been harmed and impacted by past incidents of abuse and to ensure that we continue to have robust processes in place to provide for safe communities.

Our professional standards and safe communities' staff are to be commended for their work on these matters. Further details can be found in the Professional Standards Report to Synod.

General Synod

General Synod was held from 3-8 September 2017 in Maroochydore QLD. At this meeting a range of important matters were considered, with a particular focus on the following:

- Royal Commission recommendations;
- Child protection/Professional Standards and associated Canons to amend various aspects of the Constitution of the Anglican Church of Australia;
- Current Public/Social issues (i.e. same-sex marriage; refugees/asylum seekers; domestic violence; climate change; end of life issues);
- Other general issues relevant to the Anglican Church.

The Public Issues Commission continues to address the various current public and social issues as detailed in their report to Synod. And further motions will come before this session of Synod.

In March 2018, the Synod unanimously assented to the 10 child protection canons made by the Seventeenth Session of the General Synod in 2017 pertaining to child protection. Two of these canons made alterations to the Constitution and the other eight affected the order and good governance of the church within this Diocese.

As stated at the time:

"This legislation will set the course for ministry and pastoral care into the future and will, please God, say to a watching world that they are loved of God – as evidenced by our commitment to their well-being, safety and wholeness; that our churches and communities of faith are safe places – that the hospitality we offer is truly life-giving ..."

National Redress Scheme

Following on from the Royal Commission, the National Redress Scheme has also been a significant focus throughout 2017-18 and a significant amount of work has been contributed at

a Provincial and National Church (General Synod) level with respect to this.

The Scheme commenced on 1 July 2018. On 31 May 2018 the Anglican Church of Australia made a commitment to establish an Anglican Participating Group and representative entity. The General Synod has established a company limited by guarantee, Anglican Representative (National Redress Scheme) Limited [ARNRSL] to act as the representative entity.

Bishop-in-Council, in its capacity as the standing committee of the Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn, has resolved to participate in the National Redress Scheme via the ARNSL and a presentation will be made at Synod on this resolution.

It is important to note that this scheme does not replace our current redress processes. It is an additional mechanism for seeking redress for those victims who do not wish to approach an institution directly.

Changes to the Marriage Act

Another significant topic in 2017 was the issue of same-sex marriage and proposed changes to the Marriage Act.

The resources developed by the Public Issues Commission and the respectful discussion of the issues both a Diocesan and local level are to be commended.

The outcome of the Postal Survey and the resultant changes to the Marriage Act were a major topic of discussion at the National Bishop's Conference held in Canberra in March 2018 as the church now works through the various challenges this poses.

Vitality & Sustainability

'Vitality and Sustainability' remain key issues for all dioceses whether in rural or urban settings and this continues to be the case in our Diocese as Parochial ministry in rural areas becomes ever more challenging, not merely because of changing population patterns but because of shifting cultural preferences. These shifts are challenging traditional models of congregations and long-term sustainability.

In response to this, the establishment of the Exploratory Ministries Chaplaincy Unit (EMCU) has assisted in providing flexible and agile structures to support and enable continuing ministry and mission, particularly in rural areas where inherited traditional models are no longer able to be supported. Pioneering ministries such as rural chaplaincy are growing congregations in areas where churches would otherwise have already closed. Some examples include the

ministries occurring at Collector, Binda, Bookham and Marulan.

New models (or old models renewed) of ministry are being established in which the focus is serving the people of a district rather than the maintenance of a structure. For example, Sutton Road Mission District, Cartwright Mission District and Mulwaree Anglican Mission District.

Similarly, supported training appointments aimed at providing ministry and mission within a community, while growing missional leaders, are being made. This has the potential to serve existing congregations while providing the opportunity for ministry trainees to grow through supported practice.

In addition, in some instances the creation of new parishes in which resources are pooled (i.e. through amalgamations) has meant that time, energy and money can be rationalised for greater missional impact and refocussed on contemporary needs (e.g. Arawang Parish and the recent subsumption of the Anglican Community of the Redeemer, Ashmont, into the Parish of Wagga Wagga).

Many parishes are also implementing new styles of worship alongside existing traditional models.

Bishop-in-Council continues to actively support this work, as well as supporting other mechanisms to assist ministry units in addressing issues of vitality and sustainability through the release of land/property assets either through sale or leasing, where funds generated can be reallocated to supporting ministry and mission and/or the capital needs of the ministry unit.

The Challenge of Natural Disasters

2018 has seen two significant natural disasters affect our Diocese and yet through these some amazing missional opportunities have presented:

Firstly in March, there were the devastating Tathra bushfires.

