

"Come and see," said Philip

# *St Philip's O'Connor!*

*Annual General Meeting: 2009*

*Reports*

# Index

<i>Index</i>	2
<i>Parish Council Minutes: Annual General Meeting 2008</i>	3
<i>Report from the Acting Rector</i>	7
<i>Treasurer's Report For The Year Ended 31 December 2008</i>	9
Income and Expenditure	10
Balance Sheet	11
Auditors Report	12
<i>Liturgy Group</i>	13
<i>Children's Ministry report.</i>	14
<i>Home groups report 2008</i>	15
<i>Synod representatives' report</i>	16
<i>Parish Building and Maintenance Report</i>	17
<i>Pandora's 2009 Annual Report</i>	19
<i>Food @ St Philips - 2008</i>	20
<i>St Philips Care</i>	21

# Parish Council Minutes: Annual General Meeting 2008

ATTENDEES	Richard Adams Sarah Morris Adams Tim Gowty Roger Sharp Stephen Palethorpe Jess Kim Denise Manley Helen Palethorpe Sandra Lamerton Doreen Odom Ann Munro	Chris Cheah Grace Barnes Robin Moore Brian McKinlay James Kim Peter Andersson Colin Forbes Patricia Forbes Sarah Gowty Jean Pound Betty Heaton
APOLOGIES	Ben Dyer Ashton Robinson Leighton Mann Ruth McGorman-Mann Doug Bannerman Ann Bannerman Elizabeth Sillano Fred Anchell Linda Anchell Shane Woodburn	
CHAIR	Rob Lamerton	
DATE	<b>9/3/2007</b>	
MINUTES	Fiona Dyer	PAGES Many

Item	Comment/Discussion
<b>Opening</b>	Rob Lamerton 11:30
<b>Minutes of Meeting held 25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2007</b>	The minutes of the previous meeting were included in the reports which were previously circulated.
	<i>'That the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted'</i>  Moved Denise Manley: Seconded Hardy Palethorpe: Carried
<b>Business Arising</b>	DM asked about the progress of the Parish Masterplan. RL responded that it was still under development.
	<i>'That we do not lose sight of the Masterplan during 2008'</i>  Moved Denise Manley: Seconded Helen Palethorpe: Carried
<b>Reception of Reports</b>	All reports to the Annual General meeting were circulated prior to the meeting for reading.
	<i>"That the reports be taken as read and received"</i>  Moved: Brian McKinlay Seconded: Roger Sharp

Item	Comment/Discussion
	<i>Carried</i>
<b>Questions to Reports</b>	<p><i>MUSIC REPORT</i></p> <p>Patricia Forbes raised the question in her report with regard to the poor attendance at the All Saints and All Souls day performance of Schubert's Mass in G, as to whether the time or the music was unsuitable. Some general discussion ensued:</p> <p>DM – suggested that we withdraw from these type of performances for a while</p> <p>RA – urged caution about withdrawing from these events because there are many reasons why people may not attend in any one year, yet may have wanted to.</p> <p>SG – supports the continuation of these performances as an important component of our church worship</p> <p>DM – suggested another time &amp; more publicity</p> <p>CF – acknowledged that publicity is always an issue with performances</p> <p>HP – advised that the poor publicity issues has not been well communicated</p> <p>PF – Music does not have a voice on council</p> <p>FD – Council should explore a way in which music can have a voice on council</p> <p>BM – need to improve the promotion of events</p> <p>AM – a good turnout was achieved for the carols performance. Suggested that perhaps a letter or newsletter to all on the Parish Roll once a quarter in collaboration with the social group could be considered</p> <p>BM – All Saints &amp; All Souls service is an excellent outreach opportunity</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>“A vote of thanks to Patricia and Colin Forbes for their important contribution to the parish through their musical activities”</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Moved: Roger Sharp</i> <i>Seconded: Brian McKinlay</i> <i>Carried with Acclamation</i></p>
	<p><i>WARDEN'S REPORT:</i></p> <p>DM wished to clarify whether the Home Groups were established instead of the Catechumenate outreach program or were considered a precursor.</p> <p>RL clarified that they are a precursor</p>
	<p><i>TREASURER'S REPORT</i></p> <p>HP speaking to the treasurers report in the absence of the treasurer: the giving has increased, but will need to increase again.</p> <p>SL: requests that more detail be provided in the financial statements as there appears to be a discrepancy between the Pandora's records of funds and the line item reported in the financial statements.</p> <p>CF: In previous years, CAMRA and St Philips have supported a worthy music student with a small scholarship. In recent years there have been no suitable students, but this year CAMRA has identified a student worthy of a scholarship. He is an Organ Studies student with Sheila Thompson. CF is seeking support from the church to assist with the scholarship (\$700 of the \$1400 scholarship amount) which would involve a requirement for some organ work at the church.</p> <p>DM: Seeks a line item in the budget for the scholarship and people can donate specifically for the scholarship.</p> <p>RA: What are the terms of the scholarship? People need to be aware of what they are donating to.</p>

