

Georges River Regional Council Annual Report 2001

Introduction

1. In the year 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, the Regional Council met on 5 occasions and in addition held a one day conference in March 2001.

Membership

2. The membership of the Council consists of -

Bishop R G Smith	Mr C Ellis
Archdeacon G R Huard	Mr M Drevikovsky
Rev H T Barnett	Mr S Flanagan
Rev B Dingwall	Miss K Foley
Rev I Y Lee	Mr W Howarth
Rev R E Nixey	Mr E K Jones
Rev N A Speyer	Mrs K Newmarch
Rev M Steinwede	Mr I Scarfe
Rev G C Taylor	Mr P Singleton

Rev N A Speyer (Secretary)

Mrs V Page (Minute Secretary)

Mr E K Jones (Treasurer)

* Auditors: Bradfield Martin and Co.

Changes in Membership

3. During the year, Rev G Nelson resigned. Regional Council elected Mr S Flanagan to the Canterbury Area Deanery lay vacancy and Rev M P Steinwede to the Bankstown clergy vacancy.

Major Matters

4. During the year the Regional Council has addressed the issues of implementing GST changes and Child Protection legislation, the process of allocating the Synod grant to parishes and the Parish Assistance Fund disbursement. A General Synod Community Task Force has worked with a number of parishes and identified certain key issues regarding community within and outside the local church. Council has also provided urgent assistance to the parishes of Padstow and Sadleir and is investigating the advisability and possibility of establishing a Regional headquarters in the Region. The Council continues to do major work through its Task Forces and committees.

Task Forces

5. The Regional Mission Task Force has continued its work on updating the overall strategic plan for the Region. It has also provided funding for some MTC students working in the Region's parishes and also for two MTS workers.

84 Report of Standing Committee & Other Reports & Papers

6. The Cross-Cultural Task Force is drawing up an action plan to implement its strategies and has seen developments in Muslim ministry and the establishment of a Refugee Support Scheme. Part-time appointments of Mr Eddie Smith and Mr Phin Tang respectively have been made to implement these strategic ministries; the latter with financial assistance from the Archbishop's Community Care Development Programme. ESL classes are now in 13 locations and supported by the Region's Consultant, Mrs Marilyn Clerke. A review of the Italian ministry was concluded and the international ministry at Campsie is moving ahead with the new Acting Rector, Rev David Gilmour.

7. The Children's and Youth Task Force has planned a series of training and ministry opportunities for youth and children's work leaders including encouraging the production and use of new songs and music.

Parish Organisation

8. The Regional Council extended the provisional parish status of Hoxton Park to December 2003 and approved changes to the constitution of Yagoona's Parish Council and their procedure for electing parochial nominators. Council also examined the Beverly Hills Land Sale Ordinance and the Sadleir Ordinance 2000.

Grants

9. Applications were received from 18 parishes and Council was able to give four grants totalling \$66,000.

Employment of Staff

10. Council currently employs three part-time staff: Mrs K Newmarch - Co-ordinator of Childrens and Youth Task Force; Mrs M Clerke - Regional ESL Consultant; and Mr P Tang - Refugee Settlement Support Co-ordinator.

For and on behalf of the Georges River Regional Council.

GEOFF HUARD
Regional Archdeacon

14 June 2001