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# Calmly Carrying On at Synod



The third session of the 46th Synod was held in Goulburn from Friday 7 to Sunday 9 September.

In his Presidential Charge Bishop Trevor reflected on the slogan he adopted for this transitional year of *Keep Calm and Carry On*, noting that as a Diocese we are calmly pursuing our current agreed mission plan as best we are able.

Synod was reminded that God has his own mysterious purposes, which we often don't understand at the time, when unexpected things happen, but we do know that he promises to providentially order all things for the ultimate good of his people (Romans 8:28). We can therefore also know that he will also generously give his help, wisdom and strength for any challenges we face.



Members were encouraged to manage transition well, celebrate past achievements, face present challenges and move forward together; noting that times of transition are times to give thanks and

celebrate what God has done in the past, to identify what we treasure and to articulate what needs to be preserved as inherently valuable to our identity and purpose, as we embark on the next anticipated stage in our life's journey.

Bishop Trevor then gave thanks to God that people from all traditions have grown in their confidence in Christ and have been united in their commitment to sharing the love of Jesus in word and deed to transform individuals and communities and thanks that the Diocese has intentionally pursued a 'mixed economy' church as we seek to connect meaningfully with those not yet following Jesus.

Two challenges were highlighted, the first being the evil of historic child sexual abuse, a blight on the cause of Christ that has severely compromised the witness of the institutional church in many places in this land. It was stated that this Diocese will continue to be proactive in recognising and properly responding to the matters uncovered by the recent Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

A second cultural challenge that Bishop Trevor stated the Diocese is determined to continue to confront is maintaining a relevant communal presence for Jesus in all parts of

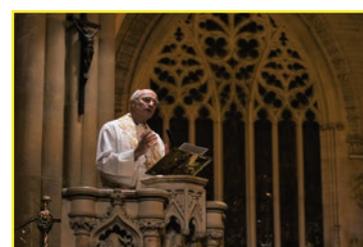
our Diocese, and particularly in our rural areas, which have been experiencing substantial demographic change.

As we seek to move forward together the Synod was reminded of what a new Bishop must be and do from the Prayer Book ordinal, but that we also need to jettison unrealistic expectations of the next Bishop.

The Registrar, Trevor Ament, then presented the Bishop-in-Council (BiC) report, providing a BiC overview and update of ADS operations and achievements throughout 2017. Particular mention was made of the Professional Standards work and the settlements and costs incurred, with acknowledgment of the enormous contribution of Celia Irving over 15 years. The decision made by BiC for the Diocese to join the Anglican Representative (National Redress Scheme) Ltd was reported, with a detailed presentation following on the Saturday from Reverend Peter Barnett, Professional Standards Director. An update was provided on developments being undertaken by the Property Development Commission and Synod received a snapshot of the Diocese from the available parish return data.

The Reverend James Coats spoke on sustaining ministry in Holbrook for the last seven years and Reverend Paul Black reflected on mission in Central Canberra over the past 10 years. Reverend Dr Ian Coutts spoke on Anglicare's disaster recovery program followed by Rev Captain Stuart Haynes sharing experiences following the recent Tathra bushfires and Kenneth Wheelwright on the spiritual challenges of facing drought on the land.

The Synod sermon and the bible studies were this year all delivered by Bishop Stephen Pickard. The synod sermon, based on Luke 5:33-39, challenged the congregation that the church, like many other institutions, is caught between a furtive search for the new idea on one hand



and deep commitment to maintaining the status quo on the other, noting that for some the pain of dying is preferable to the cost of living. What is needed is discernment to discover what we need to cherish and nurture into the future, with an exhortation not to refuse the new that brings life, but to be careful not to let change for change's sake blur those things that have shaped our lives as God's people.

The full text of the sermon and bible studies on Luke 6:1-5 and Mark 7:24-37 will be available on the website.



The EENC gave a presentation and update on the Saturday morning, including information on what will take place in the lead up to and during the Electoral Synod in November. Synod broke into small groups to discuss and weight the selection criteria and also to pray for the election process and the nominees using the selection criteria and prayer resources provided. An EENC bible study resource has also been prepared by Reverend Dr Andrew Cameron and copies were provided to Synod members for use within their ministry units and agencies. This resource will also be available on the EENC webpage.