Item	Comment/Discussion
	<p>DM: reiterated the need for a line item</p> <p>RA: Indicated that the provision of a church based scholarship is a good idea and that a scholarship fund should be established and a proportion of the church income should be set aside each year to fund it.</p>
	<p><i>That the church body endorses in principle the re-establishment of the St Philips/CAMRA scholarship and encourages parishioners to donate to this fund. An scholarship amount, terms and conditions should be decided by Parish Council in consultation with CAMRA</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Brian McKinlay</i></p> <p><i>Seconded: Sarah Gowty</i></p> <p><i>Carried</i></p>
	<p><b>BUDGET</b></p> <p>JK: There appear to be numerous questions on the budget</p> <p>HP: Where are the funds for the children's worker?</p> <p>FD: Additional funds were donated specifically for children's ministry and parish repairs and these are not itemised?</p> <p>PF: Can a financial report for dummies be constructed?</p> <p>RL: Please be aware that the surplus reported is because repairs have yet to be paid for.</p>
	<p><i>That the budget be passes subject to the clarification of the above questions</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Rob Lamerton</i></p> <p><i>Seconded: Denise Manley</i></p> <p><i>Carried</i></p>
	<p><i>A vote of thanks to Shane Woodburn for her work as treasurer</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Sarah Gowty</i></p> <p><i>Seconded: Hardy Palethorpe</i></p> <p><i>Carried with ACCLAMATION!</i></p>
	<p><b>NORTHBOURNE COMMUNITY CENTRE</b></p> <p>RM: talked to her report</p> <p>RL: advised that submissions have been presented to Anglicare for additional funding to help run the Centre until a continuing source of funding can be found</p>
<b>OTHER BUSINESS</b>	<p><i>Leighton's Social Ideas</i></p> <p>DM: raised a series of ideas LM put forward to the social committee</p>
	<p><i>That the social committee consider if Leighton's ideas are viable</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Denise Manley</i></p> <p><i>Seconded: Sarah Gowty</i></p> <p><i>Carried</i></p>
	<p>Other suggestions (LM)</p> <p>HP on behalf of LM:</p> <p>1) There is a need for 60-70 places of crockery and request that the next garage sale proceeds goes to this.</p> <p>2) Proposes that a working group be set up for the church to work on the Pergola, the stage and removing the back step. This could work as a Saturday morning group that meets for fellowship, work and breakfast?</p>

Item	Comment/Discussion
	<p><i>Environmental Group</i></p> <p>LA proposes that an Environmental group be established to tackle environmental issues around the church property.</p> <p>BM: The abovementioned groups are aligned with our small groups and have the opportunity to become pastoral care and sharing groups</p> <p>RL: These are good ideas and should be put to Parish Council at the next meeting.</p>
	<p><i>Twilight Fair</i></p> <p>HP: would like to find another convenor this year. Suggestions from the floor to ask Leighton Mann</p> <p>Dates suggested: (Radford fete is on 8<sup>th</sup> Nov) either 25<sup>th</sup> October or 15<sup>th</sup> November</p>
	<p><i>Pandoras</i></p> <p>Coordination of Pandoras needs to be handed over and some discussion ensued with regard to the person required.</p> <p>General consensus that it should be someone within the parish who coordinates it.</p>
	<p>Meeting closed 12.55 pm</p>

## *Report from the Acting Rector*

I had known of St Philip's for a long time. Its reputation had gone before it! I knew of the parish particularly through George Garnsey, who frequently spoke also about his earlier time here during the ministry of Doug Hobson. It clearly seemed to be a parish with a fine reputation with a strong impact on many people and the wider community. Then my awareness of the parish continued when a former student, Rob Lamerton, became the Rector, and I had contact with him on several occasions. I never imagined, of course, that there would come a time when I would have a close association with the parish, least of all in my current role, as a result of Rob's tragic illness and death. However, in spite of the sad circumstances that brought me here, I felt it was very providential that my own situation made it possible for me to step into this role, and it is a privilege to share with you in the worship and ministry of this parish, at least for awhile.

A time of interregnum is a time for looking back. The looking back for this parish at the moment will be filled with much sorrow because of the untimely loss of a pastor and friend. It will be filled with memories of Rob's ministry among you: his faithful and gentle care as your pastor, his devoted preaching and presiding at the sacraments as your priest, and his presence with you as a friend. So, the looking back will also be filled with thankfulness for the years that Rob and Sandy and their family have been a part of your lives, for the ministry they have shared with you, all they did in seeking to build up the life of this congregation.

