

Newsletter

Australian Anglican Schools Network

Australian Anglican



Schools Network

Volume 1, Issue 2
April 2004

From the President

For the past four years, my family and I have attended the CMS Conference - **Summer under the Sun** at Phillip Island. It is a time of encouragement and sound Bible teaching. One of my greatest loves is to hear the Bible expounded clearly and deeply. This year's Bible Studies were led by the Reverend Simon Manchester, Rector of St Thomas' North Sydney. He led us through Chapters 14-18 of Luke's gospel. He reminded us that Luke's account of Jesus' life is an orderly account and every detail is given for good reason.

As part of my message for this Newsletter I would like to share the insights I gained from Luke 16, particularly from the parable of the wasteful steward. This steward had not done his job well and was about to lose his job. Knowing this, he thought up a clever plan to gain long-term favour with those who were debtors to his master. He reduced their debts to a proportion of what they owed and had them discharge this reduced debt. The master commended him for his shrewdness. This is a puzzling parable because it seems to contradict

good business practice and yet the steward is commended. Jesus' intention was to show that our actions should be for the long-term, in his frame of reference, for eternity.

All of us who are good at business are very clever at ensuring our businesses are successful but often what is provided is only of a temporal nature. Yet in relation to "selling" the good news of salvation, we do not give the job our full attention nor devote our ingenuity to the task. Jesus is therefore encouraging us to put our minds, our resources and our energies to tasks of eternal benefit in the same way that we devote our energy to those things which are not of lasting value. That is why the steward was commended - because he looked to the long-term, to the acts that have lasting value.

In the same way as we consider the spiritual dimension of our mission in schools, let us devote our energies, our resources and our time to those aspects that are of eternal benefit to our school communities. I have always agonized about

the disproportionate amount of time and energy in our schools devoted to the spiritual program. Yet it is prominent in our advertising, our prospectuses and our mission statements. The other dimensions, the academic, the cultural and the physical are the demands "our clients" are usually more interested in being fulfilled. So it is imperative that we are clever and thoughtful in ensuring that the spiritual message and program is delivered.

My passion in my school is to ensure that the students have the information, the role modeling and the care that will enable them to make an informed choice when they consider God in their lives.

Remember eternity lasts forever.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A R Horsley'.

A R Horsley
President, AASN & Principal of
Gippsland Grammar School



Anglican Schools - The Future

- Blue Mountains Grammar School Friday 23 July 2004 - from 4pm
- A meeting of Chairs, Heads, Chaplains and RE Teachers from Anglican Schools in New South Wales
- John Lambert, Secretary, National Network of Anglican School Systems
- Contact Malcolm Powys, Blue Mountains Grammar for details: 02 4757 3633

State Reports

New South Wales

Student leaders from all Anglican schools within the Diocese of Sydney were invited to attend an annual service of dedication at St Andrew's Cathedral late last year. Archbishop Peter Jensen spoke and took the unusual step of inviting written questions without notice from the students present. It was a lively and uplifting service.

Queensland

For a number of years, members of the Anglican Schools Commission have considered the notion of conducting a combined activity that supports individual schools in their induction of new staff into the Anglican Ethos and Mission. March 2004 saw the realisation of the vision with new staff from across Queensland Anglican Schools joining together to explore the theme: **Values and Work in an Anglican School- Being and Believing**. A special informal service of welcome conducted by the Dean of St John's Cathedral was

South Australia

Archbishop Ian George is retiring in August 2004. The Diocese is currently involved in an extensive consultation in order to produce a profile for the next Archbishop. The Anglican Heads Forum has contributed to this consultation.

Western Australia

In January the Western Australian Anglican Schools Association (WAASA) held its inaugural Induction Day for teachers new to Anglican schools. Over fifty teachers attended, with most WA Anglican schools being represented. It is planned that this will be an annual event. The program targeted both recent graduates and experienced teachers who had not previously worked in an Anglican school. The focus of the day included:

Mr Malcolm Powys

The encouragement and involvement of Anglican schools in NSW beyond the borders of the Sydney Diocese remains a challenge for us all. The idea of organising an annual meeting of key personnel from all NSW Anglican Schools (Heads, Chaplains, Religious Education Teachers) is currently being explored.

Mrs Stephanie Munday-Lake

included in the program. The day concluded with a session for beginning teachers. We are all challenged, regardless of the length of our service in Anglican Schools to live out our faith. In the words of John Rae, "Example is the only sure way of encouraging the young to think seriously about what it means to be a Christian".

