

Newsletter

Australian Anglican Schools Network

Australian Anglican



Schools Network

Volume 1, Issue 3
June 2004

From the President

Have you seen "The Return of the King"? It is the third episode of "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy by JRR Tolkien made into three epic movies by Mr Peter Jackson. In writing my message for this Newsletter, I am inspired by seeing this third movie very recently as it seeks to demonstrate, as I think Tolkien did in his books, that good can triumph over evil even when the evil forces are great and its numbers are overwhelming. Much has been written and said in the past of the analogy of this tale with the great Christian story in which Jesus is the central character. Is Gandalf Jesus or is it Aragorn I'm not sure what Tolkien intended but I do know that all true art, whether painting, sculpture, literature or film is interpreted by the observer and is true for that observer. So for me the truth of this story and therefore its message is that good will eventually overcome evil if those who represent good are willing to stand up and be counted.

It is in this context that I place the publicity about government funding for independent



schools in the lead-up to the 2004 Federal elections. I must stress though that AASN is not a lobby group for Anglican Schools and my message here does not seek to perform this role in a de facto way. However, as I interpret the case against I am struck by the blatant lies and misrepresentation that are conveyed in the advertisements. They must not go unchallenged. The question is how we do this. As a Principal of an Anglican School, I must first pray that God's purposes will be accomplished. Secondly, we must continue to demonstrate by word and action that we are fulfilling our mission in being part of the Anglican Church. Surely truth faithfully followed will have its own reward. Therefore, we must be faithful in proclaiming God's good news for humankind to our students in the best way possible. We must be examples of best practice in all that we do. That covers all aspects of our school life and I want to encourage us all to pay particular attention to the spiritual side. Mere nominality will not be good enough. We are in a spiritual battle as well as a funding battle. Such battles need to be fought in the heavenly realm and our part in that is through prayer and an obedient life. Our example as Christian schools is to demonstrate to the community that we live as we response and that our contribution is like salt.

Given the imperatives of our case may I then encourage us all to meet at the Annual Conference to be held in Adelaide from 27 to 29 August. I have received my application booklet and it looks to be a most worthwhile time. As we know the richness of conferences is much greater than just the keynote addresses and the workshops. The opportunity to share with colleagues engaged in the same mission in diverse circumstances is one that ought not be missed. The early Church gathered to pray for each other to encourage each other and to grow in love and knowledge of God's word. Here is an opportunity to do the same in a national setting. I suspect the Christian Church will always be under threat as it contrary to the hopes and aspirations of the "Prince of this world". That is our mission and our Anglican schools are important players.

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

Tony Horsley
AASN President
Australian Anglican Schools Network

State Reports

The purpose of State Reports is to keep members informed about initiatives and strategies happening throughout Australia. Sometimes, there is an unbelievable amount happening and at other times, there is a lull before the storm. If you feel there is

something happening in your state that you'd like your representative to pass on, let him or her know. Contact details for State Representatives are featured on the back page of this Newsletter.

Victoria

There have been initiatives taken in regional Victoria about the possible establishment of Anglican or Ecumenical schools. Trinity College has opened in Wodonga, with an enrolment of 50 students.

The annual meeting of Heads of Anglican Schools with Archbishop Peter Watson

Mr Michael Urwin

takes place on June 21. At that meeting Heads will be discussing a re-drafted document on guidelines for Anglican schools. This will then be presented to the Archbishop in Council. The document focuses on the relationship between the diocese and schools. It is a guide, not a policy statement. The document identifies

three particular qualities of Anglican schools: the opportunity for all students to hear and respond to the Gospel and its call for mission; a program of Religious Education as part of the core curriculum; and the values of the school being compatible with Gospel values.

Western Australia

Chaplaincy

The Western Australian Anglican Schools Association (WAASA) recently held a Professional Development Day for all Anglican School Chaplains. WAASA hosts two such days each year. The focus for the day was twofold: 'the role of the Chaplain' and 'youth spirituality'. These occasions

The Reverend Peter Laurence

also provide important opportunities for Chaplains to share with each other.