The looking back at an Annual Meeting also involves a review of the past year. Much of what happened in the parish during those twelve months is reflected in the reports that you have already received, and I will not comment further, except to say that we are grateful to those who have contributed so much to the life of the parish as it is recorded in those reports – and others not recorded in the reports, such as the many things that individuals do in caring for the church and in caring for one another.

It is an appropriate time for some looking back. The community memory is extremely important in shaping us now and into the future: so it essential to look back at the past and to rejoice in the history, especially the immediate history, of this parish community.

However, a time of interregnum is not just a time for looking back, it is in many ways also a time of waiting. But we know that it can be a time of uncertainty as well. But to say that is not to make it sound like a negative and dormant time. On the contrary!

What we are on about in preparing for this Annual Meeting – and during this interregnum – is not just a looking-back. We must also look forward; and when we do that, there is much to excite us and to challenge us, and to arouse a sense of confidence and hope.

- There is the development of the parish's ministry to children and to younger families, particularly with the employment of Bel Young as the Children's Ministry Co-ordinator. As the new year has begun, it has been lovely to see a number of children, and their families, present on a Sunday morning.
- The way many people took on extra tasks, and continue to do so, in order to maintain the life of the parish is a very encouraging sign of the level of commitment that exists within the parish.
- The participation of twenty five people in the Lenten studies this year shows a real desire within the congregation to deepen understanding and to journey further along the path of faith.
- The contributions of many people towards the preparation of a Parish profile has been a wonderful display of interested participation, and has shown an extraordinary unanimity in understanding St Philip's to be, and desiring it to continue as, an open, inclusive and liturgical community of faith
- The appointment of a new Rector, that can be anticipated probably in a couple of months, will lead to the beginning of a new phase in the parish's faith journey.

So, an interregnum is about looking back, and looking forward.

But it is an appropriate time also for pausing, for reflecting, for renewing our identity, for reinforcing the foundation on which we are built as a community of faith.

That foundation is Jesus. Yet, to acknowledge Jesus as Lord is only meaningful in so far as we try to live as he lived and to order our lives according to his values.

In the gospels we see him as the uniquely liberated man, uniquely courageous, fearless, independent, hopeful and truthful.

Why was he such a person?

At the heart of Jesus' mysterious personality there was a unique experience of intimate closeness with God – the Abba-experience.

Jesus experienced the mysterious creative power behind all phenomena (God) as compassion or love. For Jesus, it was God's feeling of compassion that possessed him and filled him. All his convictions, his faith and his hope were expressions of this fundamental experience. If God is compassionate, then goodness will triumph over evil; the impossible will happen and there is hope for humankind. Faith and hope are the experience of God as compassion.

We are called to be the kind of community in/through which each one of us can grow/mature into being faithful disciples of Jesus – and so make him attractive to others.

So, the interregnum is not a dormant time, but hopefully a time of growing in discipleship – maturing in Christ – through our worship of God and our life together. I will count it a privilege of we can do that together, for a time.

RAY WILLIAMSON (Revd Dr)  
17<sup>th</sup> February 2009

# *Treasurer's Report For The Year Ended 31 December 2008*

The following pages cover:

- Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 31 December 2008
- Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2008
- Draft Budget for 2009

Overall our income was greater than that of 2007 by \$4,888 (3.7%). Envelope, loose plate and EFT giving have decreased by \$2,500 (3.1%) on 2007. However, this has been offset by increases in giving for the Organ Fund, other Fundraising and the Community Fair.

Thank you again to the Community Fair Committee for the hard work involved in raising \$9,262 for the Parish. Also special thanks to Leighton Mann and his helpers for their garage sales and other activities.

Expenses remained similar to 2007 despite the fact that stipend payments were down.

Overall St Philip's finished with a surplus of \$18,513 compared to a surplus of \$13,004 in 2007. Pandora's has also added another \$15,028 to the church funds – thank you to all Pandora helpers. The new toilets are completed and we thank Sandy Lamerton for her inspiration and hard work in being the driving force behind this – we will miss her greatly when she moves to Bathurst.

Rectory repairs are planned for the first half of the coming year and this is reflected in the 2009 budget, which projects a deficit of \$13,332 due to these necessary repairs and maintenance. Other repairs to be addressed in 2009 include such items as concreting outside the toilets to allow unimpeded wheelchair access, refinishing of the sanctuary floor and the renovation of the organ.

It is important that the present rate of giving be maintained in 2009 if the parish is to continue its viability.

