THIRTY SEVENTH SYNOD SECOND SESSION

# DIOCESE OF GRAFTON



# REPORTS
## Volume 2

2021

# Reports to Synod 2021
# Volume 2
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# DIOCESE OF GRAFTON



# MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

# New Episcopal Acts – September 2020 – September 2021

## Appointments, Ordinations, Resignations and Retirements

***Ordinations***

Ordination of The Reverend Kassimiro Yanga as Deacon on 18 October 2020.
Ordination of The Reverend David Brown as Deacon on 20 October 2020.
Ordination of The Reverend Aaron Coates as Deacon on 20 October 2020.
Ordination of The Reverend Grant Sparks as Deacon on 21 November 2020.

***Diocesan Licences Issued***

| Name | Licence | Parish | Issued |
|---|---|---|---|
| The Rev'd Lynette Bullard | Rector extension | Maclean | 11/09/2020 |
| The Rev'd Timothy Waghorn | Rector | South Grafton | 13/09/2026 |
| The Venerable Matthew Jones | Rector | Casino | 25/09/2020 |
| The Venerable Matthew Jones | Archdeacon – The Northern Region | | 25/09/2020 |
| The Venerable Stuart Webb | Archdeacon – The Southern Region | | 25/09/2020 |
| The Rev'd Canon John Barrett | Clerical Canon of Christ Church Cathedral | | 25/09/2020 |
| The Rev'd Canon John Barrett | Authority to Officiate | Port Macquarie | 29/09/2020 |
| The Rev'd David Curtis | Authority to Officiate | Port Macquarie | 29/09/2020 |
| The Rev'd Richard Brown | Authority to Officiate | Ballina | 29/09/2020 |
| The Rev'd Rosalin Johnson | Authority to Officiate | Nambucca Heads | 29/09/2020 |
| The Rev'd Jan McLeod | Authority to Officiate | Coffs Harbour | 29/09/2020 |
| The Rev'd Camellia Flanagan | Hon Clerical Canon of Christ Church Cathedral | | 30/09/2020 |
| The Rev'd Camellia Flanagan | Hon Asst Priest at Christ Church Cathedral | | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Catherine Ridd | Associate Priest | Ballina | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Michael Bain | Authority to Officiate | Lower Macleay | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Hope Bennett | Authority to Officiate | Maclean | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Rhonda Callander | Authority to Officiate | Lismore | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Stephen Clarke | Authority to Officiate | Maclean | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Margaret Davis | Authority to Officiate | Ballina | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Christopher Elliott | Authority to Officiate | Wauchope | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Geoffrey Foley | Authority to Officiate | Lismore | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Joseph Formosa | Authority to Officiate | Nambucca Heads | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Nicole Hagon | Authority to Officiate | Grafton Diocese | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Graeme Hodgkinson | Authority to Officiate | Kingscliff | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Vivian Hoskins | Authority to Officiate | Dorrigo | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Michael Lazarus | Authority to Officiate | Tweed Heads | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Duncan McArthur | Authority to Officiate | Wauchope | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Rosemary Peterson | Authority to Officiate | Grafton Diocese | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Rachel Rynehart | Authority to Officiate | Grafton Diocese | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Ivan Shepherd | Authority to Officiate | Ballina | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Hilary Singleton | Authority to Officiate | Kingscliff | 1/10/2020 |
| Sr Linda Mary CSC | Authority to Officiate | Kempsey | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Cameron Smith | Authority to Officiate | Tweed Heads | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Leanne Smith | Chaplain Port Macquarie Base Hospital & Wauchope Palliative Care Unit | | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Geoffrey Vidal | Authority to Officiate | Alstonville | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Geoffrey Vidal | Chaplain to Retired Clergy & Clergy Spouses | | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Suzanne Woodcock | Authority to Officiate | Tweed Heads | 1/10/2020 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| The Rev'd Ronald Miller | Vocational Deacon | Casino | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Jenny Parker | Deacon | South Grafton | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Pam Stone | Vocational Deacon - Northern Beaches Anglicans | | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Dr John Tyman | Honorary Priest | Murwillumbah | 1/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Carol Ford | Vocation Deacon | Coffs Harbour | 7/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Judith Edwards | Authority to Officiate | Maclean | 7/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Sally Miller | Authority to Officiate | Casino | 7/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Kassimiro Yanga | Vocational Deacon | Coffs Harbour | 16/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd David Brown | Deacon | Ballina | 20/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Aaron Coates | Deacon | Casino | 20/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Canon Naomi Cooke | Clerical Canon of Christ Church Cathedral | | 20/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Canon Michael Ridge | Clerical Canon of Christ Church Cathedral | | 20/10/2020 |
| Canon Terence Shorten | Lay Canon of Christ Church Cathedral | | 20/10/2020 |
| Canon Prof. Robert Weatherby | Lay Canon of Christ Church Cathedral | | 20/10/2020 |
| The Rev'd Canon Zoe Everingham | Authority to Officiate | Coffs Harbour | 22/10/2020 |
| The Venerable Gregory Ezzy | Intentional Locum | Orara Valley | 17/11/2020 |
| The Rev'd Paul Hodge | Chaplain at St Columba Anglican School | | 17/11/2020 |
| The Rev'd David Morgan | Chaplain at Bishop Druitt College | | 17/11/2020 |
| The Rev'd Grant Sparks | Vocational Deacon | Grafton | 17/11/2020 |
| The Rev'd Simon Reeve | Young Families Minister, Northern Beaches Anglicans, Young Families Resource Officer in the Diocese of Grafton | | 24/11/2020 |
| The Rev'd John Kidson | Authority to Officiate | Alstonville | 17/11/2020 |
| The Rev'd Alan Shaw | Senior Assoc. Priest | Lismore | 27/11/2020 |
| The Rev'd Dway Goon Chew | Rector | Tweed Heads | 2/12/2020 |
| The Rev'd James Holbeck | Authority to Officiate | Port Macquarie | 17/12/2020 |
| The Rev'd Leanne Smith | Authority to Officiate | Port Macquarie | 18/12/2020 |
| The Rev'd Ron Spindler | Locum Tenens | Nambucca Valley | 22/12/2020 |
| The Venerable Matthew Jones | Archdeacon – The Northern Region (xtn) | | 22/12/2020 |
| The Venerable Stuart Webb | Archdeacon – Southern Region (xtn) | | 22/12/2020 |
| The Rev'd Richard Temby | Locum Tenens | Sawtell | 22/01/2021 |
| The Rev'd Daryl McCullough | Priest-in-Charge | Coffs Harbour | 22/01/2021 |
| The Rev'd Canon Judith Edwards | Honorary Clerical Canon of Christ Church Cathedral | | 27/01/2021 |
| The Rev'd Sandra Kjellgren | Locum Tenens | Byron | 29/01/2021 |
| The Rev'd Brian Hughes | Locum Tenens | Kempsey | 23/02/2021 |
| The Rev'd Thea Archinal | Authority to Officiate | Casino | 18/03/2021 |
| The Rev'd Michael Ridge | Rector | Dorrigo | 19/03/2021 |
| Canon Phillip Bonser | Lay Canon of Christ Church Cathedral | | 23/03/2021 |
| The Rev'd Canon Zoe Everingham | Clerical Canon of Christ Church Cathedral | | 23/03/2021 |
| Emily Brown | Stipendiary Lay Minister in the Parish of Port Macquarie | | 23/03/2021 |
| Yoshiya Sakamoto | Stipendiary Lay Minister in the Parish of Port Macquarie | | 23/03/2021 |
| Emma Webb | Stipendiary Lay Minister in the Parish of Port Macquarie | | 25/03/2021 |
| The Rev'd Bruce Henzell | Locum Tenens | Casino | 8/04/2021 |
| The Rev'd Canon Judith Edwards | Locum Tenens | Orara Valley | 8/04/2021 |
| The Rev'd Richard Temby | Locum Tenens | Sawtell | 16/04/2021 |
| The Rev'd Canon Naomi Cooke | Chaplain at Bishop Druitt College | | 20/04/2021 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| The Rev'd Nicole Hagon | Chaplain, Clarence Valley Anglican School | | 20/04/2021 |
| The Rev'd Aaron Coates | Assistant Curate | Lismore | 28/04/2021 |
| The Rev'd Peter Shayler-Webb | Rector (Ministry Leader) | Nambucca Valley | 30/04/2021 |
| The Rev'd Clyde Appleby | Assistant Priest | Nambucca Valley | 30/04/2021 |
| The Rev'd Constantine Osuchukwu | Chaplain, Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School | | 6/05/2021 |
| The Rev'd Jesse Poole | Priest-in-Charge | Kempsey | 11/05/2021 |
| The Rev'd Anne Goode | Rector | The Bellinger | 21/05/2021 |
| The Rev'd Alan Shaw | Authority to Officiate | Lismore | 21/05/2021 |
| The Venerable Gregory Ezzy | Locum Tenens | Byron | 21/05/2021 |
| The Rev'd Peter Moore | Locum Tenens | Casino | 21/05/2021 |
| Canon Heather McKinnon | Lay Canon of Christ Church Cathedral | | 26/05/2021 |
| The Rev'd Alan Colyer | Authority to Officiate | St John's Liston | 8/06/2021 |
| The Rev'd Daryl McCullough | Rector | Coffs Harbour | 25/06/2021 |
| The Rev'd Ronald Bundy | Locum Tenens | Port Macquarie | 30/06/2021 |
| Rev'd Canon Stephen Clarke | Locum Tenens | Maclean | 30/06/2021 |
| The Venerable Zoe Everingham | Archdeacon – The Southern Region | | 30/06/2021 |
| The Venerable Zoe Everingham | Intentional Interim Minister, Orara Valley Transitional Ministry District | | 30/06/2021 |
| The Rev'd Richard Temby | Locum Tenens | Parish of Sawtell | 30/06/2021 |
| The Rev'd Clyde Appleby | Authority to Officiate | Grafton Diocese | 16/07/2021 |
| The Venerable Judith Edwards | Archdeacon – The Northern Region (Acting) | | 5/08/2021 |
| The Rev'd Kathleen Peken | Mission Support Officer – South Mission and Ministry Region | | 5/08/2021 |
| The Rev'd Stephen Clarke | Locum Tenens | Maclean | 5/08/2021 |
| The Venerable Gregory Ezzy | Locum Tenens | Byron | 13/08/2021 |
| The Rev'd Peter Moore | Locum Tenens | Casino | 13/08/2021 |
| The Rev'd Richard Temby | Locum Tenens | Sawtell | 27/08/2021 |
| The Rev'd Rosie Wynter | Associate Priest | Byron | 27/08/2021 |
| The Rev'd Lenore Parker | Authority to Officiate | Maclean | 2/09/2021 |
| The Rev'd Michael Lazarus | Authority to Officiate | Kingscliff | 9/09/2021 |
| The Rev'd Grahame Yager | Rector | Byron | 16/09/2021 |