As an initiative of the Commission's Religious Education Standing Committee, a Religious Education Philosophy & Curriculum Framework was launched in October 2003 by the Archbishop of

It is hoped to see as many representatives as possible at the meeting for Chairs, Heads, Chaplains and RE Teachers which will be hosted by Blue Mountains Grammar School on Friday 23 July 2004. Invitations will be issued to schools in the near future.

Brisbane, the Most Reverend Dr Phillip Aspinall. The document is based on the Ethos Statement for Anglican Schools in the Province of Queensland and offers sound philosophical and pedagogical aims and outcomes upon which to base both RE policies and curricula. School Chaplains and Religious Education teachers have expressed appreciation for the development of the materials and have already begun to implement the ideas and strategies contained within the document.

Mr Stephen Matthew

Mr Peter Casson, the Schools Liaison Officer appointed by the Diocese, is doing a superb job in unravelling the various structures surrounding Anglican education. He has proposed a Provincial Education Conference at which the future and form

of the Commission, the System, and the Anglican Heads Forum may be discussed. We are attempting to design an appropriate structure that would further the promotion of Anglican education, and Anglican schools, in South Australia.

The Reverend Peter Laurence

- What is expected of Teachers in Anglican Schools
- The place of liturgy & worship in our schools
- An introduction to religious and values education

The Archbishop of Perth and Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia, the Most Reverend Dr Peter Carnley AO recently launched a new resource that is well placed to become the Christian religious and values education curriculum for all Anglican schools in WA. The Christian/Religious Studies Progress Map, published by the

Anglican Schools Commission of WA for all Anglican schools in the state, was written to assist RE teachers to prepare and execute effective Christian, religious and values education courses in our schools.

The resource is an outcomes-based document prepared with the Western Australian Curriculum Framework in mind. Its presentation in a ring-bound folder with accompanying CD is designed to be user-friendly for teachers, enabling them to incorporate material on teaching, learning, assessment and resources into their school-based curriculum and work programs.

Tasmania

In keeping with the AASN vision for the development of relationships between parishes and schools, Bishop John has made as a clear focus for every discussion of the Anglican Ministry of Tasmania, the goal of Mission. All endeavours are to be measured in terms of how they contribute to the mission of the church to preach the gospel. This emphasis influences work in schools as well as in churches and other community based organizations. Bishop John has taken a very active interest in the schools, including a close involvement in the appointment of the two new Principals who commenced in 2003 (at St Michael's Collegiate in Hobart and Church Grammar

Mr Bruce Fairfax

in Launceston, two of the three Anglican schools in Tasmania).

He has embraced the notion that since the schools have more young people regularly in church and open to the hearing of the gospel than all the parish churches in Tasmania combined, they are a central focus for mission. In the north of the State, Bishop John supported a Launceston conversation bringing together the eight parishes of Launceston in discussion regarding the possibility of a Greater Launceston team ministry. Whilst this has not proceeded in any radical way, some changed groupings resulted. One particular result was that six of the parishes agreed to

combine to support a regular youth service hosted by Launceston Church Grammar School.

The Grammar Chaplain and the Parish Priest for North Launceston, the Parish in which the school sits, have combined their resources to run a fortnightly youth service called "Church on the Hill" with participation and support from the six parishes. At the time of writing there has been one of these services with 87 participating, over three quarters of whom were young adults. Whilst it is early days yet, the combining of resources between parishes and corporate focus on young people, are very encouraging signs.

Victoria

The Anglican Schools Committee (Melbourne Diocese) comprises four Heads, a Bishop, a representative of the Ecumenical Schools Association, two Board Members of Anglican Schools and a representative of the Province. The Committee is chaired by Bishop Stephen Hale.

Its terms of reference include: to affirm the role of existing Anglican Schools in the mission of the Church; to advise the

Mr Michael Urwin

Archbishop and Bishops with regard to the establishment of new schools; to assist people to be trained as Chaplains, and to assist in offering of professional development for Chaplains; to advise the Archbishop and the wider church on issues in relation to education, and so on. At its most recent meeting there was further consideration of a document relating to guidelines on the relationship between the

Diocese and schools.

There will be a meeting in June for Heads and Chairs of governing bodies to report on progress in the development of the St Paul's Cathedral Education Centre.

Bishop Philip Huggins has been appointed Bishop of the Northern region. Bishop Michael Hough has been appointed Bishop of Ballarat.

New Anglican Schools in Australia

The number of Anglican Schools throughout Australia is growing. Two new schools in New South Wales - **Shellharbour Anglican College** (Foundation Principal,

Anthony Cummings) and **Wollondilly Anglican College** (Foundation Principal, Stuart Quarmby) commenced at the beginning of 2004. Plans are progressing in Victoria

for the establishment of **Penman College** and a School in Wodonga. In Queensland, **The Lakes College**, north of Brisbane, will commence in 2005.