We thank Robin Moore and helpers for their dedication to the Northbourne Community program. This is an important outreach program for our Parish. Its funding is secure for the first 4 months of 2009; we will continue to seek funds from outside sources for the remainder of the year. If these funds are not forthcoming the Council must consider whether the Community is able to continue supporting the Centre.

Finally I would like to thank all sidespersons, for their assistance during 2008. Special thanks go to Fred Anchell for the role he has undertaken in doing the banking for St Philip's.

Shane Woodburn  
Treasurer

<b>ST PHILIP'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, O'CONNOR</b>			
<b>INCOME AND EXPENSES</b>			
<b>FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008</b>			
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2009 Budget</b>
<b>Income</b>			
Envelope/EFT	62,509.41	56,621.15	63,000.00
Loose Plate	15,747.50	24,136.31	17,000.00
Use of Church	702.50	1,920.00	1,000.00
Kindergarten Rent	28,999.93	27,999.95	30,000.00
Organ Fund	3,188.30	-	5,000.00
Forbes Rent	2,000.00	2,500.00	2,000.00
Music Programme	140.00	260.00	200.00
Interest	3,924.59	2,034.88	4,000.00
Lenten Study	56.00	36.00	50.00
Trading Table	-	61.05	-
Missions	2,976.00	3,412.12	3,000.00
Northbourne Community Donations	2,606.00	1,094.85	2,500.00
Anglicare & Xmas Bowl	912.00	120.00	1,000.00
Donations	1,054.58	1,720.00	1,000.00
Fundraising	1,261.30	682.65	1,500.00
Twilight Fair	9,261.59	7,853.15	9,500.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>135,339.70</b>	<b>130,452.11</b>	<b>140,750.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Rectors Stipend	41,807.40	49,946.91	45,000.00
Superannuation & LSL	8,058.31	9,399.68	9,000.00
Parish Contribution & Fees	16,851.79	15,291.45	18,112.00
Guest Clergy Allowance	1,312.50	112.50	600.00
Housing Allowance	-	900.00	-
Motor Vehicle Expenses	3,009.27	4,652.66	5,000.00
Gas & Electricity	4,505.18	3,284.73	5,000.00
Insurance	6,400.29	7,461.08	7,000.00
Land & Water Rates	3,929.65	3,657.77	4,200.00
Garden & Rubbish Removal	595.40	1,371.97	700.00
Repairs & Maintenance	7,866.33	7,862.71	40,000.00
Postage & Stationery	590.84	891.73	700.00
Photocopier Charges	94.65	382.47	100.00
Ministry Allowance	957.82	1,915.64	2,000.00
Telephone	1,384.45	1,400.62	1,500.00
Music Resources & Supplies	960.00	1,419.15	1,200.00
Organ Fund	8,188.30	-	5,000.00
Children & Youth Resources	275.50	-	500.00
Church Supplies	269.15	1,203.55	750.00
Advertising	723.46	327.52	600.00
Synod Con. & Training	447.73	825.00	700.00
Clergy Peer Group	-	225.01	-
Subscriptions & Licences	542.00	345.00	600.00
Study Materials/Resources	418.56	36.87	500.00
Missions& Xmas Bowl	7,327.75	4,253.85	5,000.00
Audit	300.00	280.00	320.00
Other Expenses	10.00	-	-
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>116,826.33</b>	<b>117,447.87</b>	<b>154,082.00</b>
<b>Operating Surplus / (Loss)</b>	<b>18,513.37</b>	<b>13,004.24</b>	<b>-13,332.00</b>
Pandoras Sales	15,028.45	10,921.80	
Pandoras Expenses	38,071.80	3,093.09	
<b>Pandora Surplus</b>	<b>- 23,043.35</b>	<b>7,828.71</b>	
Northbourne Community Sponsorship	22,126.00	11,800.00	
Northbourne Community	13,900.74	13,493.44	
<b>Northbourne Surplus</b>	<b>8,225.26</b>	<b>- 1,693.44</b>	
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>3,695.28</b>	<b>19,139.51</b>	

## Balance Sheet

**ST PHILIP'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, O'CONNOR**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008**

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
ADF Cheque Account - Parish	23,644.16	23,550.85
- Northbourne Community	8,225.26	-
ADF TD - Repairs	39,758.16	9,076.00
St George - Northbourne Community	-	15.67
Pandora's Term Deposit	10,000.00	40,631.48
Outstanding 2007 Forbes Rent	-	500.00
GST	3,278.69	226.60
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>84,906.27</b>	<b>74,000.60</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Xmas Bowl Creditor	945.00	-
Prepayments- Rent	2,416.67	2,416.66
Children's Ministry Worker	4,331.07	5,000.00
Children's Resources Donation	-	253.99
Organ Fund	8,188.30	-
Parishioner 1	-	1,000.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>15,881.04</b>	<b>8,670.65</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>69,025.23</b>	<b>65,329.95</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>		
Parish Funds	43,671.89	25,142.85
Northbourne Community Funds	8,225.26	15.67
Pandoras Funds	17,128.08	40,171.43
<b>Available Balance</b>	<b>69,025.23</b>	<b>65,329.95</b>

