

Inside this issue

President's Report	2
State Reports	2/3
Supporting the wider community	3/4
Vision Statement	4
Contribute to the AASN newsletter!	4

AUSTRALIAN ANGLICAN SCHOOLS NETWORK CONFERENCE

16-18 September 2005,
Launceston Church Grammar School
Launceston, Tasmania
*Heritage, Heart & Horizons.
Nurturing the spirit.*



Conference 2005

Planning and organisation for the 14th Annual AASN Conference is going well. All schools should now have the Registration Brochure that includes a range of important information about the conference structure and programme, the keynote speakers, the pre conference workshop as well as accommodation options in Launceston.

We are delighted to confirm the names and topics of the key note speakers.

PROFESSOR GARY BOUMA

Professor of Sociology, UNESCO Chair in Inter-religious Relations – Asia Pacific, Head of School of Political and Social Inquiry Monash University and Chair of the Standing Committee on Ethics and Research Involving Humans

Australian Spirituality: Nurturing a Shy Hope in the Heart

DR TREVOR COOLING: Principal Lecturer University of Gloucester UK

Transforming Hearts and Minds: The contribution of Christian values to the curriculum

MRS ALLISON BASSANO: Dean of Pastoral Care Launceston Church Grammar School

Structuring Confusion-Mapping to the open sea

DR TOM WALLACE: Educational Advisor to the Bishop of Tasmania

Spirituality & Relationships of Value

The easiest way to register is online - visit the website <http://www.aasn.edu.au> to link to the conference web page.

Help us spread the word about the conference and encourage your colleagues to attend because it will be a great opportunity to discuss and reflect on issues of spirituality that matter to us in our work within a school community. It would be terrific if we could make this the largest attended AASN conference in Australia's smallest state!

The workshop programme will be finalised soon and care is being taken to ensure that topics are integrated and reflective of the conference theme with a focus on practical application to our work with our students. A balance of primary and secondary topics is our aim. We have arranged some excellent workshops.

We are excited to announce that the inspirational Leather Orchestra will feature at the Conference Dinner; four musicians who play evocative and beautiful music with a range of unique and delicately crafted leather instruments.

Clearly some delegates will take the opportunity to combine attendance at the conference with travel and sightseeing in Tasmania. Launceston is a terrific starting point for tours to the spectacular Cradle Mountain Lake St Clair world heritage area and onto the west coast, Strahan and the Franklin Lower Gordon River. All along the east coast you can take in breathtaking ocean views, including the famous Wineglass Bay, Maria Island National Park and Bay of Fires. Tasmania is beautiful in the spring!

Stephen Norris

*Headmaster Launceston Church Grammar School
& Chair Conference Planning Committee*



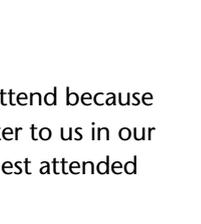
Professor Gary Bouma



Dr Trevor Cooling



Mrs Allison Bassano



Stephen Norris

President's Report



Tony Horsley

This is my last newsletter message of my term as President and so I am conscious of the need to say something both meaningful and in summary. I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve the Network in this way and to have a small say in the direction that it might take for the future. There have been challenges to overcome and I suppose in many ways the defining challenge for me occurred at last year's conference in Adelaide. There is no need for me to recount the events or my response on behalf of the Network. However, it did provide us with the opportunity to strongly declare our position as a Network of the Anglican Church and to confirm that we are firmly grounded in God's Word. There are non-negotiable fundamentals that underpin all that we do. That is not say that we are blind fundamentalists but we do recognise that although we live in a relativistic society there are still absolute truths to which we hold fast. Those truths provide our hope.

In saying this, it is important to distinguish between hope and wish. The proper definition for hope is future certainty, not wishful thinking. It is not about a maybe or a likely event. Our hope is that if we confess Christ crucified we will have life eternal with God the Father. As we read in Romans 8:24 "For we were saved with this hope in mind. Now hope that is seen is not really hope, for who hopes for what can be seen?"²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with patience."

As I survey the world scene and particularly our national scene I see more and more evidence of people seeking vain hope and wishful thinking. Some years ago I attended the funeral of a young man who had died in tragic circumstances. The hope offered by the celebrant and his friends was mere wishful thinking and wistful imaginings. I was deeply saddened that day by the fact that so many had missed the point of Jesus' teachings, his life, his death and his resurrection. This young man had died without hope of a future beyond his death! Yet here is Jesus' gift to be readily accepted without any qualifying conditions that gives us such a sure hope. How then will our young people know of this hope if there is no one to tell them? That is why it is such a privilege to be in an Anglican school where this message is recounted by word and deed. We can offer our young people real hope.

The Network exists primarily as an instrument of "spiritual improvement" for each member school. How we deliver the message effectively is of vital concern to us all and thus we meet each year at the conference to explore ways that we might do that better. It is an opportunity to learn from each other in the gentle love that Jesus has given to us.