***Licensed Lay Ministers***

| **LLM Category 1** | **Parish** |
|---|---|
| Barbara Fewtrell | Alstonville |
| Frances Legge | Ballina |
| John Phillips | Ballina |
| Roslyn Rowe | Ballina |
| Raymond Nickel | Lismore |
| Janette Llewellyn | Nambucca Heads |
| Yvonne Patman | Nambucca Heads |
| Graham Peart | Nambucca Heads |
| Anne Weekley | Nambucca Heads |
| Paul Weekley | Nambucca Heads |
| Stephen Egan | Northern Beaches Anglicans |
| Christine Wilson | Northern Beaches Anglicans |
| Erica Lake | Port Macquarie |
| Ronald Pelley | Port Macquarie |
| Robert Tillott | Port Macquarie |
| Dolly Fletcher | Casino |

| LLM Category 1 Continued | Parish |
|---|---|
| Bob Chambers | Coffs Harbour |
| David Ford | Coffs Harbour |
| Jennifer Hallett | Coffs Harbour |
| Wendy Naughton | Wauchope |
| Robert Eather | Grafton |
| Robyn Cooper | Casino |
| Leonie Sills | The Bellinger |
| Michael Summerill | The Bellinger |
| Adrian Rogers | Tweed Heads |
| Deborah Shambrook | Tweed Heads |
| Yvonne Turner | Tweed Heads |
| John Reed | Maclean |
| Gay Wiseman | Maclean |
| John Edwards | Maclean |
| Dawn Back | Lismore |
| Raymond Houston | Lismore |
| Kenneth Patino | Lismore |
| Anne Walker | Lismore |
| Brodie Marshall | Port Macquarie |
| Jack Salfus | Port Macquarie |
| Janette Llewellyn | Nambucca Valley |
| Yvonne Patman | Nambucca Valley |
| Graham Peart | Nambucca Valley |
| Anne Weekley | Nambucca Valley |
| Paul Weekley | Nambucca Valley |

| LLM Category 2 | Parish |
|---|---|
| Charles Handley | Alstonville |
| Mark Stuckey | Alstonville |
| John Bryen | Ballina |
| Patricia Kerr | Ballina |
| Amkela Malaba | Ballina |
| Stephanie Ridge | Dorrigo |
| Noel Bodycote | Kyogle |
| Maurice Powell | Kyogle |
| Russell Cook | Lismore |
| Stephen Hall | Lismore |
| Brian Pade | Nambucca Heads |
| Merelyn Foy | Port Macquarie |
| Wendy Tillott | Port Macquarie |
| Kerry Martin | Upper Clarence |
| Beverley Hendley | Casino |
| Susan Lollback | Casino |
| Elaine Cleary | Coffs Harbour |
| Allan Reko | Coffs Harbour |
| Gae Shorten | Coffs Harbour |
| Robert Sunderland | Coffs Harbour |
| Robert Walsh | Coffs Harbour |
| Lesle Cropp | Macksville |
| Gordon Burch | Wauchope |
| Robert Drysdale | Wauchope |
| Helen Gatenby | Wauchope |

| LLM Category 2 Continued | Parish |
|---|---|
| Sheralee Hardaker | Macksville |
| David Jones | Macksville |
| Susanne Noble | Macksville |
| Michelle Webb | Port Macquarie |
| Barbara Cheers | Kempsey |
| Sister Helen CSC | Kempsey |
| Ruth Pobjoy | Orara Valley |
| Edward Clarke | Orara Valley |
| Laura East | Byron |
| Merle Siwicki | Byron |
| David Miller | Murwillumbah |
| Madeline Pearce | Murwillumbah |
| Iona Rossely | Murwillumbah |
| Dianna Neuman | The Bellinger |
| John Gandey | Tweed Heads |
| Maria Gandey | Tweed Heads |
| Elizabeth Bryant | Maclean |
| Ross Bryant | Maclean |
| Cristina Parsons | Maclean |
| Gwynne Thomas | Maclean |
| Kerry Martin | Casino |
| Lesle Cropp | Nambucca Valley |
| Sheralee Hardaker | Nambucca Valley |
| David Jones | Nambucca Valley |
| Susanne Noble | Nambucca Valley |
| Brian Pade | Nambucca Valley |
| Leonie Wells | Kingscliff |

***Confirmations***

| Church | Parish | Date | Number |
|---|---|---|---|
| St James | Maclean | 6 September 2020 | 5 |
| St Thomas | Port Macquarie | 15 November 2020 | 4 |

***Reception into the Anglican Church***

| Church | Parish | Date | Number |
|---|---|---|---|
| St Thomas | Port Macquarie | 15 November 2020 | 1 |
| St Matthews | Wauchope | 9 May 2021 | 2 |

***Deconsecrations:***

All Saints Church, Old Bonalbo – 13 April 2021
St Peter's Church, Old Koreelah – 15 April 2021
All Saints Church, Pappinbarra – 23 April 2021
St Mark's Church, Nimbin – 26 May 2021
St Aidan's Church, Eureka – 27 June 2021
St John's Church, Rappville – 31 July 2021
St Faith's Church, Doubtful Creek – 18 September 2021
Holy Apostles Church, Copmanhurst – 23 September 2021

***Appointments:***

The Reverend Nicole Hagon – Chaplain, Clarence Valley Anglican School
The Venerable Zoe Everingham – Archdeacon – The Southern Region
The Reverend Katie Peken – Mission Support Officer for the Southern Region

***Appointments Continued:***
Mrs Heather McKinnon – Lay Canon of Christ Church Cathedral
The Reverend Judy Edwards – Honorary Clerical Canon of Christ Church Cathedral
The Reverend Angela Dutton – Honorary Clerical Canon of Christ Church Cathedral
The Reverend Matthew Jones – Honorary Clerical Canon of Christ Church Cathedral
The Venerable Judith Edwards – Archdeacon – The Northern Region (Acting)

***Commissionings:***
The Reverend Peter Shayler-Webb – Rector of the Parish of Nambucca Valley
The Reverend Jesse Poole – Priest-in-Charge, Parish of Kempsey
The Reverend Constantine Osuchukwu, Chaplain Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School
The Venerable Zoe Everingham – Intentional Interim Minister, Orara Valley Transitional Ministry District

***Retirements:***
The Reverend Clyde Appleby
The Reverend Lyn Bullard

***Resignations:***
Mrs Joy Rouse – Licensed Lay Minister
Mrs Julieanne Sinclair – Licensed Lay Minister
Ms Iris Cowie – Licensed Lay Minister
Mrs Robyn Cooper – Licensed Lay Minister
Mrs Pamela Langford – Licensed Lay Minister
The Rev'd Christian Ford – Rector, Parish of Casino
Jennifer Priest – Licensed Lay Minister
Christine Parsons – Licensed Lay Minister
Mrs Joan Davies – Licensed Lay Minister
Mrs Joy Maynard – Licensed Lay Minister
Mrs Mary Birch – Licensed Lay Minister
Mrs Kim Butler – Licensed Lay Minister
The Venerable Matthew Jones – Archdeacon of the North
The Venerable Stuart Webb – Archdeacon of the South
The Venerable Gail Hagon – Mission Companion
The Reverend David Brown – Deacon, Parish of Ballina
The Reverend Paul Hodge – Chaplain, SCAS
Mr Gary Boyd – Licensed Lay Minister

***Clergy No Longer Licensed***
The Reverend Robert Ireland
The Reverend Jeff Murnain
The Reverend Tom Wills

***In Memoriam***
The Rev'd Gavin Talbot
Mrs Margaret Bundy
Mr Russell Cook
Mr John Hanger
Mrs Maureen Clapham
Mr Cliff Davis
The Rev'd Kenneth McDonald

## Grafton Diocese Cursillo - Report to Synod 2021

Our Cursillo movement is well and truly alive and kicking and we continue to be active in all aspects of Diocesan life it is so affirming to know that many of our leaders both lay and clergy are cursillistas as well as our Bishop.

The Cursillo secretariat wish to acknowledge and give thanks to God for Bishop Murray's encouragement, participation and interest in all our Cursillo activities 2020 has been a year like no other.

At the beginning of the year we were able to hold a Fire Day at Lennox Head, and a great Ultreya at Maclean which was ably led by Kathy Noonan

Even though we had to postpone the other plans for 2020, we have been able to keep in touch and to maintain our small groups 'communities of grace' in our own individual ways Jesus has told us that when two or three are gathered in His Name. He is there among us so let us remember and celebrate.

The big ''news'' and great achievement has been our resolving to improve communications with all our cursillo family. or really we have started.

For as long as I can remember communication between secretariat and all cursillistas has been a problem in many areas, I acknowledge the many care persons both parish and regional who have faithfully sent out newsletters and messages over many years.

However, there are many places where information has not been passed on and we have many cursillistas over many years who have reported that they have not known when things are on etc. We have tried many different ways; I trust that we have arrived at a solution now. Carol Anderson has accepted the new role of Media Communications. In essence we are attempting to have contact emails of all cursillistas so that each may receive news directly. We know that not all have emails and so we are asking the parish care persons to be aware of those who need a printed copy to be sent to them or delivered as appropriate just imagine the opportunities we would have to visit a fellow cursillista and deliver a message to them.

Secretariat has grappled for a long time also with the number of members and the various roles. At the end of 2020 after many years of having Regional Reps on secretariat we resolved that this role was no longer required. We sent letters of appreciation and thanks to Alex Dempster, Kathy Noonan, Melanie Doriean and Jenny Cox and encouraged each to continue their faithful service in other ways.

Cursillo is adapting to current needs and this is to be encouraged the future may look very different than the past.

Secretariat also made a big decision to step out in faith in 2 ways by planning to hold a ''Mixed Weekend'' where participants and team have both women and men side by side and that the cost of $100 per person (instead of the $300 which is estimated to be the real cost of the weekend) secretariat will try to cover the costs and believe that as it was the same as when cursillo started in 1983 cursillistas would ''pay forward'' after their weekend experience so as to enable all to be able to attend and then to continue their faith journey with new enthusiasm.

David Jones (Nambucca Valley Parish) and Kate Brewer (Murwillumbah parish) are the Diocesan Lay Directors for this next year congratulations to each of them for their willingness to step up to this role I wish for them the satisfaction and gratitude which I have felt during my time as 4th day co-ordinator and as diocesan lay director.

Ann Helmrich Retired Diocesan Lay Director

Anglicare North Coast
hope in action

## Report to Synod 2021

Anglicare North Coast is in its 22nd year *in service of the King, caring for His brothers and sisters (Matthew 25:40)*

Year on year, it seems that the level of need for material assistance and social support services is only increasing in our regions. Shelter, along with food, are two of the most basic human needs, and tragically for an increasing number of households that is precisely where the pressure points are occurring. Our Anglicare Rental Affordability Snapshot in April showed in numeric terms just how difficult it is for households with limited income to find and keep a roof over their heads. This is not only true for households that depend on pension payments, but now also for low income wage earners. Precarious housing and the threat of homelessness causes numerous other financial, mental, and wellbeing problems for households that can easily spiral into dysfunction as a result.

Our services are directed quite specifically at meeting those basic human needs (food and shelter) as well as some secondary but no less critical needs through financial counselling, support to gain skills and confidence, referral to other services, and prevention of domestic violence. As well as doing what we can with limited resources to ease the pressures faced by households, we also advocate frequently to governments through the media and with research reports to achieve longer-term solutions that will benefit our community. Our advocacy in this regard is simple: the welfare safety net (Jobseeker) needs to be raised and the supply of affordable housing needs to increase. We will continue to make this case to commonwealth and state governments until we see an easing of the burden of poverty that is gripping our communities. And we will not stop providing 'hope in action' to the least of the King's brothers and sisters (Matthew 25:40) who struggle to get through the day, feed the kids, and keep themselves safe.