Religious Education

This year a number of staff in Anglican schools have commenced formal studies in Religious Education. Edith Cowan University is offering both Graduate Certificate and

Masters degree work in RE. Senior staff and classroom teachers from Anglican schools are being encouraged to complete one of these courses. The Anglican Schools Commission and individual schools have set aside funds to support teachers in their tertiary studies of RE.

South Australia

The Heads Forum

The Anglican Heads continue to meet on a termly basis. Our meetings are congenial, and recent topics include child protection, enterprise bargaining, chaplaincy training, and international students. Given the temporary demise of the Anglican Schools Commission, the Heads find it most helpful to discuss matters of common interest.

Mr Stephen Matthew

Provincial Conference

Peter Casson, Schools Liaison Officer, employed by the Diocese to work with the schools in the three Dioceses of the State, recently convened a conference for Board members, Principals, Bishops and other delegates from the Ministry Development Council. In preparation for the conference, Peter Casson had identified a number of

models of administration that might be appropriate for South Australia, following research in other States.

Work is still progressing on this complex matter, and some interest was shown in forming an Association. This would be a provincial body. Watch this space!

New South Wales

Archbishop Peter Jensen invited Heads from all the Anglican Schools in the Diocese of Sydney to the annual meeting at Bishopscourt on 13 May. He led a lively discussion on the concept of evil in the world, giving Heads some thoughtful biblical perspectives on this problem. He also encouraged school leaders to persevere in taking a firm stand when appropriate.

Mr Malcolm Powys

A meeting of about one hundred representatives from all Anglican schools in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory will be held on Friday 23 July at Blue Mountains Grammar School. John Lambert AM will present a keynote address posing questions about the future of Anglican schools. It promises to be a stimulating session preceded by worship

and followed by a panel discussion and then dinner. The event is designed to follow up a similar meeting held at the King's School in 2003.

Queensland

The focus for Queensland schools recently has been on the 11th Queensland Anglican Schools Conference held on the Sunshine Coast from 14 to 16 May. Representatives from all Anglican Schools throughout Queensland and Northern New South Wales attended. The theme - **2020: Framing Visions - Challenging Futures** was highlighted in the three keynote

Mrs Stephanie Munday-Lake

addresses delivered by Dr Karen Brooks, Dr David Tacey and the Archbishop of Brisbane, The Most Reverend Dr Phillip Aspinall. An extensive range of elective seminars provided the practical implementation of the strategies highlighted by the keynote addresses.

An Orientation Program for Newly

Appointed Principals was conducted for Queensland's three "newest" Principals on 27 and 28 April. Mr Jonathan Hensman, Headmaster, Anglican Church Grammar School, Mrs Robyn Bell, Principal, Cannon Hill Anglican College and Dr Nancy Hillier, Head of College, Forest Lake College all appreciated the opportunity to be so warmly introduced to the Anglican school community.

From Western Australia

Christian / Religious Studies Progress Map - A Working Version

Christian / Religious Studies is an academic subject. It is incumbent on educators to provide an engaging and intellectually rigorous program that nourishes students. They should feel safe and confident to think, question, challenge, investigate and reflect as they undertake their personal journeys searching for spiritual meaning and truth. (Christian / Religious Studies Progress Map, 2004)

The Progress Map for Christian / Religious Studies is a K-12 outcomes-based document. Published by the Anglican Schools Commission of WA (ASC) for schools of the Western Australian Anglican Schools Association (WAASA), it will assist schools in designing a meaningful and engaging curriculum and support teachers in recognizing student learning and achievement.