# Auditors Report

**R. J. AUSTIN CPA  
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT**

**ABN: 34 015 754 823**

Unit 9 First Floor  
Creteria House - Oatley Court  
BELCONNEN ACT 2617

Postal Address:  
PO Box 191  
JAMISON ACT 2614

TEL: (02) 6251-4546  
FAX: (02) 6253-2048

**AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE COUNCIL AND MEMBERS  
OF  
ST PHILIP'S ANGLICAN PARISH O'CONNOR  
1 January 2008 to 31 December 2008**

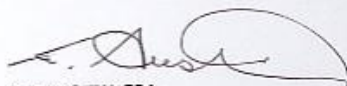
I have examined the books, records and financial reports of St Philip's Anglican Parish, O'Connor for the period 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2008.

My procedures included an examination and reconciliation of financial transactions supporting the amounts in the financial reports. These procedures were undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial reports were presented fairly so as to present a view of the St Philip's Anglican Parish accounts which is consistent with my understanding of its financial position and the results of its operations. I have not observed collection of monies at services or the Parish fete.

**AUDIT OPINION**

In my opinion, the financial reports of the St Philip's Anglican Parish, for the period 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2008, present fairly the financial position and the results of its operations for that period.

The financial reports are based on cash accounting statements and do not reflect the value of assets held by the Parish by way of office equipment, buildings, motor vehicles etc, nor all the liabilities of the Parish.



**R J AUSTIN CPA**  
Auditor  
20 January 2009



Liability limited by  
a scheme approved  
under Professional  
Standards Legislation.

## *Liturgy Group*

The Liturgy Group is responsible to the Parish Council as consists of:  
the Rector,  
the liturgical lay ministers Brian McKinlay, Chris Cheah, and Sarah Gowty,  
the Revd Linda Anchell, Deacon,  
the Revd Jeannette McHugh one of our honorary priests,  
Bel Young, children's ministry coordinator,  
Pat Forbes, music ministry,  
and Leighton Mann.

Under the oversight of the Rector, the Group plans the worship for each of the main celebrations during the year: Advent, Christmas, Holy Week and Easter, St. Philip's Day, Pentecost, Trinity, Creation Sunday, All Saints and All Souls, etc. We also discuss ideas for and the needs of our regular week-by-week celebrations. Suggestions and comments from everyone are *most welcome*.

Thank you to everyone who took on extra tasks after the Revd Rob Lamerton began his leave last year, especially the Revd Doug Bannerman and the Revd Jeanette McHugh.

We were glad that Rob's funeral, and the memorial service later, gave us occasions to give thanks for him and to share some laughs as well as tears. We thank our Acting Rector the Rev Dr Ray Williamson for leading us and ministering to us so well.

Benjamin Britten's *Ceremony of Carols* presented by CAMRA and a joyous *Service of Nine Lessons and Carols* ended a challenging year with the sounds of rejoicing.

## *Children's Ministry report.*

Six sessions into my involvement in the Children's ministry program we are averaging 8 children with the lowest figure being 4 and the highest being 11. The ages amongst participants ranges from 3-12 which presents a challenge to produce a program which stimulates across the ages. The available resources are 6-8yo focused; however, provide an excellent framework for lesson planning. The congregation and particularly the parents have been exceptionally welcoming and I appreciate their support.

The benefit of a children's ministry is represented in the gratitude of one family who commented that it had allowed them to return to worship knowing that they can fully participate in the service without the distraction of the children. Another parent commented to me that "The message got through!"- in the past their child had come away from Sunday school not know what the point of the day's message was, but had 'Got it' that particular week.

I look forward to the rest of the year at St Philips; it is a privilege to work with the children and, with their parents and the congregation- walking with them on their journey.

*Bel Young  
February 2009*

## *Home groups report 2008*

Two years ago, the parish decided to create home groups as an opportunity for us to get to know each other more and to share spiritual things.

Two home groups began during 2007 and continue to meet regularly—one group meets fortnightly on Sunday afternoons and the other meets weekly on Tuesday evenings. Each group decides its own programs and activities.

The Sunday Group's program this year included studies on the women of the Bible and their relevance to women of today and several social outings. A particular highlight for the Sunday Group was having May Forau as a member while she was here in Australia and how blessed we feel at having the opportunity to learn from her with her different cultural background and teaching. A highlight of the year for the Tuesday Group was a three-day retreat at Benedictine Abbey in Jamberoo, which was linked with some studies on Benedictine spirituality.