This year we have made efforts to engage more meaningfully with communities in the far corners of our Diocese. In partnership with local parishes, we have expanded our food pantry services to include communities in Urbenville and Jubullum (Tabulam) providing very cheap groceries to households in need. We have resumed Financial Counselling services in the Tweed, and we continue to assist parishes in Nambucca and Bowraville to provide food pantries. Our Disaster Recovery teams were once again deployed during the year, this time in response to flooding events in March from Port Macquarie all the way north to Maclean. We assisted the Port Macquarie parish Soup Kitchen who made a stellar effort to serve households affected by the flooding event in March with food, clothing and household items, assistance with clean-up efforts and supporting those who were made homeless by the flood.

As well as providing services for which we are funded by government, we are becoming more agile in the way we respond to needs in our communities. Our partnership with parishes, other service providers, schools and community groups continue to grow, as we develop a network approach to working together. This year we have developed partnership agreements (MOUs) with Warrina Domestic Violence services and STARTTS in Coffs Harbour, and with Ngerrie Aboriginal Land Council in South Grafton.

Part of the integrated view of making an impact in our patch includes taking a position and doing something about more global issues. We have taken a pragmatic approach to meeting Global Sustainable Development goals. This means that we do what we can in our area of influence to make a difference as corporate citizens. We have significantly reduced the use of paper in our organisation simply by changing some processes and habits. We have

pivoted to travelling less frequently and using technology to connect with others as far as that is profitable. During 2021 we have reduced our fleet from 8 vehicles to 5, and we have started preferencing hybrid technology for replacement vehicles.

We are taking steps towards more meaningful as well as symbolic action that promotes reconciliation with First Nations people. We farewelled our long-term Manager of Community Services, Tony Auld, who left us to apply his significant skills and experience as the new CEO of the Jigalong community in the Western Desert of Western Australia. We are developing an empowerment project that aims to reduce violence against women and their children in a bicultural neighbourhood in South Grafton, in partnership with a Local Aboriginal Land Council.

Finally, we are preparing to sell our head office in Grafton, in the hope of finding a new site from which we can re-imagine our engagement with our local and wider communities through social enterprise and innovative, joined-up service delivery, to promote quality outcomes for those who are marginalised- the least of the King's brothers and sisters.

We are embarking on an intensive strategic planning process that will enable us to prepare for the future and cast a vision of where we see ourselves as the social welfare arm of the church in the next decade and beyond. We will seek the input of parishes as we plan this new strategy so we may become ever more responsive to the changing needs and demographics of our local communities. We will continue to develop our affordable housing program and we will pursue other opportunities to make an impact for better outcomes throughout the Diocese. We will increase our efforts to fundraise and diversify our revenue base to make us more financially resilient and less dependent on government contracts.

In all these things we will prayerfully follow the One who came to give hope and life in abundance.

*For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord.*

*They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.*

*Jeremiah 29:11*

Leon Ankersmit, CEO



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
GRAFTON

open doors ... open hearts ... open minds ...

## Cathedral Chapter - Report to Synod 2021

The Chapter of Christ Church Cathedral is charged with the development and fostering of the Ministry of the Cathedral within the Diocese, including advocating to members of the Diocesan family the responsibility of all for maintenance of the Cathedral. The Chapter is to promote and safeguard the place and function of the Cathedral as the mother church of the Diocese for Diocesan and civic services. It is also to assist in facilitating the Cathedral's wider ministry beyond its role as a parish church in Grafton.

### Membership of the Chapter in 2020

In 2020 the Chapter of the Cathedral was comprised of:

- The Right Reverend Dr Murray Harvey (President)
- The Very Reverend Dr Greg Jenks (Dean and Chair)
- The Venerable Tiffany Sparks (Diocesan Archdeacon)
- Mr Chris Nelson (Registrar)
- Canon John Bryen (Synod elected)
- Canon Terry Shorten (Synod elected)
- The Reverend Canon John Barrett (Bishop's clergy appointment)
- The Reverend Canon Judy Edwards (Synod elected)
- The Reverend Canon Zoe Everingham (Dean's clergy appointment)
- The Reverend Canon Matthew Smedley (Synod elected until resignation on 9th February)
- Canon Lee Archinal (Dean's lay appointment and Chapter Clerk)
- Mrs Lyn Johnston (Cathedral Churchwarden)

The Bishop did not exercise his prerogative to appoint a lay canon in 2020.

At Synod on 27th September, the following changes to membership occurred.

- Retired: Canon John Bryen, The Reverend Canon Judy Edwards, Canon Lee Archinal
- Newly elected/appointed: The Reverend Canon Michael Ridge, The Reverend Canon Naomi Cooke, Canon Phillip Bonser, Canon Robert Weatherby.

### Work of the Chapter

#### Relationships and communication

The activities of the Cathedral Chapter during 2020 were hampered by the unforeseen restrictions imposed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This was of course a familiar occurrence across the life of the Diocese. The Chapter met twice by Zoom videoconferencing in 2020: in April and July, and also progressed matters by exchange of email where necessary.

In 2020, Chapter endeavoured to deliver on its charge for Christ Church Cathedral to be the mother church of the diocese in creative ways, through live streaming of events and services, the continuation of regular communication between the Cathedral, parishes, schools and the wider community and giving voice to, and taking action on, the Five Marks of Mission across the Diocese. When physical presence in the Cathedral was not possible due to Public Health Orders, live streaming of services became a lifeline for many people across the diocese, especially for ministry units with limited resources to record local

worship services. The Cathedral became the online worship hub. Subsequently, the Cathedral was able to offer advice and support to parishes and schools as they considered what technology to acquire and how best to arrange their own online ministries.

To facilitate an improved on-line communications presence that benefits the entire Diocese and beyond, the Cathedral drew down $50,000 from its trust funds to upgrade the audio system, install four remote controlled tilt cameras, a bank of theatre lights and related computer equipment to drive the system. The Cathedral also purchased a large digital TV and mobile stand for use during funerals and at other times. This project was designed and implemented by The Reverend Grant Sparks, to whom we are all indebted.

The Cathedral invited a variety of clergy to lead or preach at services, thus enriching the worship experience of congregations and also showcasing the ministry of our diocesan leaders, members of Chapter and other clergy, to people across the Diocese. The Cathedral also developed an online community which says Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer together each day.

Because of involvement with local and state authorities in the aftermath of the Christchurch terror attacks, the Cathedral has a seat in the NSW Religious Communities Forum. The Dean has been involved in regular zoom meetings with the Minister for Multiculturism and has received training in community response to critical emergencies, along with organisations such as Red Cross, and local Councils. These connections enabled the Dean to provide timely advice to the Bishop for accurate dissemination of urgent information around the Diocese. The Cathedral is seen by both the state and local authorities as a constructive contributor to social harmony and community goodwill.

### Events and hospitality

Chapter is always keen to sponsor events based at the Cathedral that could be a resource for the wider Diocese, and foster a sense of cohesiveness and hospitality. Unfortunately, in 2020 most planned events were cancelled including reflection days in the north and south of the diocese, the Chrism Mass at Easter, ABM and Mother's Union celebrations, and carols at Christmas, due to the imposed 'no singing' policy.

The Opening Eucharist for Diocesan Synod is normally hosted at the Cathedral. However, in 2020 Synod was held on 26-27 September at Twin Towns Services Club, Tweed Heads in order to comply with spacing requirements under the Covid-19 Public Health Orders.

The ordinations of four deacons scheduled to occur in the Cathedral on 16th October, were re-arranged due to Covid restrictions and QLD border closures. The Reverend Kassimiro Yanga was ordained in his home parish church of St John the Evangelist, Coffs Harbour on Sunday 18th October. The Reverend David Brown and The Reverend Aaron Coates were ordained at St Mary's Ballina on 20 October. The Reverend Grant Sparks, appointed to Christ Church Cathedral, was ordained in the Cathedral on 21st November after the QLD border was reopened, allowing his family and friends from Brisbane to attend. As numbers were restricted inside the building, the live streaming of this event allowed more from across the diocese and further afield to participate on-line.

### Engagement with the Five Marks of Mission

Chapter is committed to being a resource for giving voice to, and taking action on, the five Marks of Mission into our parishes and schools and across the Diocese. A strategy for developing relationships between the Cathedral and the Diocese' schools is well underway, while how best to engage on social justice issues continues to develop. Due to a full agenda at Synod 2020, the Chapter agreed not to present motions to synod in support of various environmental and social justice issues as it had done in the past, in order to ensure there was sufficient time for important presentations around the Diocesan restructure proposal. The Chapter will continue to advocate for social justice as necessary at future Synods.

## Cathedral maintenance funds

### Parish contributions

Each year parishes are invited by Chapter to contribute to the Cathedral Maintenance Fund. This is in fulfilment of a Synod resolution of 1985 agreeing that all parishes in the Diocese should share in the responsibility for the preservation and maintenance of our Cathedral church, and be encouraged to contribute to its significant maintenance and repair.

Since 1 July 2018 there has been one maintenance fund for the Cathedral: The Grafton Cathedral Precinct Maintenance Fund. The fund is held in trust and administered by the Corporate Trustees and is no longer a responsibility of the Cathedral Chapter. In 2018, however, and again in 2019, Chapter reaffirmed its commitment to assist in this area by writing to ministry units and encouraging financial contributions to the fund.

The suggested financial contribution requested from parishes is determined by the Chapter. In 2020 the suggested contribution was to be $425. This was waived in recognition of the extra pressure on parish resources due to the Covid-19 pandemic. In 2021, the suggested contribution will be $470, however it is open to parishes to contribute what each can afford in any year.

The Cathedral Chapter thanks all who have contributed to maintenance funds in the past. This support for our Cathedral church and its place in our Diocesan life goes far beyond the actual dollar amount and it is greatly appreciated by Chapter and the Parish of Grafton.

### Use of Cathedral maintenance funds

In 2020, plans continued for the proposed new episcopal memorial garden at the NE corner of the Cathedral. Memorials to Bishops Arthur and Schultz were repaired and placed temporarily on the south wall, due to the fragility of the east wall.

Many items on the Cathedral's Major Heritage Works program were progressed or completed in 2020, including a new roof to the Chapel and North Transept, thanks in part to a heritage grant of $85,000. The works program is project managed by the Reverend Canon Camelia Flanagan, Associate Priest, to whom we are indebted for the systematic approach to heritage maintenance and grant applications. The organ console was extensively rebuilt and upgraded, and now has a modern digital control system, including the capacity to record and playback music. This function enables the Director of Music to conduct the Choir without anyone being at the organ console. The total cost of the organ works exceeded $130,000 and was only possible due to a generous donation of $99,000 towards the project.

Anticipated costs for future planned works are outlined below.

| **Christ Church Cathedral Grafton Major Heritage Works Program** | |
|---|---|
| Costs shown are either approximate figures based on actual work or estimates for future works, as at April 2021. | **$** |
| **Projected works for 2021+** | |
| Duke St Cottages (roofs, fences) | 130 000 |
| New garden for future Bishops Memorials | 10 000 |
| Roof to Vestries and South Transept | 200 000 |
| Roof to Cathedral Nave and Chancel | 500 000 |
| South vestry upgrade | 30 000 |
| Hunt Hall | 250 000 |

**Chapter plans for 2021**

At Synod 2020, new clerical and lay Canons were elected, refreshing the makeup of Chapter membership and increasing its theological diversity.