Heads on the move!

South Australia

- Mr Christopher Prance, formerly Head of Primary School of **Pedare**, will take up his appointment as Head of **St Peter's Woodlands** in Term 2,
- Mr Richard Burchnell will leave **St Peter's College** at the end of Term 2.
- Helen Trebilcock will start at **Walford Anglican School for Girls**, following the resignation of Marilyn Haysom, at the start of Term 2 2004.

New South Wales/ Australian Capital Territory

- Mrs Judith Wheeldon will retire from **Abbotsleigh** as Principal at the end of 2004.
- Mr John Scott will retire as Headmaster of **St Luke's Grammar School** at the end of 2004.

- Mr Roger Oates has replaced Mr. Vic Branson as Principal of **Bishop DrUITT College** at Coffs Harbour from the start of 2004.
- Mr John Weekes left **The Illawarra Grammar School**, (Wollongong) at the end of 2003. Mr. Tony Horsley (President of AASN), will take up the appointment as Principal from the start of Term 3.
- Mrs Elizabeth Gilbert continues as Acting Principal of **Canberra Girls' Grammar School** following the resignation of Mrs Alyson Groom due to ill health.

Queensland

- Mrs Robyn Bell, formerly Deputy Principal of St Aidan's, was appointed Principal of **Cannon Hill Anglican College**.

- Mr Greg Wain, formerly Principal of Cannon Hill Anglican College, took up the appointment of Headmaster of **The Southport School** following the retirement of Dr Bruce Cook at the end of 2003.

Victoria

- Mr Colin Black will retire as Headmaster of **Camberwell Grammar School** at the end of 2004, a position he has held since 1987.
- Mr Nick Sampson will leave **Geelong College** to take up the position of Head of Marlborough College in Wiltshire, England. Nick has been Principal of GGS since 2001.



Australian Anglican Schools Network

Mission Statement

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)

For AASN Members

The AASN website was launched at the 2001 Conference at Brighton Grammar. Colin May, then the New South Wales Representative, worked closely with AISNSW to develop what is now becoming an increasingly important communication tool for the Network. The Network strives to share information with its members. What would you like to see on the website?

Contact Roseann Whyte at the Anglican Schools Office in Brisbane with your suggestions - rwhyte@aso.qld.edu.au. Have a look at the website - make sure your school's information is correct.

The website has proved useful for parents moving from district to district and state to state. Let us help them to find you.

If you would like to contribute to future issues of the **Newsletter**, send your contributions to either your state representative or the AASN Secretariat.

You can contact your representatives easily by email:

- Mr Bruce Fairfax - Tasmania - bfairfax@bigpond.com.au
- The Reverend Peter Laurence - Western Australia - plaurance@asc.wa.edu.au
- Mr Stephen Matthew - South Australia - smatthew@stjohns.sa.edu.au
- Mrs Stephanie Munday-Lake - Queensland - smunday-lake@aso.qld.edu.au
- Mr Malcolm Powys - New South Wales - mpowys@bmgns.nsw.edu.au
- Mr Michael Urwin - Victoria - murwin@brightongrammar.vic.edu.au

Other members of the Management Committee include: Mr Tony Horsley, President; Mr Phillip Heath, Immediate Past Present and Lynne Thomson, President-elect.

Publication dates for 2004

- 1 July 2004 - deadline for receipt of copy 15 June
- 1 November 2004 - deadline for receipt of copy 15 October

The Annual Australian Anglican Schools Network Conference

- 27 to 29 August 2004
- St Peter's Woodlands Glenelg, Adelaide

Community in our Schools

Faith, Hope and Love - The Future is in our Hands.

Keep a lookout for Registration information in the mail early in Term 2.

A call for papers has been sent out and keynote speakers include:

- Rachel Kohn, ABC Broadcaster on *The Spirit of Things*
- Nic Frances, former Executive Director of the Brotherhood of St Laurence, and
- Bishop Gary Weatherill, Bishop of the Diocese of Willochra, South Australia.

The Most Reverend Dr Peter Carnley, has also confirmed his attendance, and will give an address at the Opening Service.

The venue is St Peter's Woodlands, which has been used for former conferences. It is a tram ride from the centre of Adelaide, and provides for a range of accommodation options. Please book the dates in your diary now, August 27 to 29, 2004.

If you would like any information in the meantime contact Festival City Conventions: info@fccconventions.com.au

Australian Anglican Schools Network

Level 2, Sinclair Knight Merz Building
369 Ann Street
BRISBANE 4001

Phone: 07 3839 0882

Fax: 07 3839 0879

Email: rwhyte@aso.qld.edu.au

URL: www.aasn.edu.au