This year past has seen a number of important initiatives that underline the mission of the Network. In particular I refer to the Chaplaincy Shadowing program so ably shepherded by the Reverend Peter Laurence. I am excited that this program is giving Chaplains the opportunity to have a companion on the journey and to learn from the practices of a respected friend. Our desire to communicate God's love is strong and it needs to be matched by skill and understanding which I'm sure will be increased for those who are willing to accept the opportunity provided by the Network. In addition the establishment of the email sharing facility "RevNet" is a further development designed to increase the sense of collegiality and the opportunity to share ideas.

Tony Horsley
President, AASN

STATE REPORTS

QUEENSLAND – Mrs Peta Smith

While we continue to move forward in the implementation process with the Diocesan Governance Canon, our schools continue to grow as evidenced by recent opening ceremonies for buildings and facilities at Djarragun College outside Cairns in North Queensland, The Glennie School in Toowoomba and All Saints Anglican School on the Gold Coast.

Professional Development activities offered included corporate governance training for the leaders of our schools in conjunction with the Australian Institute of Company Directors and Competitive Dynamics Pty Ltd. Industrial Relations seminars run over two days proved extremely popular, especially as schools begin to consider the next round of Enterprise Bargaining negotiations.

We have had two Heads move on – Ron Daniels from Canterbury College and Geoff Fouracre from The Lakes College

VICTORIA – Mr Michael Urwin

The Guidelines for Anglican Schools have now been ratified by the Archbishop-in-Council and have been distributed to schools. It provides a framework for what it is to be an Anglican School in the Diocese of Melbourne.

A number of consultations have taken place with Heads of Anglican Schools regarding the establishment of an Anglican Schools Commission. The purpose of a Commission would be to provide a mechanism for the establishment of primarily,

at Mango Hill. And after many years of service as Chaplain at the Anglican Church Grammar School, Fr David Johnstone retired at the end of term.

Staff new to Anglican Schools in the Diocese of Brisbane have also benefited from an induction day which focused on the Anglican Ethos Statement and its implications for those working in our schools. The positive feedback from those participating in this year's program will provide valuable insights into the development of next year's program.

Another activity *Youth & Spirituality in our Anglican Schools* allowed Dr David Tacey and our Archbishop to present to a captivated audience as we considered the changes in Australian society in terms of Dr Tacey's book "The Spirituality Revolution".

low fee paying schools in the growth corridors of Melbourne. Concerns have been expressed by existing Heads, particularly in relation to; whether the establishment of a Commission would change the nature of the relationship of existing schools with the Diocese; and whether appropriate consultation processes and impact surveys will be undertaken prior to any commitment to establish a new school.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA – The Reverend Peter Laurence

Anglicans in WA celebrated the Installation of the new Archbishop of Perth and Metropolitan of WA, The Most Reverend Roger Herft on Saturday 11 June. The service was held in the Perth Concert Hall to enable large numbers of Anglicans to attend. Schools look forward to the leadership of our new Archbishop.

June also marked the departure of the Right Reverend Brian Farran from Perth, to become Bishop of Newcastle. Bishop Brian was a strong supporter of Anglican schools in WA and beyond, and developed a model of seamless faith communities based around schools.

The Western Australian Anglican Schools Association (WAASA) is holding its first Christian-Religious Studies EXPO at the end of this month. The Expo will celebrate the heart of Anglican

education, featuring written work and art pieces by students from all Anglican schools in WA, as well as drama, liturgical dance, sacred music and lively debate on ethical and religious issues. It will be held on Saturday 30 July in St George's Cathedral and neighbouring Burt Hall.

Mr John Matthews has been appointed as Principal of the new Swanleigh Anglican Community School in Perth's Swan Valley. He was formerly the Assistant Principal (Curriculum) at Carey Baptist College in Perth. John commenced in June, with the school opening in January next year.

The position of Principal for the proposed Peter Carnley Anglican Community School in the southern Perth suburb of Wellard will be advertised at the end of this month. The school will open in January 2007.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA – Mr Stephen Matthew

In May, the Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Adelaide elected the Bishop of Gippsland, The Right Reverend Jeffrey Driver, as the next Archbishop of Adelaide. The date of his arrival in Adelaide and his installation has not yet been determined. Bishop Driver has had experience as a CEO, and has been Head of the School of Theology at Charles Sturt University. He began life as a journalist. Bishop Driver has also coordinated a strategic planning process and his skills in this area will be put to good use during his time here.

The Diocese of Adelaide has a number of unresolved Child Protection issues, and whilst this will occupy the Bishop's time in

the first instance, the Heads of the Anglican Schools are looking forward to his leadership and the pastoral care that he can provide to Heads of our schools.

In South Australia a Provincial Anglican Educational Trust Fund has been set up. This fund can be used for the development of existing schools, or for assistance in developing new schools.

Mr Peter Casson continues in his role as the Anglican Schools Liaison Officer.