In 2021 Chapter will continue to work with the challenge of engaging creatively and constructively with the Diocesan restructure process, and discerning ways to best support the Diocese in its mission and ministry to our communities. Our intention is to facilitate the sharing of resources with diocesan schools, support the indigenous Reconciliation and Storytelling project, and host events that gather clergy and laity together from across the diocese.

Chapter looks forward to working with the Parish of Grafton in 2021 to develop the Cathedral's relationship with the Diocese, its parishes, and schools to its fullest potential as we continue our pilgrim journey together encouraging open doors, open hearts and open minds.

.
Compiled by The Reverend Canon Zoe Everingham
Chapter Clerk

## Chaplain Coffs Harbour Health Campus - Report to Synod 2021

The Coffs Harbour Health Campus continues to be busier than ever. Daily patient numbers have increased during the last year and the hospital has opened up some extra beds, yet they are always full. The redevelopment is progressing and we hope to begin transition to the new building in September 2021. This will include a new office for the Chaplain and a new Reflection room that also will have an outside area for families to use.

I continue to promote the Chaplain's role where and how I can. A brochure has been printed covering the Chaplaincy services in the health district and a promotional utube is on the services information site and the patient health channel. I have again been asked to speak to the 3rd year medical students and hope to be able to take a small part in the new staff orientation and training to help educate the new grads about the value of spiritual care.

The last year has been difficult, not only because of Covid restrictions but also with fires and floods. It seems that there is always strain on the health services in one way or other. Spiritual and emotional support, however small is appreciated and welcomed. I take part in a staff Care Collaborative that meet weekly to devise ways to assist staff well-being. There has been an increased awareness of the need for selfcare and to also care for one another as we work to care for the patients and their families.

Although visiting restrictions are not so severe presently as they had been when Covid first began, there is still a sense of caution about visitor numbers. Unfortunately, the pastoral volunteer group that were part of the Chaplain department pre pandemic have not all returned. This has meant increased demand for myself or another ordained clergy to visit. I am presently beginning to recruit volunteers, however ideally, they are younger and with no existing health issues. I have been asked to take a placement for a couple of students who are studying Chaplaincy and hope that this will relieve my load slightly and not increase it!

The Chaplaincy, in a hospital environment, is a persuasive mission into the wider community and is a wonderful way to bring hope and comfort to people in times of need. As a result of the Chaplaincy we meet people whom we would otherwise not have opportunity to be with. They come from a wide range of places, not just the local community. Pastoral Ministry in the hospital setting brings God's presence to people in a very meaningful way and connects to those who may not yet know him as well as bringing peace and comfort to those who do. Ministry with those who are facing trauma and the end of life can be very beneficial for families and to have the assurance of prayers and traditions can be incredibly comforting.

I am very thankful for the privilege and opportunities that God allows me as I serve him as a Chaplain. Please continue to pray for chaplaincy work that opportunities may continue and we might share God's love with all those with whom we come in contact, and bring hope and comfort in times of distress.

Yours in Christ's Service

Rev'd Anne Goode

## Chaplain - Port Macquarie Base Hospital - Report to Synod 2021

The Chaplaincy department at Port Macquarie Base Hospital continues to offer spiritual care to all patients within the hospital. Supportive pastoral and emotional care became very evident during the covid pandemic. Patients were no longer able to have visitors and support people with them. Pastoral care workers step into the support role and offered the love and care of God for several patients and their families.

Chaplains continue to play a vital role in the multidisciplinary team delivering spiritual care to patients and family members within the Palliative Care Unit in Wauchope hospital. Chaplains also assist staff in debriefing when the need arises.

Also, the North Coast Institute of Cancer Services is looking at all levels of patient care within the North coast area and spirituality is very much an integral part of patient care. Chaplains continue to offer in-services to staff to provide the staff with an understanding of the role of the Chaplain and the services the chaplaincy offers.

The Chaplaincy continues to provide many rituals for patients and staff. The service provides spiritual and emotional support for staff, debriefing also in situations that arise within the hospital.

Another service Chaplaincy provides are rituals that bring comfort at times of great distress. Rituals such as naming a baby that have died just before or after birth. Also, The Blessing of the Angel Services for all our stillborn and neonatal deaths that occur in our hospitals. Memorial services for individuals who have requested that while in hospital.
Our Assistant Chaplain Kim Butler has retired, and we are very thankful to Kim and the ministry she has provided to many patients and their families as well as staff support. Bronwyn Dillon has stepped into the position as Assistant Chaplain. Bronwyn brings a new set of skills and new enthusiasm to the role. We and look forward to her ministry and working together to share the great love of God.

Chaplaincy continues to be a great privilege where Christ can be seen in making differences in people’s lives. To be in partnership with Christ in this work is indeed a great blessing. I am ever thankful to our Lord Jesus Christ who brings hope in times of confusion, and darkness.

Every Blessing
Rev Leanne Smith Hospital Chaplain

## Household of Deacons - Report to Synod 2021

Our household is small in numbers but large in activity and enthusiasm to serve Jesus in our communities. Deacons were originally, in the early church, ordained to be the servant group who took pressure off those who served in priestly, apostolic roles.

We are mixing in our communities and providing a link between the unchurched community and the church to which we are attached. As a deacon I was once described as a boundary rider, out there rounding up the strays and leading them toward the help and encouragement of the church community.

In our roles in the Diocese we serve in the nursing homes and aged care villages offering pastoral nurture to all regardless of denomination. We are involved in community groups and service clubs giving us opportunities to serve the wider communities reflecting Jesus in all we do.

A Deacon is responsive. If there is a need a Deacon usually fills that need. There is no cut and dried job description for us, we are different in our skills, educational directions and training and indeed we respond accordingly. We are ordained to serve those on the fringe and bring Gods love to them in whatever manner that is needed.

We Deacons are all quite different but we all work tirelessly to serve God. Our household rarely meets together due largely to our community roles but we are bonded together in prayer.

Your sister in Christ
Reverend Pam Stone
for the household.

## Licensed Lay Ministers - Report to Synod 2021

The official roll of Licensed Lay Ministers within the Diocese of Grafton currently shows 88 people,47 Females and 41 Males, serving in 23 parishes/ministry units.

Whilst numbers appear to be less than in previous years there are still a number of applications still awaiting processing and approval.

Since our last report to Synod, LLMs have, like so many of us, faced the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic. For some it was the opportunity to retire after many years service, for others a time to take up the challenge and seek appointment, and for others a time to expand their knowledge of the technology world, as on line services became a new way of doing church.

The Annual Conference( 22nd August) was really different to previous years being replaced by a "Zoom" meeting led by Tim Dyer and attracted 32 participants. Teamwork was the theme and we looked at 3 types of teams, stages of team development, key elements of a healthy team and pathways for team development.

A second experience of a Zoom meeting was held on our Formation Day in October 2020 and led by our Director of Professional Standards, Phillip Bonser. Another very informative session.

At last LLMs were able to physically reunite at the February 2021 Formation Days held in Coffs Harbour and Lismore. Jonathan Sergeant from St Francis College led us through Bible 360 and really encouraged us to deliver these sessions to our parishes.

It was disappointing that attendance at the February formation days fell short of what is required of an LLM. Apologies are understood and accepted, however 22% of LLMs did not attend or give the courtesy of a response.

Special thanks go to our Ministry Development Officer, Venerable Tiffany Sparks for all her efforts planning and implementing LLM Formation Days. We look forward to the LLM Annual Conference being held on 21-22 August this year and further Formation Days in the year ahead.

Stephen Hall
LLM Lismore
on behalf of
Licensed Lay Ministers
Diocese of Grafton

## Mission and Ministry Region North - Report to Synod 2021

Since Synod met in September 2020, much has happened in the Northern Archdeaconry. Some of the changes that have happened are as follows:

Tweed Heads – Following his first twelve months as Priest in Charge at Tweed Heads, Dway Goon Chew has been appointed as Rector until 2026. This is an exciting time for the parish of Tweed Heads as they explore future mission and ministry options.

Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School – In May 2021 we welcomed the Rev'd Constantine Osuchukwu as the new Chaplain. Constantine and his family came from the Diocese of Ballarat.

Byron – It was hoped that the new Rector of the newly formed Byron Ministry Area would have been commissioned in January 2021 but unfortunately this did not eventuate. Bishop Murray has appointed a Locum Rector in the interim as the parish waits for a new Rector to be commissioned. At the time of writing this report it was unknown when this might happen.

Mid Richmond – Intentional Interim Ministry – Bishop Murray appointed the Rev'd Lenore Moules to this role for eighteen months. The Parish of Mid Richmond is not part of other amalgamations or networks within the diocesan restructure at this stage, so we are looking forward to hearing how the parish responds to this Intentional Interim Ministry. A review will be held later in 2021.

Casino – In addition to his roles as Rector of Ballina and Archdeacon of the North, Archdeacon Matthew also became the Rector of Casino and Upper Clarence from September 2020 to February 2021. In that time the parish focussed on creating a Mission Statement that would help them focus on Mission and Ministry in the future, as well as merging Upper Clarence and Casino into one parish as part of the Diocesan Restructuring for Mission and Ministry. Aaron Coates came to the Parish of Casino as a Stipendiary Lay Minister and was ordained Deacon in October 2020. The parish is now hopeful of being able to appoint a new Rector in the near future. As part of the Restructuring for Mission and Ministry, the church building at Doubtful Creek was closed and will be deconsecrated and prepared for sale.

Upper Clarence – The Parish of Upper Clarence formally merged with Casino in January 2021. To help in this transition, members of Upper Clarence joined the Casino Parish Council meetings from October 2020 as non-voting guests. This meant that they could be actively involved in helping to formulate the Mission Statement for the new Parish of Casino. In April 2021, All Saints, Old Bonalbo was closed and deconsecrated as part of the Diocesan Restructuring for Mission and Ministry.

Kyogle – In April 2021, St Peter's, Old Koreelah was closed and deconsecrated as part of the Diocesan Restructuring for Mission and Ministry.

Maclean, Grafton and South Grafton – From September 2020 these three parishes became part of the Northern Archdeaconry. At the time of writing this report, Lyn Bullard, Rector of Maclean, and Mission Support Officer (MSO) for the North, was planning to retire in June 2021.

Ballina and Alstonville parishes and Emmanuel Anglican College have begun working together as part of the 'Network' process in the Diocesan Restructuring for Mission and Ministry.

Personal message from Archdeacon Matthew:

It has been a great privilege for me to be able to connect with the parishes and schools in the Northern Region over the past three years. I hope that I have been able to contribute in some small way towards helping them achieve their mission and ministry goals. When Bishop Murray asked if I would continue in this role for a further three years, I prayed long and hard about this. My primary calling has always been as a parish priest and I have found that the time involved in archidiaconal duties has taken me away from my role as parish priest. For this reason, I respectfully declined Bishop Murray's very kind and generous offer to continue as Archdeacon of the North. We agreed, by negotiation, that I would stay on until June 2021 to help the Bishop with some form of succession plan.

I would like to thank Bishop Murray for the trust and confidence he placed in me as I tried my best to serve both him, and the diocese. I believe we have a very gifted Bishop who is also a very strategic thinker, and I am confident that the Diocesan Restructuring for Mission and Ministry will bear much fruit for God's kingdom in the years to come. I would also like to thank all the clergy and lay leaders with whom I have worked over the past three years. It has been a privilege to work alongside such a committed and dedicated team of faithful people, and I look forward to continuing to work together as we live into the Diocesan Restructuring for Mission and Ministry.