The Public Issues Commission has prepared a discussion paper titled 'A

# Synod 2018 continued from page 1 ...

Peaceful and Gracious Death' in response to Motion NM/16 from the first session of the 46th Synod. Revered Dr Sallyanne Hart gave a rousing and informative introduction to this paper, which will be distributed in conjunction with it.



Further motions presented to Synod from the Public Issues Commission included Erosion of Compassion, Changing Climate, Acknowledgement of Aboriginal People and Inequality.

Other presentations delivered to this session of Synod were from the AIDF, Finance Committee, Property Trust, Exploratory Ministries Chaplaincy Unit/ Pioneering Ministries, Professional Standards Director on National Redress Scheme, Angli-

care, Anglican Schools Commission, St Mark's National Theological College, Canberra Grammar School and Synergy.

A motion was passed endorsing Bishop-in-Council's resolution to participate in the National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse (NRS) via the Anglican Representative (NRS) Ltd and to take steps to carefully consider which Diocesan entities should participate and how this is to be done. The *Synod (Delegations of Functions) Amendment Ordinance 2018* was passed in relation to the NRS to enable BiC to pass any ordinances relating to participation in the NRS.

Motions from Agencies and others in the Diocese included: a request that Bishop-in-Council consider restoring Diocesan support for St Mark's National Theological Centre; a motion of thanks to Anne and Reverend Dr Ian Coutts for their significant leadership and ministry in the Diocese; an acknowledgement, on the 100th Anniversary of the end of WWI, of the self-sacrifice of clergy and lay members of the Diocese who served during the conflict; a motion noting with sadness the cessation of the min-



istry of Anglican Women in the Diocese of Canberra-Goulburn and thanking them for their contribution to the life of our Diocese; a motion noting with sadness the death of Archbishop Donald Robinson, former Archbishop of Sydney and Metropolitan of the Province of New South Wales, celebrating his support to this diocese, his wise and pastoral contribution to the national church, especially in the preparation and adoption of the 1978

An Australian Prayer Book and his substantial personal Christian witness and requesting the Registrar to communicate this Synod's condolences to the Archbishop's family. Two additional motions pertained to acknowledging the importance of the Diocesan campsites and requesting that they be developed in consultation with those stakeholders involved in youth ministry; and a request to review and develop the use of the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer.

Synod resources, presentations and resolutions, once confirmed by Bishop-in-Council, will be available on the Diocesan website at: <https://anglicancg.org.au/our-diocese/governance/synod/46thsynod/>



*The hardworking Synod secretaries Mr Wayne Harris, Reverend Katherine Rainger, Mr Tim McGhie and Reverend Canon Margaret Campbell.*

The Reverend Paul Cohen was collated as Archdeacon for North Canberra during the Synod Eucharist on Friday, 7th September. Peter Jordan was installed as an Honorary Lay Canon in recognition of his ministry to the Diocese as a long term member of the Cathedral community and a faithful server for many years.



## Clergy Moves

*The Reverend Dr Grant Bell* has been appointed an honorary part-time Police Chaplain serving the Riverina Police District to provide ministry to NSW Police Force employees.

*The Reverend Dr Benjamin Edwards* has been appointed Rector, Manuka and is to commence in that role in mid-December.

*The Reverend Peter Friend* has been granted an ATO.

*The Reverend Anthony Frost* has been licensed as Associate Priest Sapphire Coast.

*The Reverend Dr Erica Mathieson* has been granted an ATO.

*The Reverend Michelle Philp* has resigned from her Honorary Deacon position at Pearce to be the Community Chaplain, St John's Wishart, Diocese of Southern Queensland. She will continue as a Defence Reserve Chaplain in Queensland.

AnglicanNews is a magazine for the Anglican community in Canberra and Goulburn.

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# A Bishop through Joy & Pain



The year was 1915. World War I had begun to take its terrible toll on the lives of Australians. The long ministry of Bishop Barlow had come to an end. The question arose: who would be the new Bishop who could speak clearly and publicly on the issue of war, as well as speak pastorally and wisely to those who were in the midst of its grief? On top of a public ministry, there was the need for a unifying leader

within the Diocese – one who could honour all parts of this diverse diocese, minister to and with both clergy and laity alike, and have a broad outlook that led this broad church forward in the midst of crisis. A big task at hand.