There are six major learning student outcomes in the Progress Map that have emanated from the Christian / Religious Studies Learning Area Statement, published

by the ASC in 1999. These outcomes describe what we expect students to achieve and relate to the following strands:

- Bible
- Story of the Church
- Philosophy and Beliefs
- World Religions
- Meditation, Prayer and Worship
- Ethical Decision Making and Living

Each of these six outcomes has been structured with four learning phases of development:

Early Childhood	EC
typically Years Kindergarten – Year 3	
Middle Childhood	MC
typically Years 3 - 7	
Early Adolescence	EA
typically Years 7 - 10	
Late Adolescence	LA
typically Years 10 – 12	

As well, the CRS Progress Map includes:

- Teaching and Learning principles
- Outcome level descriptions

- Elaborations
- Teaching and learning strategies
- Sample topics
- Opportunities and experiences
- Resources (including journals, organisations, books, websites)
- Appendix

Recently launched by the Archbishop of Perth and Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia, The Most Reverend Dr Peter Carnley AO, this document has been a collaborative effort between staff of the ASC and teaching staff in Anglican schools.

Over the next two years, it is intended that teachers in WA Anglican schools will be involved in the process of implementing and reviewing this working-version document and then assist in the development of a revised edition. In this way, we view the Progress Map as a dynamic document that will assist educators in the planning and teaching of this most important learning area.

John Reddan

Assistant Director (Professional Support), Anglican Schools Commission, WA

New South Wales' loss will be Queensland's gain when Mr Geoff Fouracre, Head of Shoalhaven Anglican School in Milton takes up his appointment as Foundation Head of The Lakes College in Brisbane in July. Dr Rebecca Ling took up her appointment as Principal at New England Girls' Grammar from the beginning of Term 2. Mr John Scott will retire as Headmaster of St Luke's Grammar School at the end of 2004. Mrs Jann Robinson, presently at William Clark College, will take up her appointment as Head of St Luke's from the beginning of 2005.

Victoria: Mr Stephen Meek, currently Headmaster of Hurstpierpoint College in Sussex in England, has been appointed as the new Principal of Geelong Grammar School to take over from Nicholas Sampson, who has been appointed Master of Marlborough College in England. Stephen will be taking up his role at the beginning of Term 4. Dr Paul Hicks has been appointed to take over as Headmaster of Camberwell Grammar School from the beginning of 2005. Paul is currently Head of Caulfield Grammar School, Wheelers Hill Campus.

Heads on the move!

Tony Horsley will leave his position as Principal of Gippsland Grammar School at the end of Term two to take up appointment as Principal of The Illawarra Grammar School. Victorian Heads will miss Tony's passion for Anglican education. On their behalf, thanks is extended for his extensive contribution over a number of years, initially as State Representative on the AASN Management Committee, then as President-elect, and now as President.



Australian Anglican Schools Network

Vision 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)

Conference Countdown

The beautiful Registration brochure is in all schools, Dioceses, and Systems or Commissions' offices now. The Planning Committee is delighted with the distinguished list of key note speakers who have been secured to address our theme of "community". On each of the three days, our guest speaker will address one of the Christian messages of faith, hope and love. Highlights are as follows:

- To set an appropriate tone for our opening service the primate, Archbishop Peter Carnley will deliver the address.
- Dr Rachael Kohn, well-known presenter on 'The Spirit of Things' on Radio National, will address us on the topic of faith.
- The second day presenter is The Right Reverend Garry Weatherill from South Australia. Bishop Garry is an engaging

speaker who manages a Diocese that stretches from the Eastern edge of the Nullarbor to Central Australia to the border with Queensland and New South Wales.

- Fr Nic Frances, former Executive Director of the Brotherhood of St Laurence, saviour of souls, traveller, and the conscience of the poor and downtrodden will amuse and enlighten us on day three.

Choose from 19 small workshops on two occasions, and enjoy the humour and insight of well known author Mem Fox at the conference dinner on Saturday.

A range of styles of accommodation is available in the popular beach suburb of Glenelg. Complete and return your registration form, or apply online NOW! www.aasn.edu.au/aasn.html

Where

St Peter's Woodlands School, Glenelg, SA

When

27 – 29 August 2004

Cost

\$360.00 by July 16 2004

For further information about the Conference contact Ms Elisabeth Eaton, Festival City Conventions Pty Ltd by phone on 08 3863 1307, by fax on 08 8363 1604 or by email - info@fcconventions.com.au

AASN - State Representatives

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