Every blessing,

The Venerable Matthew Jones
Archdeacon of the North

## Mission and Ministry Region South - Report to Synod 2021

For the Southern region like much of the diocese our last 12 months have been dominated by floods, ongoing bush fire recovery, restructure considerations and of course the Covid 19 pandemic. 2020/21 has been a challenging and stretching time for many and we have learned to be resilient through its challenges. What is most pleasing is that despite these many challenges we have continued to faithfully deliver Anglican Christian ministry in our region. Our lay and clergy leaders faithfully supported by parishioners have found creative solutions and risen to the challenges often with great courage and innovation.
The clergy and LLM's of the parishes met on a number of occasions in 2020/21 for our LLM training and clergy conferences. At these meetings we discussed matters across the life of the diocese, shared stories of ministry in our parishes, talked about how we could share resources and often discussed the restructure implications.

**Snap-shot of the life of the Southern Region in 2019/20**

*Floods*
During the floods of 2021 Macksville, Kempsey, Nambucca, Wauchope and Port Macquarie found themselves on the front line, delivering volunteers and aid to flood affected people. At the same time parishes were also supporting ongoing bush fire recovery efforts through generous donations.

*Restructure*
There have been mixed outcomes for the parishes of the south to the restructure process yet overwhelmingly the sentiment even in parishes experiencing the closing buildings has been, 'we need to change', 'we can't stay in maintenance mode', 'we need to reach out to younger generations'. This doesn't take away from the grief and sometimes anger that many feel about a world that's changing and the church that has to respond. The coming together of Nambucca and Macksville into the Nambucca Valley parish and the appointment of Rev Peter has been a source of great hopefulness for those involved. We are both sad to see Rev Clyde return to retirement but grateful for his ministry to the region.

*Parish life*
The Parishes of Kempsey and Nambucca Valley experienced the Joy of welcoming new clergy as we commissioned Rev Peter, Rev Jesse. Both have hit the ground running bringing a new energy to parish life. I would like to also acknowledge the great work of the Locums in these parishes and many lay people who stepped into new roles and carried the load of leading and serving in parishes in the interregnums.
We are fortunate to have locums serving in Sawtell and until recently Kempsey. There is great ministry continuing in both parishes.
Dorigo, Lower Macleay and Upper Macleay continued to look to creative ways of ministering to their communities with Messy church in Dorigo and evangelism outreach programs in the upper Macleay and family focused services in the lower Macleay followed up with discipleship programs which are bearing good fruit. They all expressed a sense of vitality and growth mixed with the struggles.
Woolgoolga parish continues to grow and develop their children's and youth programs and are enjoying watching their congregation flourish with its focus on discipleship and bible teaching.

*Anglican schools*
SCAS and BDC schools have submitted their own reports and are independent ministry units as part of our regions. They both continue to deliver excellence in education and we are glad to partner with them both where we can. We have appreciated Rev Naomi Cooke's (Chaplain at BDC) contribution to our meetings, as she keeps the schools and our younger generations in our focus.

*Covid 19*
With Covid-19 restrictions still affecting parish life it has been remarkable to watch as different parishes continue to rise to the challenge of delivering on-line church around the southern parts of the diocese. Many parishes have experienced greater connection with a wider audience including overseas watchers. Many have reflected that this has pushed them into areas of ministry they never thought they would have be able before Covid 19.
It is also worth noting that all of our Op shops, Food banks and soup kitchens are all fully functioning during 20/21. Port Macquarie Soup kitchen continued through out delivering as many as 200 takeaway meals every week and continues still.

*Conclusion*
It's hard in a short report to do justice to the hard work and dedication of so many people in our regions. In the midst of the many changes and challenges confronting us we will continue to trust in our God for our future.
It has been a great privilege to connect with the people of Southern region and I thank God for the privilege of submitting this report on behalf of us all. As this will be my final report as Archdeacon of the South I would like to thank my family for supporting me during this time as Archdeacon and my parish for accepting the many times I was unavailable or out of the parish of Archdeacon duties. We are delighted to welcome Rev Zoe to this new role as Archdeacon of the South and will be holding her in prayer.

In Christ
Venerable Stuart Webb
Archdeacon South

# DIOCESE OF GRAFTON



# SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

Grafton Anglican Schools Commission
**Annual Report to Synod - 2021**

Part 1: Operation of the Schools Commission

1. *Membership*
   The membership of the Grafton Anglican Schools Commission during the period since Synod 2020 has consisted of Mr Brad Bishop, Mr Phillip Bonser, Mrs Carol Bowern, Mrs Anne Bryce, Mr Martin Drevikovsky, Bishop Murray Harvey, Mrs Anne Marie Troutman and Mr Ian White.

   Mrs Anne Bryce (January) and Mr Ian White (March) were appointed in 2021. Mr Brad Bishop retired effective 31 Dec 2020.

2. *Support*
   As reported at the last Synod, the recruitment for an Executive Support Officer was completed and Mrs Angela Mula commenced in the role on 29 September 2020. 40% of the position is dedicated to providing support to the Commission and to diocesan schools, particularly the Chairs and Councils. The Commission is also supported by Mr Chris Nelson, Diocesan Registrar and by Mrs Kaytrina Jessup from the Registry staff.

3. *Priority Areas for the Grafton Anglican Schools Commission*
   The following status summary is provided for the Priority Areas the Commission previously identified for 2020-2021.

| **2020-2021** | |
|---|---|
| **Priority Area** | **Status** |
| **Improve Communication (Internal)** | **ONGOING**<br>• Chairs continue to meet with the GASC<br>• Facilitation of shared information through the ESO |
| **Better Resourcing** | **COMPLETE**<br>• Ordinance updated (approved BiC May 2020) to change membership requirements<br>• ESO appointed Sept 2020 |
| **Improve the Financial Monitoring of Schools and the Communication thereof** | **IN PROGRESS**<br>• Consultation with Southern Queensland and Newcastle Dioceses has taken place.<br>• Schools providing quarterly reports<br>• Traffic light monitoring in development<br>• GASC-003 Reporting and Accountability Framework – Schools is currently under review |
| **Improve CAPEX approval process** | **IN PROGRESS**<br>• New Executive Summary cover sheet developed outlines required documents<br>• ESO provides assistance& guidance |
| **Generate emphasis on induction of new council and board members to an understanding of the GASC** | **IN PROGRESS**<br>• Guiding documents have been updated and made available on GASC webpage.<br>• Full induction program to be developed. |

4. *Policy Development*
   Since reporting to the last Synod, the Commission has:
   a. Reviewed GASC-001 Principal Selection & Appointment
   b. Reviewed GASC-004 Appointing & Reappointment Members of Governing Bodies of Diocesan Educational Institutions. This included the development of an associated online fillable nomination form and a membership matrix to accompany the nomination.
   c. GASC-003 Reporting and Accountability Framework-Schools is currently under review.

5. *Monitoring and reporting*
   a. During 2020, in light of the impact of COVID-19, the Commission sought more regular (quarterly) financial reports from schools. This has continued in 2021. The Commission is able to report that as at 31st December 2020:
      i. All schools were able to pay their debts as and when they fall due.
      ii. All schools were meeting their current commitments to make capital and interest payments on their loans.
   b. St Columba Anglican School participated in a review of their financial status, conducted by an external consultant. The Commission

6. *Advising Bishop-in-Council on capital expenditure proposals.*
   Since Synod 2020, the Commission recommended the approval of the following projects by Bishop-in-Council:
   a. The Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School's Middle School Building Project (Mahers Lane Campus) and also the Preschool/Kindergarten Building Project (Sunshine Avenue Campus).

7. *Appointment and re-appointment of School Council members.*
   During the past year, the Schools Commission has made a number of new appointments to School Councils following nominations received from the Councils. Details of each Council's current membership (as at June 2021), is provided in Part 2.

8. *Diocesan Schools Network Meetings*
   The Chairs, Principals, Business Managers and Chaplains of the schools continued to meet via zoom in 2020 with the meetings in 2021 held face-to-face at Bishop Druitt College (12 March) and St Columba Anglican School (11 June). The School Council Chairs also meet with the Commission the day before. These meetings continue to provide a valuable opportunity to exchange information, undergo professional development and discuss matters of mutual interest.

   Phillip Bonser | Chair

## Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **ENROLMENT** (as at March 2021) | Total<br>Primary<br>Secondary | 1544<br>625<br>919 |
| **STAFFING** (as at March 2021) | Teaching staff (Full time equivalent) | 110.5 |
| **FINANCES** (as per 2020 audit) | Income<br>Expenditure<br>Declared profit | $33,614,312[1]<br>$27,230,641<br>$ 6,383,671 |
| **DEBT** (as per 2020 audit) | Total Borrowings<br>Repayments | $ 7,070,316<br>$ 1,184,321 |
| **CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT** (as per 2020 audit) | Capital Grant<br>Capital development expenditure and purchase of plant and equipment | $ 450,000<br>$ 8,680,103 |

| **SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP as at June 2021** | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mrs Dominique O'Neill (Chair) | Mr Bill Adler (Deputy Chair) | Mr Joshua Bedser |
| Rev Dway Goon Chew | Mrs Beverly Kelso | Mr Peter McAuley |
| Rev Lyndon Mulholland | | |

**SIGNIFICANT EVENTS[2]**

- The Schools response to the COVID-19 pandemic continues to be well managed by the School Council and senior leadership team, including fee relief to our most vulnerable school families.
- Enrolment growth remains strong with some 1616 students now attending the school across two campuses.
- The Master Plan continues to be refined for each campus. This includes the long awaited Middle School building that will be ready for occupation in Semester 2, 2021.
- The construction of the Early Learning Centre will commence soon thereafter with a development application approval expected by the end of June 2021.
- The school is receiving national recognition through The Educator Awards being finalists in three categories:
  - Non-Government Principal of the Year, Stuart Marquardt
  - Non-Government Primary School Teacher of the Year, Nathan Croft
  - Best Use of Technology - Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School
- Major sustainability projects have been undertaken at all school facilities. The Subpod composting system installed at the Sunshine Avenue and Mahers Lane campuses allows for the recycling of organic waste onsite. The solar installation at both campuses allows the school to generate our own electricity and the Boathouse on Cudgen Creek is now completely off-grid.
- The academic performance of the school continues to strengthen with the school moving into the top 200 schools in NSW in 2020.
- We embrace the Ministry of Reverend Constantine Osuchukwu and welcome his wife Faith and children, Obed and Sophie to our school community.