Surprisingly, only one name was put forward: Lewis Bostock Radford (born 5 June 1869). Lewis Radford was a university educated, English-born clergyman who was at the time the warden of St Paul's College, Sydney. Radford was installed as Bishop at St Saviours Cathedral, Goulburn on 31 August 1915. But what was to be a glorious event was also a sad moment. Radford's predecessor (Bishop Barlow) died the night before on August 30. So Radford's Bishopric fittingly reflected the times – a time of both joy and pain.

Bishop Radford threw himself into the life of Diocese. In the first four months he racked up

approximately 7000kms by train, bus, hired-car and horse, confirmed 980 candidates, and didn't take leave until 14 months later! It is a wonder he survived this time with any energy to burn.

But energy Bishop Radford had. The next almost 20 years were a hive of activity, ably supported and enabled by a very competent Registrar, Ransome Wyatt (one of the best names our Diocese has ever been blessed to have). Under Radford's leadership, the following was initiated: home missions, schools (a heritage that our Radford College is named after), a movement to increase the participation of laity in the life of the church, and the tireless work to keep our Diocese as one that is grounded in the Prayer Book.

Throughout his Bishopric, Radford was primarily an intellectual, academic and administrator. This was vital for the time. But relationally, Bishop Radford

was known to be contentious, cold, aloof and severe. His single-minded focus on issues such as the proposed Canberra Cathedral galvanised some, but alienated many. Radford was not widely liked, but he was deeply respected for being a public statesman in a time where a clear voice from the church was needed.

Bishop Radford served until his retirement on 31 December 1933. He died on 2 April 1937 in England. Touchingly, he requested his ashes to be returned to Australia, where they are now in the crypt under St John's Church, Canberra. May our next Bishop be one who binds himself to us in a different but equally real way.

*By Reverend Steve Nation  
Assistant Priest, St Matthews  
Anglican Church, Wanniasa*

NB. This is the third article in the series *Know Your Bishop*, which is not being published in order.

## Notes from the Annual Clergy Retreat

How do you, clergy or lay, approach a time to withdraw from the rigours of ministry on a Retreat? Is it for you an opportunity to rest, to reflect on Scripture, perhaps to grow or to change direction? How each of us responds likely will depend on the season of our ministry and the pressures of day-to-day living.

On the annual Diocesan Clergy Retreat at St Clement's, Galong, (13-16 August 2018), the Retreat leader, Bishop Allan Ewing (a former Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn), invited participants to use the opportunity as God intended it for each one of us.

The theme of the Retreat was 'Living Sacrifice'. Bishop Allan introduced this theme with the Apostle Paul's encouragement to the church at Rome: 'I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God ...' (Romans 12: 1-2).

This passage was in the mind of Thomas Cranmer as he prepared the post-communion prayer, an adaptation of which now appears in The Holy Communion, First Order, (APBA) as 'And here we offer and present to you, O Lord,

ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and *living sacrifice* ...'. In the Second and Third Orders we pray together: 'Father, we offer ourselves to you as a *living sacrifice* through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.' (Italics added.)

Bishop Allan challenged us to reflect on what it is to live as a living sacrifice. It does not necessarily mean to live a life that is totally expended; Jesus has done that already, once for all of humankind.

Through a series of biographical reflections we considered the lives of John Bunyan, Mother Julian of Norwich, Grand Duchess Elizabeth of Russia, Maria Skobtsova, Charles de Foucauld, Simone Weil, Mary the mother of our Lord and the Reverend James Benson. Each is remembered for different reasons. All did what they did in order to serve God.

I found it encouraging to learn that not even the saints and martyrs had their lives neatly knitted together. Even as we contemplate their lives and may be inspired by them, it helps us to realise that they erred, were confused, suf-



fered self-doubt, even struggled to learn to what it was that God was really calling them.

Each of us is different, each is called to live for God in different ways. Bishop Allan urged that we must be ourselves. We must learn what it means to give to God the things that are God's and discover what in our lives rightly is to be given 'to Caesar'. Bishop Allan acknowledged this can be hard to discern; there are practical matters to be dealt with every day that may distract from or interfere with what we have perceived to be our God-given ministry. Time on retreat may afford that peace, that stillness, which enables us to hear God's voice over the distractions of the world.