NEW SOUTH WALES – Mr Malcolm Powys

The 2005 AASN NSW/ACT meeting was held in Newcastle at Bishop Tyrrell Anglican College on Friday 1 April. About 45 Chairs, Heads, Chaplains and Teachers of Religion attended this annual event, which is now in its third year. This was the first meeting held outside the Sydney Diocese. Many thanks to Philip Goldsworthy for hosting this function.

The Archbishop of Sydney, Dr Peter Jensen met with Heads of Anglican Schools in the Sydney Diocese at Bishops Court on

Thursday 5 May. It was a positive time of fellowship.

New South Wales will host the 2006 Annual AASN Conference from Friday 15 to Sunday 17 September at the Shore School in North Sydney. Dr Tim Wright, Headmaster of Shore, is convening and chairing the Conference Planning Committee. He would like to hear from interested people who would be willing to assist by serving on the Committee.

SUPPORTING THE WIDER COMMUNITY

St Mary's Anglican Girls' School, Karrinyup, WA

It is nearly six months since the world was shocked by the devastating Boxing Day tsunami in Asia.

Like many schools around WA, St Mary's Anglican Girls' School wanted to play its role in the relief effort and for one of its students the connection was only too real.

Year 12 student, Nilukshi Ranwala, was in Sri Lanka visiting family when the tsunami hit. On Boxing Day, the family planned to visit Hikkaduwa, a south coast beach 99km from Colombo. However, after the festivities of Christmas Day, they woke late the next morning and decided it was too far to travel. The beach was just one of many devastated by the tsunami's force.

On returning to Perth, Nilukshi and fellow Chapel Prefect, Maria Breytenbach, launched the school's tsunami appeal. They mailed letters to St Mary's families during the school holidays and asked for donations, specifically for children and schools in Sri Lanka.

The response was overwhelming, filling a quarter of a classroom. The girls spent many afternoons boxing goods, ready to be sent to Sri Lanka via International Children's Care and Universal Aid.

Once the goods arrive in Sri Lanka, they will be distributed through Asiana Education, which consisted of nine schools along the east coast of Sri Lanka before the tsunami, and now comprises just two.



Maria Breytenbach and Nilukshi Ranwala pack goods bound for Sri Lanka

SUPPORTING THE WIDER COMMUNITY

Newcastle Grammar School

Newcastle Grammar School visited St Christopher's Home in Fiji during 2004. Nine students and three staff spent a fortnight there working with the children and the Anglican nuns who run the home. It was a rewarding but exhausting experience. As a result of the continuing relationship between Newcastle Grammar School and St Christopher's Home a tertiary scholarship fund has been set up. One of the young women who has lived at St Christopher's for most of her life, Poonam Devi, had completed secondary school and had qualified for tertiary study, but no funds were available to allow her to go to the University of the South Pacific. Newcastle Grammar School together with a local Newcastle Rotary Club has supplied the funds to allow Poonam to complete a degree at the University of the South Pacific. Chapel funds from Newcastle Grammar School and money raised by the Newcastle Sunrise Rotary Club have been used to pay university fees, hostel accommodation at the university, book allowance and living allowance. Poonam is now half way through her first year of degree in education. She plans to be a teacher and give something back to her community.

In June 2005 Poonam visited Newcastle Grammar School. The School flew her over to Australia and accommodated her with the families of the students who visited Fiji in 2004. This gave her an opportunity to meet more of the students and staff who are supporting her education and to meet the members of the Sunrise Rotary Club. Poonam's visit was a great success, allowing us all to share something of the bonds of common humanity which unite us.

Newcastle Grammar School and the Sunrise Rotary Club are committed to the a further two and half years of sponsorship for Poonam until she completes her tertiary education.

VISION STATEMENT | AASN

Australian Anglican Schools Network, giving honour to God, putting God first and working within God's will, seeks to:

- Provide a forum at the national level for Anglican schools to facilitate discussion on spiritual, moral and values related issues as they have bearing on education.
- Be an effective network of General Synod of the Anglican Church.
- Achieve recognition of Anglican schools as part of the mission of the Anglican Church.
- Be a forward-looking, dynamic organisation aiming to develop a strong unity of purpose among Anglican Schools

(The Australian Anglican Schools Network was established in 1999)



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ATTENTION CHAPLAINS!!

Are you looking for a professional challenge?

Why not join the AASN Chaplaincy Shadowing Program in 2006?

To participate, you must attend the Pre-Conference Workshop at Launceston Church Grammar School on Thursday 15 September 2005 (immediately prior to the AASN Annual Conference).

FULL DETAILS on the Conference Website (www.aasn.edu.au and follow the links) or contact Rev'd Peter Laurence (08 9286 0290 or pl Laurence@asc.wa.edu.au).

CONTRIBUTE TO THE AASN NEWSLETTER!

Deadlines for receipt of copy for the final edition for 2005 is: **Thursday 13 October**

Send your contributions to either your state representative or the AASN Secretariat. You can contact your representatives easily by email:

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Other members of the Management Committee include:

Mr Tony Horsley, President; Mr Phillip Heath, Immediate Past Present and Mrs Lynne Thomson, President-elect

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