[1] *Includes $3,792,000 JobKeeper and $100,00 ATO Boost payment*

[2] *Information about the educational performance of the school is available in the school's annual report which is available on the school website and on the Australian Government My School website.*

## Emmanuel Anglican College

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **ENROLMENT**<br>(as at March 2021) | Total<br>Primary<br>Secondary | 759<br>377<br>382 |
| **STAFFING**<br>(as at March 2021) | Teaching staff (Full time equivalent) | 55.14 |
| **FINANCES**<br>(as per 2020 audit) | Income<br>Expenditure<br>Declared profit | $14,222,502<br>$12,902,339<br>$ 1,320,165 |
| **DEBT**<br>(as per 2020 audit) | Total Borrowings<br>Repayments | $ 6,757,207<br>$6,999,325 |
| **CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT**<br>(as per 2020 audit) | Capital grants<br>Capital development expenditure and purchase of plant and equipment | nil<br>$ 3,725,446 |

**SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP as at June 2021**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mr John Bryen (Chair) | Mr Matthew Ainsbury | Rev Christian Ford |
| Mr Paul Hickey | Ms Tracey Lister | Mr Christopher Lomax |
| Adjunct Prof Barbara Rugendyke | Mrs Margaret Shaw | Mr Phillip Silver |

**SIGNIFICANT EVENTS**[3]

- The COVID-19 response by staff was inspirational, with rapid adaptation to home based learning and alternative provision of pastoral support.
- Rev. Sally Miller's provision of online Chapel Services and wellbeing support to all of our school community was exemplary.
- Following a review of our Religious Education Program, the implementation of Religious and Values Education (RAVE) has begun for years K-6 with weekly lessons and Religion and Philosophy (RAP) for years 7-10 which is three lessons a fortnight.
- Curriculum design planning has begun to support the implementation of the Towards 2030 Strategic Plan.
- The refurbishment of Visual Art and Digital Media facilities and the construction of a Food Technology café were completed in March 2021. This project was supported by $550,000 from the Block Grant Authority.
- The Multi Purpose Centre will be completed in late August this year and Blessed and Opened by Bishop Murray on 8 September 2021.
- We bid farewell to our Deputy Principal Mr Darren Parks as he leaves the College at the end of Term 2 to take up an appointment as Principal of Manning Valley Anglican School.

[3] *Information about the educational performance of the school is available in the school's annual report which is available on the school website and on the Australian Government My School website.*

## Clarence Valley Anglican School

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **ENROLMENT**<br>(as at March 2021) | Total<br>Primary<br>Secondary | 316<br>156<br>160 |
| **STAFFING**<br>(as at March 2021) | Teaching staff (Full time equivalent) | 30.04 |
| **FINANCES**<br>(as per 2020 audit) | Income<br>Expenditure<br>Declared profit | $ 8,768,074[4]<br>$ 6,963,473<br>$ 1,804,601 |
| **DEBT**<br>(as per 2020 audit) | Total Borrowings<br>Repayments in 2019 | $ 8,340,654[5]<br>$ 88,071 |
| **CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT**<br>(as per 2020 audit) | Capital grants<br>Capital development expenditure and purchase of plant and equipment in 2020 | nil<br>$ 2,039,500 |

**SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP as at June 2021**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| The Very Reverend Dr Gregory Jenks (Chair) | Mr Kieran McAndrew (Deputy Chair) | Mr Peter Boole |
| Ms Rachel Choy | Mrs Sonia Lloyd | Ms Maggie McDade |
| Ms Joanne Reid | Mr Stephen Timms | |

**SIGNIFICANT EVENTS[6]**

- Appointment of Rev Nic Hagon as school chaplain (2 days per week)
- Introduction of Religion, Ethics, Philosophy program in Years 7- 9
- Introduction of Studies of Religion in Year 10
- Performance Centre construction completed and officially opened on 28 July
- Strategic Plan 2021-2025 completed
- Masterplan for Farnworth in progress
- COVID-19 restrictions continue as advised by NSW Department of Health

[4] *Includes $100,000 ATO Boost payment and $1,653,911 Building Donation.*
[5] *Of the school's loans, $6,572,191 is subordinated and interest-free until June 2022. The remaining $1,768,463 is secured by property, plant and equipment held by the school.*
[6] *Further information about the educational performance of the school is available in the school's annual report which is available on the school website and on the Australian Government My School website.*

## Bishop Druitt College

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **ENROLMENT** (as at March 2021) | Total<br>Primary<br>Secondary | 1094<br>442<br>652 |
| **STAFFING** (as at March 2021) | Teaching staff (Full time equivalent) | 95.6 |
| **FINANCES** (as per 2020 audit) | Income<br>Expenditure<br>Declared profit | $22,456,115[7]<br>$21,194,881<br>$ 1,261,234 |
| **FINANCING** (as per 2020 audit) | Total Borrowings<br>Repayments | $ 8,112,272<br>$ 794,571 |
| **CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT** (as per 2020 audit) | Capital Grants<br>Capital development expenditure and purchase of plant and equipment | nil<br>$ 2,169,788 |

**SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP as at June 2021**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mr David Ford (Chair) | Mrs Bethany Carpenter | Rev Zoe Everingham |
| Mrs Hayley Harris | Mr Ben Hodgson | Mr Darren Jameson |
| Mr Leslie Juhasz | Rev Daryl McCullough | Professor Stuart Smith |

**SIGNIFICANT EVENTS[8]**

- Student Wellbeing Hub - this new facility and its staff have been instrumental in supporting students and staff wellbeing during our unusual 2020 school year.
- New Head of Primary - Mr Richard Smith was appointed mid-year after our previous Head, Mrs Karin Lisle, took up the role as Principal at Clarence Valley Anglican School.
- Purchase of BDC House an adjacent residence that will help the college fully utilise future master plan initiatives.
- COVID-19 response - redeploying staff, focussing on pastoral connections, and delivering a second to none online and personally delivered learning program. The college staff displayed comradery, strength, innovation, and integrity during the year, always putting the needs of our families above their own.
- Curriculum development - New curriculum developments with Maths Pathways (year 5 to 7), Kaizen (year 5 to 8), and the first year of World Options electives in year 9 - this fresh new curriculum has become a centrepiece to the college's drive to ensure learning remains relevant, agile, engaging and student focussed.
- Investigation Centre - this new facility is designed to complement our Stage 1 Walker Learning Approach. Several other schools in regional NSW are now visiting the college to see this success in action.
- Facilities expansion - planning for both the Adventure Playground and the Dance studio took place in 2020 with the construction of the Dance Studio almost at completion.
- Biannual survey results from AISNSW indicate that BDC is in ranking above parental expectations in all 5 domains including Community Building, Student Wellbeing, School Environment, Teaching and Learning, and Leadership.
- Enrolment growth continued in 2020 despite COVID-19 and the stresses in our region from drought, bushfire, and high youth unemployment.

[7] *Includes $100,000 ATO Boost payment*

[8] *Information about the educational performance of the school is available in the school's annual report which is available on the school website and on the Australian Government My School website.*

## St Columba Anglican School

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **ENROLMENT** (as at March 2021) | Total<br>Primary<br>Secondary | 1181<br>525<br>656 |
| **STAFFING** (as at March 2021) | Teaching staff (Full time equivalent) | 98.2 |
| **FINANCES** (as per 2020 audit) | Income<br>Expenditure<br>Declared profit | $26,515,892[9]<br>$22,792,582<br>$ 3,723,310 |
| **FINANCING** (as per 2020 audit) | Total Borrowings<br>Repayments | $15,883,110<br>$ 4,553,443 |
| **CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT** (as per 2020 audit) | Capital grants<br>Capital development expenditure and purchase of plant and equipment | $ 600,000<br>$ 3,910,035 |

| **SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP as at June 2021** | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mrs Heather Norton (Chair) | Mr Ian Wilbore (Deputy Chair) | Dr Stephen Begbie |
| Mr David Crofts | Jennifer Crofts | Mrs Chen Gaul |
| Mr Graeme Kightley | Rev Stuart Webb | Mr James McIntyre |
| Dr Allison Stansfield | | |

**SIGNIFICANT EVENTS[10]**

- Opening of the Gordon Burch Sustainability and Environment Centre
- Contracting provider for the School's second masterplan.
- Commencing the Bridge Project in conjunction with Charles Sturt University that will improve the transition from Secondary to Tertiary Education.
- Working with AIS NSW as a flagship school for the educational approach of Deeper Learning.
- Strong professional development focuses on leadership and management skills.
- Moratorium (conditional) on new building projects to allow the School to maintain an excellent campus.
- Investigation into potential new campus development
- Development of more effective higher educational needs and higher potential programs.
- Creation of SCAS-TV studio and learning program.

[9] Includes $3,072,000 JobKeeper and $100,000 ATO Boost payment

[10] *Information about the educational performance of the school is available in the school's annual report which is available on the school website and on the Australian Government My School website.*

# Bishop Druitt College - Report to Synod 2021

***To foster among pupils, staff and parents an understanding of and commitment to a Christian way of life according to the principles and traditions of the Anglican Church.***

***To develop a school community which draws together pupils, staff and parents in a Christian environment.***

The challenges of 2020 led to a creative evolution of our regular Chapel services and special times of celebration in the Christian calendar. Pancake Tuesday took place as normal, with a whole school Ash Wednesday service the following day. However, when the world locked down during Lent, our school community prepared for Easter with a daily Holy Week Reflection video message (e.g. https://youtu.be/uQRscaXsBwc), inviting students and families to prepare their homes and hearts to get ready for Easter with activities such as palm arrangements, rock sculptures (remembering the Luke 19:40 reference to stones crying out), significant family meals (as we remembered the last supper), and lighting the Easter vigil candle. Families sent in photos of their own Easter celebrations and prayers. Our whole school Easter service drew our community online together simultaneously on the last day of term, with contributions from our music ensembles, primary and secondary captaincy, staff members, executive, and with reflections led by local clergy.
As the year progressed, gatherings began again, including services for our Induction of New Captains and Christmas. Our regular singing transitioned to sign language singing.

**Service**
The BDC Christmas Appeal gathered donations of just under a hundred hampers given to the Coffs Harbour Uniting Church Soup Kitchen and significant donations of children's and women's items for Warrina Women's and Children's Refuge. Warrina was supported again with a donation of funds through our Mothers' Day breakfast event. This charitable activity was accompanied by learning experiences for our primary and secondary student leaders who visited these organisations and learnt about their special ministries, then sharing their experiences with the whole school.

**Godly Play and Religious Education**
All students in Stages 1 and 2 participate in the Montessori program "Godly Play" weekly, which gives them strong learning of the core biblical stories and genres, as well as development in skills in reflection, stillness, prayer, wellbeing and mindfulness practices. From Stage 3 upwards their Religious Education program expands to incorporate an academic exploration of ethics, big questions of meaning, world religions and philosophies.

**Fellowship Groups**
The Primary School JAM ("Jesus and Me") Club students gathered weekly for games, song, dance, prayer and Bible study. The secondary lunchtime group, BDCJAM Club was not quite as energetic with laidback lunchtime chats, prayer and in depth Bible studies, which provided an opportunity for faith growth for students, many of whom are new to the Christian faith.

**Harmony Day**
BDC has a tradition celebrating Harmony Day every year, hosting Interfaith Dialogue and Greetings of Peace and celebrations of the diversity of student culture and identity, reminding each other that 'Everyone Belongs!' Harmony Day at BDC is a significant event with a strong student voice involving individual experiences.

**Act for Peace Ration Challenge**
The Human Rights Group led the school's participation in the Act for Peace Ration Challenge. This year our team raised $2907 to go towards emergency food, hygiene kits and

life-saving support to refugees and other conflict and disaster affected communities around the world hit hardest by the coronavirus.

**Advocacy Training with Human Rights Lawyer**
BDC Parent and Human Rights Lawyer, Kimberly Randle, is the executive director and principal lawyer of Fair Supply, a law firm dedicated to human rights issues within businesses such as modern slavery. Kimberly is an expert in the field of modern slavery, and has contributed to Parliamentary Inquiries into Human Trafficking. Kimberly has brought this wealth of knowledge and skill to our Human Rights Group, generously offering advocacy training for our students who are passionate about social justice. At these workshops, Kimberly has not only educated our students on up to date issues of justice, she has walked students through realistic steps for how to effect change on a local and international level.