We thank Archdeacon Caroline Campbell for coordinating and assisting with daily gathered worship services and for providing individual guidance. We thank Bishop Allan, including for the occasional 'aside' to keep us thinking long after the Retreat is over. As one example, are the parables of Jesus as simple and straightforward as they may at first appear? Is our initial understanding of each necessarily the message Jesus set out to portray? A second example is this: each time we share Holy Communion with others we should reflect on what the command in The Dismissal really means for us as individuals, 'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord'.

*by Reverend Peter Rose*

# New Rector for YDAM



The Reverend Neil Percival was inducted as the Rector of Young District Anglican Ministry at a Service in St John's Anglican Church, Young, on 30 June 2018.

Neil grew up in Sydney's northern suburbs. He graduated with a BA and MA from Sydney Univer-

sity and then went on to Moore Theological College to complete a BTh, Dip Min, and Dip Arts (Theol). He is also a PhD student at the University of Newcastle researching the effects of exposure to trauma from a theological perspective.

After ordination in 1993, Neil's first appointment was as Assistant Minister to the Sydney parish of Dundas with Telopea where he met and married his wife, Leanne. They now have three teenage children. The oldest is at University in Bathurst and the younger two are in High School in Young. In 1996 he became the Rector of the Parish of Beacon Hill (on Sydney's Northern Beaches) before becoming the Rector of Berry (on the NSW South Coast) in 2003 where he spent the last 15 years.

Asked why he decided to make the move to Young, he said, 'For some time I'd been wanting a new challenge. We loved Berry and part of me would have been happy to stay for another 15 years, but when Bishop Trevor got in touch and suggested Young, it just seemed right ... We wanted a challenge and we've certainly got one. We're in a different part of the State with a very different cli-

mate, it's a new and much bigger community than we've been used to over recent years, and we're in a new Diocese. But we've been very warmly received and we're learning fast.'

Neil has also been a volunteer firefighter since he was a teenager. He was the Captain of Broughton Vale/Berry Brigade and RFS Chaplain for the Shoalhaven District for many years. Earlier this year, on St Florian's Day, he was awarded the NSW Rural Fire Service Commissioner's Commendation for Service in recognition of his work as Chaplain. Since moving to Young, he has joined a local Brigade and been appointed as Chaplain for the South West Slopes Zone.



## What's On

### *A Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving*

for those soldiers from the Diocese who served in World War 1

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 at 11.00am**

**St Saviour's Cathedral Goulburn**



On the wall of the Chapel of St Michael and St George (the Soldiers Chapel) in the Cathedral are carved the names of 920 men from 41 parishes across the Diocese and from the Royal Military College, Duntroon, who lost their lives in World War 1.

Many churches across the Diocese also contain memorials to soldiers who lost their lives in World War 1.

We warmly invite and encourage you to attend this commemorative service marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War 1.

Bishop Trevor Edwards will be the preacher.

Morning Tea will be available from 9.30am in St Saviour's parish hall before the service.

**Contacts:**

Diana Body (President, Friends of St Saviours Cathedral) Ph: 02 6295 8732  
 Revd. Canon Kevin Stone (President, Anglican Historical Society) Ph: 0450 676 864

### *Celebration Time at St James, Hampstead!*

**St James Anglican Church**

**3453 Milvale Road, Milvale, 35kms West of Young NSW**

**Sunday 11th November, 2018**

**5.00pm Church Open, 6.00pm Remembrance Service, followed by supper.**

**To honour those who served country and community during the wars and to celebrate 60 Years of St James.**

**All previous clergy, parishioners, community & families associated with St James and those with an interest in the history of this War Memorial Church are invited.**

**Check out the display and interesting memorabilia.**

**RSVP to Pauline Davidson: 0438847347**

**or horserider1@internode.on.net**

### 'Any hope for Palestine now, or ever?'

Come and hear Areej Masoud, a Palestinian Christian from Bethlehem.

St Andrew's Presbyterian Church  
 Forrest

5-6pm Sunday 14th October.

-Palestine Israel Ecumenical Network-

RSVP contact@pien.org.au