Home groups allow us meet with others from our parish community, to reflect together, to study and pray together, to be together. We help and encourage each other and have fun as well. The home groups are open groups. They welcome anyone from St. Philip's to join in and we are always looking out for new members!

Once again, we encourage the Parish to think about establishing more groups and encourage more people to join a home group.

Sunday group: Rhonda Evans, Denis Manley and Ann Munro,  
Tuesday group: James Kim and Brian McKinlay

## *Synod representatives' report*

Along with the Rector, St. Philip's representatives for the three years of the 43rd Synod of the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn (2008-2010) are Helen Palethorpe, Devin Coombs Bowles and Brian McKinlay.

The first session of the Synod was held 4–5 July 2008 to complete essential annual business. This meeting was shorter and earlier in the year than usual, in anticipation of the electoral synod later in the year.

We returned to Goulburn for three days 31 October–2 November to elect the new bishop. The process for the election had been decided by Synod in 2007, through changes to the *Governance of the Diocese Ordinance 2000*. There was time for prayer, presentations about the candidates by the nominators, and opportunity for free, open and confidential discussion. A first ballot reduced the number of candidates to two. After further discussion and prayer, additional balloting was then conducted to choose the Bishop-elect.

The Rt Revd Stuart Robinson was consecrated and installed as Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn on 31 January 2009 and will be our president when Synod next meets, sometime after July 2009.

## *Parish Building and Maintenance Report*

The main focus and achievement in the past year has been the demolition of the old toilet block and the completion of the new toilets, consisting of 2 new toilet cubicles and a new toilet for disabled persons. The individual cubicles have their own hand basins and the disabled toilet has a full length mirror and a storage cupboard for toilet paper, hand towels and cleaning equipment. The disabled toilet also houses the new small hot water service. After some teething problems, mainly with door locks and handles, the toilets are now fully functional.

We were fortunate to have had the sewerage pipes servicing the hall completely refurbished by our tenant, St Philip's Kindergarten, prior to the installation of the new toilet facilities. This included replacement of some of the pipes and pits and lining of the main sewer line to the boundary.

What still remains to be done is the installation of new concrete paths connecting the new toilets to existing paths to the church, hall and office. A quote has been called for from the builders who installed the toilets.

There is also a need to erect some form of pergola roofing to connect the toilets with the hall and church buildings, to provide wet weather protection and shade. The Kindergarten is seeking a grant for this, subject to further discussion with your Parish Council.

Work is also underway to erect a shade sail in front of Pandora's. Special thanks to the Dyer family for this. We will also install a large concrete slab in front of Pandora's, for the display of clothing items for sale.

A further option of additional paving to connect Pandora's to the church, office, hall and toilets, is being considered.

Feasibility of kerbing and bitumen paving of the car-park is also being investigated.

The security lock on the door near the pulpit has been replaced and the lock on the door from the courtyard to the foyer has been repaired. The locksmith advised that this lock is worn and will require replacement soon.

A wish-list of building and maintenance issues has been compiled and Parish Council has identified the more pressing needs with impending general repairs and maintenance at the rectory being top priority. When the rectory is vacated, probably in March, essential repairs include new floor coverings, including replacement of the damaged and broken floor tiles in the kitchen and dining areas, repainting, repairing or replacing the shower recess in the en-suite bathroom and a number of general maintenance issues such as light fittings and switches and general garden and grounds clean-up.

The church organ is to be refurbished and funds have been raised from donations, special collections and proceeds from social activities. This task is on hold pending the cost outcome of repairs to the rectory.

Most will know that one of the banners, "Fire", is damaged and has been brought down so that a decision can be made about it. The damage is mostly due to UV rays on the silk. It is considered that the damage is extensive (the silk is disintegrating) and that the banner will not be able to be repaired successfully. We are now looking at whether it can be replaced. Discussions are being held with the Oliphant family before a decision is made.

A number of working bees, both organised and ad hoc, have been held during the year for the general clean-up or grounds and surrounds and the clearing of gutters.

I must express my thanks to everyone who has assisted in the general maintenance of the church and grounds throughout the year.

The parish car has been sold. Again, thanks to the Dyer family who made all the necessary arrangements for this, including placing the vehicle at the car market.

And finally – a timely reminder that general repairs and maintenance of the church, hall and rectory buildings and grounds are the big ticket items for our modest budget. The toilet replacement project cost the parish in excess of \$40,000. This money was raised wholly by Pandora's over several years, by a dedicated group of volunteers, inspired and led by Sandy Lamerton.