**Shave for a Cure**
The Senior School Shave for a Cure is an annual event that supports the Leukemia Foundation and in 2020 the students raised $13,000 for this worthy cause.

**Parent Survey**
Every two years the college conducts a formal parent survey and in 2020 some of the highest ranking domains included “Religion and Faith”, “Respectful Relationships” and “Inclusivity and Equity”. The college is proud of our continued growth in 2020 and appreciative of our Anglican traditions and connections.

Nick Johnstone
Principal

Clarence Valley
ANGLICAN SCHOOL

## Report to Synod 2021

**From the School's Constitution**

- **To develop a school community which draws together pupils, staff and parents in a Christian environment.**

- **To foster among pupils, staff and parents an understanding of and commitment to a Christian way of life according to the principles and traditions of the Anglican Church.**

At Clarence Valley Anglican School we were blessed when Mrs Leanne Harvey was appointed as Director of Mission in 2020. Unfortunately, our well-loved Mrs Harvey did not renew her position in 2021 but returned to her family in Queensland, so we were again on the hunt for a new school chaplain.

In the mean time we were blessed to be under guidance from the Very Reverend Dr Greg Jenks, the Dean of the Cathedral and the Chair of CVAS School Council. Several staff and students stepped into the role of leading prayer and worship services, choosing songs and creating role plays for special occasions. Mrs Cheryl Freeman guided the students at the Cathedral Campus with the support of Mr Robert Eather, while Mrs Wendy Campbell supervised the student leaders at the Clarenza Campus.

We were also thankful that the Very Reverend Dr Greg Jenks and the Reverend Canon Camelia Flanagan were able to conduct services in Christ Church Cathedral the year. On Sunday 14 February our Stage 6 Leadership Service was held. On Sunday 23 May we held Pentecost to mark the important occasion when our Year 4 and Year 5 students were welcomed to the Table of Jesus as a communicant member of the Anglican Church of Australia after undertaking study in their Christian Studies lessons.

At the beginning of Term 2 we welcomed Reverend Nicole Hagon back to CVAS, we are grateful that Rev Nic, as the students refer to her, has returned to us as she is a valued member of our executive team as well as our spiritual guide. Rev Nic is present at the School on Thursdays and Fridays and is kept very busy in her role. She started the term off with a welcome service for all staff at the Yarning Circle at the Clarenza Campus, and she conducted a moving service to farewell our much-loved teacher, Craig Freeman, at the Cathedral Campus. She has just successfully trialled a Service in the Round at the Performance Centre that captivated all students and made each one of them feel special.

Our Years 7 - 9 Christian Studies program has been given some further direction, thanks to Bishop Druitt College for sharing their well thought out program with us to deliver as Religion, Ethics and Philosophy. The Studies of Religion program for Year 10 will give students entering Year 11 the option to accelerate a HSC subject and sit for the examination at the end of Year 11.




Foundation Day



Rev Nic Hagon



Service in the Round

The School continues to support many charities and fundraising activities. The newly created CVAS: Learning for Life program acknowledges the many fundraising opportunities available in the world today and we have matched the understanding and developmental level of students to particular charities and community service projects. You may see that Year 4 are involved with Landcare while Year 8 make a connection with a local nursing home and Year 11 are raising funds for Sleep for the Homeless.

Karin Lisle
**Principal**
17 May 2021




EMMANUEL ANGLICAN COLLEGE

*Learning ~ Living ~ Leading*

They say that 'necessity is the mother of invention' and that 'adversity the cornerstone of triumph' and certainly both of those adages could not have been more true over the last 12 months. In unprecedented times, the challenge of the Coronavirus pandemic has shaped our lives in a myriad of ways as we have responded to the need to contain the COVID-19 virus.

On 23 March 2020, I did something that I would never have thought possible when I wrote to the College community advising that I was essentially closing the site and that we would be moving to home based learning for students and staff in Kindergarten to Year 12. At the same time, the College Office was moved to a virtual office and the Early Learning Centre reduced to a daily attendance of less than 10 children. As all of Australia moved into lockdown there was much anxiety, uncertainty and concern.

It is, however, what happened next that really shaped how I will remember the impact of the pandemic. Across the EAC community the response to the challenge was nothing short of inspirational. Students, staff, families and friends of the College all rose to the challenge, showing incredible flexibility, adaptability, generosity and compassion. They showed a wonderful sense of community, a desire to look after one another and a real generosity of spirit in adapting to a new way of living, working and learning.

With only a few days of preparation time, the staff commenced the roll out of a new and innovative way to teach and learn – home based learning had begun. The teaching staff demonstrated amazing creativity and innovation as they launched into online delivery using Google Classroom, Zoom and Seesaw. Teachers found themselves creating videos, holding online conferences, sharing screens, using 'chats', circulating screen shots, hosting virtual discussions and sourcing and using all sorts of web based tools. The teaching staff didn't just survive and make do, they thrived and excelled.

In the background, the support staff continued to connect and work with families as the IT Helpdesk went virtual for all students and staff, the office continued to operate fully without ever opening its doors, the cleaning and maintenance team kept the property COVID safe and delivered homebased learning materials to families and the Finance Team reached out to all families to offer support to ensure that our community could stay together.

Possibility the greatest efforts though were made by the Early Learning Centre team, who continued to work face to face with our youngest and most vulnerable learners. Each day the team carried out their tasks with great compassion and care for the children. They provided invaluable support for our frontline workers, allowing them to attend work knowing their children would have the care they needed. The response of the entire staff was incredibly professional, generous and inspiring. I am enormously grateful and deeply humbled by their efforts.

I also wished to acknowledge and thank our families for their incredible support of the College and their own efforts in responding to the challenges of the pandemic. The efforts of families to juggle their work life and home responsibilities while supporting their children's home based learning was amazing. Despite the pressures and demands of this challenge, the College received countless messages of thanks and support from families throughout the home based learning period. The generosity and good will of parents ensured that students stayed connected to one another and their learning.
I also wish to thank our College Council for their guidance, advice and support through this very difficult time. All of College Council's decision making has been based on the desire to do everything possible to keep our whole community together. They have

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CRICOS Provider Code: 02449F

offered fee relief to every family of the College and ensured every member of staff remained employed throughout the pandemic. It is wonderful that the Christian values that underpin our community have shown through the dark and gloomy times that we have experienced this year.

One of the highlights of the College response was the adaptability, creativity and ingenuity shown by Rev Sally Miller as she moved her Chapel Services to an online mode. In what was something like a hybrid of Play-school, a Ted Talk, the “hour of Power’’ and a service, Rev Sally brought us wonderfully reflective, challenging and prayerful experiences from a myriad of locations including her office, lounge room floor, her car and even her letterbox! Embracing the new opportunity with great enthusiasm, the number of services and experiences actually increased from those that had been scheduled on a pre-Covid calendar. As they were pre-recorded they could be shared online with all our community, further increasing the reach of the prayerful experiences.

There was also an increase in demand for Rev Sally to provide pastoral care support for all in our community. Rev Sally was in regular contact with a significant number of staff and families who were struggling with the challenges of the pressure and uncertainty of the pandemic. Sally’s contribution to the Executive has been invaluable through this time. Her wisdom, compassion and insight have helped the Executive focus our energies on the most important issues relating to the wellbeing and welfare of all in our community.

Over the last 18 months, Rachel Rynehart, Rev Sal and I have worked through a process to review and renew the Religious Education Program at EAC.
All students throughout Kindergarten to Year 10 are involved in a Religious Education program. In Kindergarten to Year 6 the program is known as Religious and Values Education (RAVE). For Years 7-10 the program is known as Religion and Philosophy (RAP). Students undertake lessons once a week in the Primary School and three lessons a fortnight in the Secondary School.

Each year group follows an age appropriate program that has at its heart the Christian story and message. In the youngest years the program centres on Bible stories and Heroes, introducing key elements of the Christian story, the life of the Church and Christian Values. As students grow and mature the program develops to match student intellectual, social and emotional development. Students in the secondary years explore world religions, religion and ethics, religious history and issues relating to identity and meaning. All of which is explored and considered through the Christian lens. All students undertake assessment programs and their performance is reported in academic reports. At the most recent College Council meeting the new program structure and content was formally endorsed following recommendation by the Ethos Committee.
As 2021 unfolds, we look forward to a gradual return to the College life of old, albeit with a post-Covid flavour.

Many blessings,

Robert Tobias
Principal (April 2021)

LINDISFARNE
Anglican Grammar School

# Report to Synod 2021

I am pleased to present this report for Synod 2021 as we continue to progress the following objectives as presented in our School Constitution.

**To develop a school community that draws together pupils, staff and parents in a Christian environment**

In January 2020, many of us would have been looking forward to the new year — a fresh and promising start to a wonderment of what could be. And as we gave much thought to who we wanted to become, what we wanted to achieve and the growth we wanted to see in ourselves we were soon living a different reality of those very aspirations. As is the Lindisfarne Way, our thoughts turned to our students and their families, concerned how this pandemic would impact them personally, professionally, emotionally and spiritually.

Whilst we were confident in our ability to continue to service the needs of our students academically, there were significant additional resources put in place to support our students who were deemed at risk. So with our online learning model, we ensured that as much time as possible would be spent with our students in front of a teacher, with all classes proceeding as per our timetable. In a disconnected world, we needed to provide emotional connections, so when digital was our only option, we used this medium to connect with our community.

From the spiritual and the need to promote understanding through our Reflections with Rev Chad series. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YT_XxpA5Rgw to the need to continue to celebrate the important moments when we would normally gather in service or solidarity like our Foundation Day, or important dates like ANZAC Day and also through sharing our gifts with each other. These moments culminated in a unique blessing that captured our whole community to celebrate our Year 12 students at their Graduation.

Learning at Lindisfarne involves development through serving others for “at the heart of education is education of the heart.” You will hear members of staff discussing with students about shifting our thinking from “what have I got to get?” to “what have I got to give?” This was an important mantra to remember when as a school we made tough decisions without really knowing the full long-term effects. Following a recommendation from our Leadership team, our School Council committed to our Anglican ethos to ensure that no student would be denied an Anglican education through the lack of financial means. Significant fee relief for every family was granted, with this extended for our most vulnerable, some of which continues today. For how can we ask our students to serve in the spirit of generosity if we as a school are not willing to do the same.

**To foster among pupils, staff and parents an understanding of and commitment to a Christian way of life according to the principles and traditions of the Anglican Church.**

The pandemic quickly changed the way in which we went about fostering our Christian life within our school and the wider community. Limitations on how many could gather, inability to mix amongst year levels and the grappling of what was considered non-essential activities were all daily questions.

As we explored what our next Strategic Plan 2021-2023 would look like in the second half of 2020, it was clear that our intent as a school remained unchanged: *We aspire to a rich and high-quality education for our students provided through structured and stepped programs focused on academics, spiritual development, creative arts, personal development, sports and cocurricular excellence on a local, national and global level.*

We were blessed to have Reverend Dway Goon Chew support our school in these aspirations, in addition to his ministry at St Cuthbert's Parish, Tweed Heads. Reverend Dway's support of our students and staff during the later parts of 2020 allowed us to end our year with positivity and hope.

This has led to stronger connections with St Cuthbert's and occasion to hold a couple of combined Worship services that we hope to build on in the future. This recently included a combined service to celebrate and give thanks to God for 40 years of education at Lindisfarne.