As Bishop Trevor noted:

"Our people were among the first on the ground in the evacuation centre, with the Anglicare Disaster Recovery Team including folk from our small congregation who themselves had been evacuated. Our local priest opened St Martin's Tathra as a community hub for practical and prayer support. The Reverend Stuart Haynes has visited people tirelessly in that community as they returned to their homes or the remains of their homes. The post-fire Easter Sunday ecumenical church service attracted 200 people many of whom just wanted to say thank you for being spared. Together with his people he is devising ways to continue to help and stay connected with people who are showing a new spiritual openness. In consultation with our Registrar and the CEO of Anglicare a short, mid-term and longer term strategy is in place. In particular the Diocese has made a gift of funds available to the parish of Bega to enable Stuart Haynes to give dedicated time to leading our recovery efforts in Tathra. Anglicare will provide funds for specialist trauma counselling which from experience will be needed by folk 4-6 months after the initial event".



More recently the effects of drought across the country have been equally devastating for those on the land. The work of our Diocesan agencies and our rural and regional ministry units in providing practical and spiritual assistance through this time has and continues to be extremely important. Please continue to uphold these communities in your prayers.

Despite the various challenges that we may face on the way, we continue to embrace the missional opportunities that present as we look towards the future.

Strengthening of Missional alignment

Finally the strengthening of missional alignment has been forefront throughout 2017 and particularly during this time of transition as we focus on the concept of the "Diocesan family".

Examples include:

- Continuing engagement with Anglicare, to ensure missional alignment with the Diocese and support the development of collaborative mission and partnerships with ministry units.
- The amalgamation of the financial operations of the Bishop's Office (Registry) into the ADS and the combined financial reporting.
- Continuing promotion of the AIDF as an attractive depositing and lending institution for our ministry units and Diocesan agencies.
- Enhanced missional alignment of our Anglican Schools:
 - Diocesan Schools (through the Anglican School Commission) – particularly the development of the Schools Foundations and the work occurring in respect to Governance (through the development of a standardised schools ordinance)
 - Company Schools – noting the work that has been undertaken over the past 12 months to enhance the missional alignment of our Company schools and the fruit that this is now bearing.

The reach of our Schools and Anglicare enables thousands of people of all ages to come into daily contact with the great news of Jesus and transforming love and care in the name of Jesus. St Mark's National Theological Centre and Synergy Youth and Children's Ministry deepen the knowledge and depth of insight of disciples, young and old, preparing leaders for ministry and all for service. The Australian Centre for Christianity & Culture (ACC&C) provides an intentional focus on mission within a pluralist, secular and multifaith society, while numerous other agencies and entities work to minister to particular age groups or in places of particular need.

Guiding Principles (from 2010 Mission Initiatives)

- *Prayer is essential for our common life.*
- *Reading, teaching and living in response to the Scriptures is a first order priority.*
- *Word and sacrament are the basis of worship. As a diverse diocese, we value different worship styles and we learn from each another.*
- *Building relationships with all people since news of the kingdom of God is for everyone.*
- *Growing disciples by sharing the Gospel with friends and neighbours; baptising and nurturing new believers in order to transform God's world.*
- *Alleviating human need and addressing injustice through advocacy, peace-building, reconciliation and loving service.*
- *Safeguarding the integrity of creation through responsible stewardship.*
- *Governance that is effective and transparent.*
- *Partnerships with other ministry agencies, Christian Churches and associations.*

Professional Standards

CHAPTER 7

Our Diocese is committed to holistic Safe Church Ministry. This means: we commit to our pastoral, duty of care, legal and insurance obligations; with the goal that all ministries are spiritually, emotionally and physically safe; based on the premise that Diocesan parishes and ministries should be person-valuing and respectful places free from abuse and harm, for ministry to God's glory.

The Professional Standards Ordinance 2004 (PSO) was enacted by the Bishop-in-Council in 2004. The objective of the PSO is to establish a code of good practice for Church workers and processes for responding effectively and fairly to complaints made by people who have been aggrieved by the actions of a Church worker, which are not in conformity with the code.

The PSO provides for the appointment of:

- (a) Professional Standards Director;
- (b) Professional Standards Committee;
- (c) Professional Standards Board; and
- (d) Professional Standards Reference Group.

Please refer to the Professional Standards Report to Synod for further information regarding the work and activities undertaken in relation to Professional Standards and Safe Ministries over the last 12 months.

The ADS Report to Synod also provides information regarding the Safe Communities Unit.



Legal Committee

CHAPTER 8

The Diocesan Legal Committee comprises:

The Chancellor
Mr Tony Beal
Mr Rupert Hammond
Ms Anne McNaughton and
Dr Darryn Jensen

This Committee of the Diocese meets weekly in the Diocesan Office to discuss issues emerging from all aspects of the Diocese's operations that are brought to its attention by, for example, the Bishop, the Registrar and ADS staff, the Professional Standards Director or Diocesan agencies.

The Bishops, Registrar and the Professional Standards Director often attend for part of the Committee's meetings, in order to provide briefings and seek oral advice.