On behalf of the parish I wish to extend a sincere thank you to Sandy for her seemingly tireless efforts, instigating and driving Pandora's, with substantial success over many years. Sandy – thank you from us all for your vision, leadership and guidance and for your ministry to us in this important role at St Phillip's. We wish you the very best for the future.

Roger Sharp  
Warden

18 February 2009

## *Pandora's 2009 Annual Report*

The first meeting of interested parties with a view to founding an Op shop took place at the Rectory on 17 April 2002. Since then Pandora's has become a very successful enterprise raising over \$75,000 to date and attracting volunteers from the church and community.

The inspiration and driving force behind Pandora's is Sandra Lamerton. The Committee and all those associated with Pandora's would like to place on record our heartfelt thanks for all the work seen and unseen she has contributed over the ensuring years. In June this year Sandy stood down from any official involvement in Pandora's although she has continued to help in many ways not least in providing a warm and cheerful welcome to all who come to the shop. The volunteer members of Pandora's thanked Sandy officially at the first meeting of Pandora's Volunteers this year and she was presented with an Art Déco brooch and a cheque. Sandy will be our Official Patron.

The committee of Margaret Woodbridge, Ann Munro, Kerry-Anne Cousins and Fay Pankhurst will have a huge void to fill once Sandy leaves for Bathurst. However we have been very fortunate to have James Kim volunteer his services on a regular basis. He has been invaluable in emptying the clothing bin and sorting the clothes as well as providing important back up services.

In the past year we have attracted over twenty volunteers who help keep Pandora's open. This includes volunteers from outside the church community who help on the roster or in other important ways. We have a wide following in the community who patronise the shop and donate high quality items for us to sell. There are also regulars who call into Pandora's for simple human contact. This underlines the outreach which Pandora's provides for St. Philips.

During the previous reporting period we had a very successful Spring Fashion Parade and Autumn Brunch as well as a Christmas party for the volunteers. Margaret Woodbridge and Ann Munro have worked very hard to make these occasions such successful events.

Pandora's has raised funds for the new Toilet Block. We are in the process of contributing \$350 from the gold coin donation table towards a much-needed shade cloth and some drainage works in front of Pandora's. Many thanks are due to Roger Sharpe and Fiona and Ben Dyer for their contribution to this project. Pandora's has so far raised \$14,788.90 this reporting period (1-3-08 to 14-2-09) with the expectation that in excess of \$15,000 will be realised by the end of February. Several projects are being considered in consultation with the Parish Council. Many thanks are also due to all our helpers as without them we could not function and to all those who contribute in any way to Pandora's success.

Kerry-Anne Cousins  
February 2009

# *Food @ St Philips - 2008*

## *Supporting St Philip's with Catering Services.*

Throughout 2008 the Social Committee of Ann Munro, Denise Manley and Leighton Mann have morphed into Food @ St Philips. The name came from serving refreshments for CAMRA's show over the last few years, where we wanted to highlight it was St Philip's parish doing the work and raising funds. Thanks to Roger Sharp, Food @ St Philip's has been registered as an official business name, so we have the official rights to it if we want to further develop a business in the future. New crockery and cutlery was purchased early in 2008 and our old place settings were disposed of through garage sales etc.

Four Weddings and a Funeral (nearly). Since our last A.G.M. Food @ St Philip's has catered for the following events:

- March – Easter Celebration Breakfast
- May – St Philip's Day/Confirmation Service - Curry lunch with Jazz in the Courtyard, using our new crockery & cutlery.
- Alison Knight & Griff Ware's wedding afternoon tea.
- June – we sold refreshments for CAMRA's productions of "*Ordo Virtutum*" by Hildegard von Bingen - including Sandy's wonderful mulled wine
- September – Jeannette McHugh & Terry Bell's wedding reception
- October – The funeral wake of our beloved Rob Lamerton, again with Jazz in the Courtyard.
- November – CAMRA's *Cosi Fan Tute* concert – sold refreshments
- December – Suppers following both the Ceremony of Carols Advent service & our Christmas Carol Service
- January – Mark Williamson & Lisa Ruskin's wedding where we served afternoon tea.
- Funds from the above events have been used to buy new equipment & supplies with surplus fund going towards the Organ Restoration Fund.

### Looking ahead for 2009

- We will be serving drinks and nibbles after Leith Hillman & Chris Dudfield's wedding on 5 March
- We will Serve refreshments for the St John's Passion both at All Saints Ainslie and here at St Philip's on 27 and 29 March
- Easter celebration breakfast on 12 April
- CAMRA's Gala Cabaret Supper on 18 April.

Again surplus funds will go towards the organ fund this year. We would especially like to thank Fred Anchell, Margaret Woodbridge and James Kim for their valuable expertise and generous assistance. Thanks to everyone else who provided food and assistance with our functions throughout the year.