As we continue to build our Anglican Identity we have sought to bring a greater focus to mission and service initiatives in order to facilitate opportunities for students to grow as servant leaders.

In week three of this second term, we welcomed Reverend Constantine Osuchukwu, his wife Faith and their two children Obed and Sophie. Growing up in Africa has taught Reverend Constantine about the importance of community and the contribution we can all make to helping others, particularly young people to grow and flourish. It is his desire to share with the Lindisfarne community the hope and joy of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which does not take anything from us, but rather gives us everything that makes life wonderful, true, beautiful, meaningful and joyful. We look forward to formally celebrating the appointment of our Chaplain, Reverend Constantine at his commissioning service on Wednesday, 16 June.

As Reverend Constantine commences his ministry to our community we are also building on our programs in Faith formation, Christian education and regular opportunities to Worship through our School Chapel services.

Stuart Marquardt
Principal
Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School

**2021 Synod Report**
**St Columba Anglican School,**
**Port Macquarie**



**Goal: To develop a school community which draws together pupils, staff and parents in a Christian environment.**

- **Creating an invitational community:** *St Columba Anglican School is founded on faith. The Christian ethos is present in its caring philosophy and its concern to produce educated leadership. The School is a community school in the sense that its doors are open to all, so long as they are sympathetic to and support the School's Christian foundation.* St Columba's community contains members of all the world's major religious beliefs. At the school all are treated with respect, while being able to partake of and witness our expression of Anglican Chrisitianity.
- **Acknowledging our Indigenous heritage** through explicit teaching and experience
- **Focus on Wellness**: St Columba has an intentional focus on wellness of all members of our community, particularly students and staff. This is evident in the creation of a leadership position, Director of wellness and such focus events as wellness week (Term II).
- **Focus on Service**: St Columba extends its care into the wider community through such events as working with St Thomas' Soup Kitchen, raising funds for such institutions as our local women's refuges, other service organisations and our educational approach to the care for the natural environment.

**Goal: To foster among pupils, staff and parents an understanding of and commitment to a Christian way of life according to the principles and traditions of the Anglican Church.**

- **Focus on a Christian Life of Service:** St Columba has an intentional focus on working with members of our community to create the skills that enable our students to Have a life worth living. This focus is encapsulated in our School Vision: **At St Columba we will transform the lives of our students by offering the educational opportunities that will allow them to have lives of purpose, service and engagement.**

- **Focus on Prayer and Gathering**: St Columba constantly seeks to find ways of engaging our students in prayerful gathering, Chapel services and Chrisitian groups.




**Significant events at the school, since reported at the previous Synod.**

- Opening of the Gordon Birch **Sustainability and Environment Centre.**
- Contracting provider for the School's second **masterplan.**
- Commencing the **Bridge Project** in conjunction with Charles Sturt University that will improve the transition from Secondary to Tertiary Education.
- Working with AIS NSW as a flagship school for the educational approach of **Deeper Learning.**
- Strong professional development focuses on **leadership and management skills.**
- Moratorium (conditional) on new building projects to allow the School to maintain an **excellent campus.**
- Investigation into potential new campus development.
- Development of more effective **higher educational needs and higher potential programs.**
- Creation of **SCAS-TV** studio and learning program.



## Lismore Parish Centre Preschool - Report to Synod 2021

The Management Committee has had a very interesting year in 2020. That is not saying anything new or unusual, as we have all endured a very interesting year. Of course the challenges of 2020 had particular impact on the operations of the Lismore Parish Centre Preschool.

Initially the year began as it does every year. At the AGM last year Rev Alan Shaw resigned as a member of the committee and Chair. The Right Reverend Murray Harvey appointed me as a member of the Committee and then to the role of Chair of the Committee. We can be thankful for Rev Alan's contribution to the Preschool over his years of involvement. Drew Harrison finished at the end of 2019 and that left us without a secretary for the whole of last year and a situation that continues to this day.

The membership of the Management Committee last year was:

Rev. Christian Ford (Chair), Dawn Back (Deputy Chair), Mark Ellem (Hon. Treasurer), Rebecca Knee, Ruth King (resigned 14 September 2020), Ann Helmrich, Bronwyn Herbert-Curtin.

This year the committee will need to seek a new treasurer as our current treasurer Mark Ellem, at the conclusion of this year will have fulfilled his three terms of appointment. It would be good for us to find a new treasurer before the end of the year.

During last year committee meeting were held via Zoom during the middle part of the year. It proved to be a good stop gap but is was good to resume face to face meetings toward the end of the year.

The other huge change at the end of 2020 was the retirement of our Director, Pam Briggs. At the start let me say thank you to Pam for her work for the Preschool over the past 16 or so years. Pam has been integral to the successful running of the preschool. Let me just draw your attention to the Director's Report for this year that Pam kindly agreed to provide the preschool with. It highlights that in a disrupted year she continued to seek for the welfare of the preschool and the children and families associated with our preschool. Thank you Pam.

The biggest disruption last year was clearly COVID-19. (I'm sure we are all sick and tired of hearing about it by now). By mid March it was clear that Covid would cause significant disruption to our society. The numbers of those attending on a daily basis dwindled and our ability to maintain staffing levels was put under significant strain. It necessitated us cutting back the days we remained open. It was only once we "got on top" of the virus that we were able to open up again.

I need to say that considerable strain was put on the staff during this time, particularly in ensuring that proper cleaning processes were followed. I want to publicly thank the staff for going above and beyond in making sure that the toys and materials and environment of the Preschool was safe and clean.

Towards the end of the year we were successful in obtaining a grant for a refurbishment of the preschool playground. The work was completed during the summer school holidays and it is great to see the children this year enjoying the use of the new playground.

The end of year celebration in December was different to any we have had in the past. Two seperate events were held over two days in the Parish Hall with limited attendance to ensure we were compliant with COVID safe requirements. It was a shame not to be able to hold the

usual end of year big celebration, but it was still wonderful to celebrate the achievements of the children for the year and to farewell those who moved on to Kindergarten.

The big news for this year though is the appointment of a new Director for the Preschool. It is with great joy that we welcome Ms Natasha Livock to the preschool as of term 2 this year. Natasha comes to us with a wealth of experience in education. She is leaving Emmanuel Anglican College Early Learning Unit, and before that she was involved for some time in Cawongla Playhouse.

This year we face the task of accreditation. As part of that process our policies will need to be reviewed. I want to encourage everyone to get involved in the process. Please make sure you submit any suggestions for policy changes as they are needed.

I look forward to 2021 in the life of the Parish Centre Preschool. There are some challenges ahead of us, including accreditation, and simply getting used to the new normal. I am sure with our dedicated staff and engaged families and the support of God we will come through 2021 better than ever.

Yours in Christ

Rev Christian Ford
Chairperson
Lismore Parish Centre Preschool
Management Committee

# DIOCESE OF GRAFTON



# MISSION SUPPORT

## Anglican Board of Mission Auxiliary
## Grafton Diocese - Report to Synod 2021

Two electronic meetings of the Auxiliary have been held in 2021. President Janice Peate, Vice Presidents Rev. Greg Jenks and Jacqueline Draffan and Treasurer Hugh Macintosh were pleased to welcome the Rev. Darryl McCulloch to the Executive of the Auxiliary.

Bishop Murray approved the 2021 focus for Grafton Diocese ABM to be the 150 year Anniversary of the The Coming of the Light Appeal for North Queensland and the Torres Strait Islands. Lent 3 has been listed as ABM Sunday for the Diocese of Grafton. The Grafton Cathedral's electronic donation portal for mission has been used for the first time this year.

Dorothy Britten of Kempsey responded generously to our ongoing appeal for unwanted stamp albums. Dorothy's donation of 40 stamp albums fetched over $700 for ABM's work, when sold at the Philatelic Society's auction in Sydney. Mr. Ted Luff of Port Macquarie Parish has put a great deal of voluntary work into the sorting of stamps that have been donated for sale.

Group Members and Individual Members of the Auxiliary continue to support the work of ABM with proceeds of Coffee Mornings, money boxes and donations.

The Corona Virus and political upheavals in many countries have meant that the needs of the people of our partner churches in Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Kenya and beyond are greater than ever.

The members of the Executive of the Auxiliary acknowledge the leadership and the people of the Diocese of Grafton for enacting the contributions to the Global Sustainable Development Goals projects as per the Synod Report R30/20 Global Sustainable Development Goals. The amount for 2021 will be distributed through the Anglican Board of Mission.

Jacqueline Draffan
Vice President with Secretarial Duties.

## Anglican Mothers Union Australia
## Grafton Diocese - Report to Synod 2021

The Mothers Union in the Grafton Diocese has slowly begun to come together again similar but not the same as before the pandemic struck. Groups have begun to meet choosing many and varied venues. Some find that meeting in the pub for morning tea or lunch suits them. Others are meeting at members homes. All groups are very much of the one mind; bringing friendship and companionship to each other and giving to society what they can with these changed times that we live in.

For those who follow Facebook or some other electronic media, members have found comfort with the daily 'Midday Prayers' which occur at the same time every day. These prayers are produced in the UK and brought to us by different members throughout the UK. They also produce prayers of intercession regularly on Facebook which cover the needs of trouble spots around the world plus prayers for family life, the environment and all who keep our communities ticking over from day to day.

The Mothers Union is very much based on prayer and each year our groups continue to participate in the Wave of Prayer. This continuous link goes around the world year by year by members scattered in 84 countries. Here in our diocese groups met over breakfast or morning or afternoon tea. I found that our lone members who took slots on our vigil roster very moving when they shared with me how they had spent their time. From bible readings to playing the piano and singing the hymns which had been chosen for the vigil, it showed they were part of the whole picture, no one was alone. Our links of Yei in South Sudan, Luweero in Uganda, On the Lake in Nigeria, South Kerala in India and Armagh in Ireland are all very different places. Our Link's Secretary who regularly sends Christmas and Easter greetings finds it very difficult to get any responses from them apart from the members in Armagh Diocese in Ireland. They live very similar lives to ourselves and their projects and outreach to their communities are very similar to ours.

I have had the privilege and pleasure of attending several groups in the diocese in recent months. A wonderful day was had at Alstonville late last year when I presented 60 year membership badges to two beautiful ladies. These are ladies who have faithfully been part of their church communities and Mothers Union for a very long time. I also visited Kempsey branch recently where I was thrilled to hear about their forthcoming projects and work in the community. I will be visiting Dorrigo in a few days time.

The Mothers Union Executive in our diocese continues to be very grateful for being able to avail ourselves of zoom for our meetings. Thanks must go to Bishop Murray for allowing us to continue this way and very special thanks to Kaytrina Jessup who patiently gets us all settled and ready to go in front of our screens. Our meetings are swift without the worry of travel to and fro to Grafton from the extremities of the diocese and I believe it has helped to keep Mothers Union viable here in Grafton Diocese.

The Mothers Union is hoping to be able to hold an Annual Meeting and Celebration Day at the end of November in Grafton. The venue is booked and plans are under way with a Christmas theme this year. We are all looking forward to finally coming together again.

***All this day, O Lord, let me touch as many lives as possible for thee; and every life I touch, do by thy Spirit quicken, whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe or the life I live. In the name of Jesus, Amen***. *(The personal prayer of Mary Sumner, the founder of Mothers Union)*

*Gae Shorten,*
Diocesan Leader, Anglican Mothers Union Australia, Grafton Diocese.