In between meetings the members of the Committee work on matters, which are then settled by the Chancellor. Whilst the Chancellor undertakes many matters himself, he is ably assisted by the other members of the group. The Chancellor and members of the Legal Committee all work in a voluntary capacity.

In 2017, a considerable part of the Committee's work was devoted to finding a sensible, workable and accountable solution to the problems encountered by the Property Trust in managing its increasing workload. This resulted in amendments to the Anglican Church Property Trust Ordinance, and these amendments were passed by Synod in October 2017. These amendments have enabled ACPT decisions to be delegated to sub-committees. This has reduced the work required by the Trust in day-to-day decisions. In addition, property matters and professional standards matters continue to play a large part in the work of the Committee.

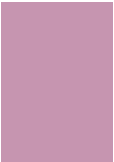

The Legal Committee does not provide formal legal advice. The Diocese seeks formal advice from external lawyers when required.

Ordinances

CHAPTER 9

Name of Ordinance	Date Passed
Parish of Boorowa Rectory Leasing Ordinance 2017	17 February 2017
Pearce Land Sale Ordinance 2017	17 February 2017
Parish of Cooma (19 Chalker Street Adaminaby) Lands Sale Ordinance 2017	2 June 2017
Young District Anglican Ministry (Church of the Ascension, Kingsvale) Land Sale Amendment Ordinance 2017	2 June 2017
Diocesan School Building and Maintenance Foundation and Scholarships Foundation Ordinance 2017	16 June 2017
Sapphire Coast Anglican Parish (Tantawanglo) Sale Ordinance 2017	11 August 2017
Anglican Parish of Southern Monaro (Craigie) Land Sale Ordinance	11 August 2017
Parish of Bega (Tanja House and Church House) Leasing Ordinance 2017	11 August 2017
Parish of South Wagga Wagga (Koorringal) Leasing Ordinance 2017	11 August 2017
Diocesan Legislation Amendment Ordinance 2017	11 August 2017
Parish of Chapman Trust Ordinance 2017	11 August 2017
Episcopal Election Amendment Ordinance 2017	7 October 2017
Anglican Church Property Trust Amendment Ordinance 2017	7 October 2017
Professional Standards Amendment Ordinance 2017	7 October 2017
Finance and Annual Reports Amendment Ordinance 2017	7 October 2017
Governance of the Diocese Amendment Ordinance 2017	7 October 2017
Parish of St John the Baptist Canberra Trusts Variation Ordinance 2017	7 October 2017
Parish of Temora (St George's Narraburra) Land Sale Ordinance 2017	1 December 2017
Radford College Mortgaging Amendment Ordinance 2017	18 December 2017
Parish of Binda Sale Ordinance 2018	9 February 2018
Parish of St James Holt Rectory Leasing Ordinance 2018	9 February 2018

Name of Ordinance	Date Passed
General Synod (Constitution (Appellate Tribunal) Amendment Canon) Assent Ordinance 2018	3 March 2018
General Synod (Constitution (Jurisdiction of Special Tribunal) Amendment Canon) Assent Ordinance 2018	3 March 2018
General Synod (Safe Ministry to Children Canon) Adoption Ordinance 2018	3 March 2018
General Synod (Episcopal Standards (Child Protection) Canon) Adoption Ordinance 2018	3 March 2018
General Synod (Special Tribunal (Limitation Period) Canon) Adoption Ordinance 2018	3 March 2018
General Synod (Offences Amendment Canon) Adoption Ordinance 2018	3 March 2018
General Synod (Canon Concerning Confessions (Revision) Canon) Adoption Ordinance 2018	3 March 2018
General Synod (Canon Concerning Confessions (Vulnerable Persons) Canon) Adoption Ordinance 2018	3 March 2018
General Synod (Holy Orders (Removal from Exercise of Ministry) Canon) Adoption Ordinance	3 March 2018
General Synod (Canon Concerning Services Amendment Canon) Adoption Ordinance 2018	3 March 2018
Gungahlin Anglican Church Parish Rectory Lease Ordinance 2017	15 March 2018
Parish of Hackett Rectory Leasing Ordinance 2018	13 April 2018
Parish of Queanbeyan & District Anglican Church St Paul's Rectory Leasing Ordinance 2018	13 April 2018
Radford College Mortgaging Amendment Ordinance 2018	13 April 2018
Anglican Parish of Southern Monaro (Craigie) Land Sale Amendment Ordinance 2018	15 June 2018
Parish of Kaleen-Giralang-Lawson Rectory Lease Ordinance 2018	15 June 2018
Cathedral Parish Glebe Lands (23 Braidwood Road) Leasing Ordinance 2018	15 June 2018
Parish of Wagga Wagga Ashmont Preschool Lease Ordinance 2018	15 June 2018



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