# ***St Philip's Care at Northbourne***

Northbourne Community Centre,  
Block 5, Northbourne Flats, Forbes Street, Turner.

***Jesus said: Come to me all who labour and are heavy laden  
and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:29).***

**St Philip's Care at Northbourne** continues to provide a good, nourishing FREE MEAL each Monday (*closed most, but not all, public holidays*) assisting low income/disadvantaged people from Canberra's inner north/city areas and beyond: most living in public housing. At times, homeless people call in or are referred to us.

We are listed in various publications such as THE FREE FOOD GUIDE, THE CONTACT BOOK, THE WOMEN'S INFORMATION AND REFERRAL CENTRE CALENDAR etc. Our flyers are regularly placed at support agencies.

**St Philip's Care at Northbourne** is part of a loose network, involving a variety of agencies and organizations.

Poverty and disadvantage tend to be hidden in Canberra, but do exist here, as in every city.

*Whilst the meal (provided over an extended period) is important, support is given on many levels and these include -*

- \*the provision of FREE CLOTHING and other donated items
- \*an emergency food supply for both people and animals
- \*physical and emotional support for a wide variety of issues
- \*referrals if indicated
- \*the provision of personal care items if required
- \*people may be referred to us by other agencies
- \*we offer long-term support (physical and emotional) which *assists* agencies who are trying to settle homeless people into the area
- \*references and statements of attendance assist people who are seeking employment and also in other areas, such as legal matters
- \*the centre is a safe, neutral place where people can develop a sense of belonging and community, helping each other from their own limited resources
- \*we assist animals in need, where possible, from our limited resources
- \*we attend funerals and have a brass memorial plaque recording the names of people associated with the centre, together with much-loved pets. This has been *greatly appreciated* by friends and relatives. **Sadly some people die, unloved and unnoticed and the world does not miss a beat.**
- \*hospital visiting

## St Philip's Care at Northbourne 2

\*occasional (and *wonderful!*) invitations to school concerts

\*fun, love and laughter - sharing the good times, *while at the same time being very mindful that many people struggle with long-term mental health problems, addictions etc. and may need to be left alone, quietly, in their own space*

*the list goes on -*

\*some people come just to talk over concerns, others come to say how well they are doing

\*during difficult times, people ask that we pray for them

\*we have copies of The New Testament which people are free to take home if they wish. Other books and magazines are there to be borrowed.

\*some issues spill over to other days

\*we enjoy seeing the children after school, although we have fewer attending the centre these days. It is far better when they can move into houses with a backyard to play in, away from adult issues. Toys are available for children to play with.

\*nearby residents who don't attend the centre sometimes request assistance and others donate clothing etc. Some donations come from visiting relatives. We find donations left at the door.

**This, and more, takes place in a *tiny* community centre where the outdoor areas are used summer and winter.**

We value conversation and do not have TV, computer or radio.

Our music is *LIVE!*- piano and guitar.

***There is great richness in the ordinary.***

**TOTAL MONDAY ATTENDANCE for 2008 was 3,544.**

**AVERAGE MONDAY ATTENDANCE for 2008 was 72.**

**(Attendance since January 1996 is 42,098)**

*The team has put in a fantastic effort throughout the year. Liz Drysdale has taken all our teasing with great good humour, and real appreciation goes to Peter, Isabell, Chris and Jan who have worked so hard despite all kinds of personal difficulties during the year. They would not like to be identified more than that. Others at the centre have helped on a casual basis.*

***Many thanks to all at St Philips who have donated money and various items at Christmas and throughout the year. Clothing, linen etc. which can't be used by PANDORA'S comes to us and we pass it on to people in need.***

### St Philip's Care at Northbourne 3

Generous people in the broader community also donate to the centre and there is much fun in discovering all kinds of treasures.

*We are still in urgent need of sponsorship and the management committee is hard at work with applications. Unfortunately many organizations are in a similar situation.*

*This year has been made possible by financial support from ANGLICARE (Canberra & Goulburn), ST PHILIP'S (bridging finance) and ADRA (the Adventist Church's Op Shop).*

**APRIL 2008 - ANGLICARE - \$14,520**

**APRIL 2008 - ADRA - \$5,000**

*I now receive an allowance to cover the cost of petrol, electricity, telephone etc. and this is a great help.*

It would be unrealistic to expect that this kind of work would be without incident and we do have the occasional difficult moments. *Jan remains at her post at the piano during tricky times and valiantly plays on.* It reminds us both of music being played as the Titanic sinks!

Robin Moore

Co-ordinator

St Philip's Care at Northbourne.

19<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.