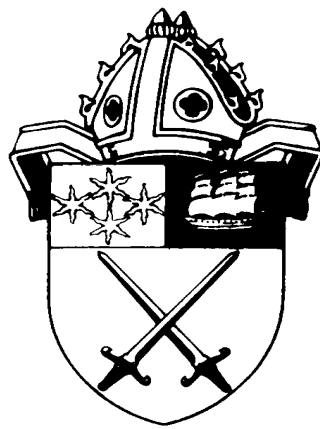


THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
THE DIOCESE OF BUNBURY
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



**THIRD SESSION
OF THE
FORTY SECOND SYNOD
2024 - 2026**

PROCEEDINGS OF 2025

Book 8

SYNOD MINUTES 2025 - SECOND SESSION 42 SYNOD

DAY 1: FRIDAY OCTOBER 10TH, 2025		
TIME	SPEAKER	EVENT
1.31PM	GEOFF (ARCHDEACON)	Emergency & synod administration matters
1.35PM	BISHOP IAN	Bishops welcome & request for secretary
1.37PM	NICK FREELAND (REGISTRAR)	Lay & clergy rolls & apologies
1.42PM	BISHOP IAN	Previous minutes read & confirmed
	GEOFF (ARCHDEACON)	Motion as the house of hours as set out page 5 & 6 - moved & carried
	RENAE BARKER (TRUSTEE)	Question regarding lay secretary: the secretary must be a member of Synod. Assistants need not be.
1.45PM	BISHOP IAN	Reading committee, chaplain, timekeeper elected - agreed & carried Note about motions, process for elections
1.48PM	NICK FREELAND (REGISTRAR)	Book 2: Reports as listed - request to be taken as read - agreed
1.50PM	BISHOP	Book 3 & 3a - reports as listed to be accepted as listed - all agreed. except report by Bishop Ian an exception as it is reported later. Report for mission - objection. There followed a briefing on the work of C for Mission
1.54PM	MARK GILPIN PARISH OF HARVEY	Notice of objection - to speak to report
1.55PM	REVD. CATHIE BROOME PARISH OF DONNYBROOK & HARVEY	Speaking to objection - requesting Revd. Justine (Dunsborough) to speak
	REVD. JUSTINE RICHMOND PARISH OF DUNSBOROUGH	1. Justine spoke- re Dunsborough's mission support of Donnybrook. Asking Synod to consider combined mission giving & support other smaller parishes. 2. Living water has grown from mission giving internally. 3. Suggested parishes think outside the box & partner for a season.
1.58PM	BISHOP	INVITATION TO 3 SCHOOL PRINCIPALS TO SPEAK
	MATTHEW OBRIEN	BUNBURY CATHEDRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL - PRESENTATION & REPORT - Still need a chaplain & requested prayer for the role

		- Most graduates go to Uni & are academically strong. - Opened new childcare centre last year streamlining into the primary school. - School farm another new development for students. In partnership with University of Western Australia. - Masterplan approved - Received export grant for international students. Currently (9) cap of 20 - 30 students. - Value of students & Teachers of importance.
	TRACEY GRAY	FREDRICK URWIN ANGLICAN SCHOOL - PRESENTATION & REPORT - Mission & values shown by the students - People helping People. - School turning 1820 students & school turning 35 next year & 230 staff. - What does success look like for a diverse group of students. - Strong relationship development with the parish and community in Mandurah. - Anglican identity important in the school. - Now run a full marine biology programme - not an ATAR pathway in partnership with the Melbourne UNI. - New Metrics. - Pathway courses being initiated for students. - Older students involved in local community and reconciliation programme. - Sustainable plan for future growth. - Concentration on student and teacher pastoral care & wellbeing - New Deputy principal appointed & Growing Chaplaincy and growing team of Christian study educators. - Renovated Meadow Springs campus. - Electronic Student & Staff Hub created to increase efficiency & wellbeing. - Parameters for teachers administration setup.

	BRAD EVANS	GEORGINA MOLLOY ANGLICAN SCHOOL...Opportunities now benefits for life... - Anglischool aims at reduced fees k-12 - 1400 students & 22 staff with greenspace. 1440 predicted next year. - 4000 students in the Diocese accessing Anglican Education bringing hope to the next generation. - Arts drama & music, Sport & outdoor education all education features. - 3 Strategic Pillars - R.A.I.S.E is the motto of Values. - Opened 3GLA Learning Area (fits 150 students with desk) - Peak Program - for Academic & Gifted (40) students - 10-year Master plan for buildings including a school chapel. - Grow Anglican identity - Optimism & kindness & opportunity sought-after values by parents & students - Global connection with school in Japan (Sister-school) - Growing Noongar connection - still requires healing. - Faith in Action important - house groups doing morning prayer and church visit and first eucharist. Quality of Worship. - Partnership with Busselton Hospice & community service aims. - Scones & Scams - technological challenged work with students being community connection. - 2026 - new buildings and professional development - Prayer for inclusion and diversity, guidance for Pastoral care & worship and partnership with churches in the Diocese
3.04PM	BISHOP IAN	- Thanked the principals & asked Geoff to pray for our diocesan schools.
3.06PM	GEOFF (ARCHDEACON)	Regarding & requesting nominations
3.07PM	AFTERNOON TEA	
3.38PM	BISHOP IAN	PRESIDENTS ADDRESS

		- NB. Presidents address emailed in full to Synod Members.
4.39PM	GEOFF (ARCHDEACON)	GENERATING A NEW VISION & STRATEGY - INTRODUCTION OF SYNOD 2025 QUIZ - SENT VIA LINK IN EMAIL - Several questions to be completed in relation to a strategic plan. - Answers will go back to Geoff, collated by computer and will be shown to Synod. - Synod descended into general conversational chaos - Bishop Ian showed slides relating to the National Church Life Survey in relation to the Anglican church statistics.
5.16PM	GEOFF (ARCHDEACON)	NOMINATION RESULTS - Karen Reeves elected unopposed as a Trustee/ Ex-Officio BIC - Ballot for Bishop in Council - Rosemary Cousins & Adrian Fry
5.18PM	DR RENAE BARKER (ADVOCATE)	GENERAL SYNOD & DIOCESAN LEGISLATION PART 1 - BOOK 6 CANONS & STATUES - Explained 3 step voting process. - Revd. Karen Chair of Committee 01: BISHOPRIC ELECTION STATUTE 2011 – 2018 AMENDMENT (TIME FOR ELECTION) Bill 2025 SECONDER: GEOFF CHADWICK - Change from 3 months to 6 months to appoint a new Bishop prior to vacancy of the see to prevent long interregnum - Change the chair to become the Chancellor (with legal knowledge etc) & would become ex-officio member. - Reason: imbalance of ex-officio members. QUESTIONS: SHANE MARQUES LIVING WATER - Concern around selection of chancellor not theologically trained and therefore may have a more legal angle in selection.

		REPSONSE: DR RENAE: Pointed out that in the last two bishopric elections defaulted to the chancellor as the chair. RESPONSE: GEOFF CHADWICK - committee already clergy & non clergy enabling a balance of views. - BISHOP IAN - MOVED THE MOTION - VOTE 1: 1 AGAINST. NO COMMITTEE - VOTE 2: MOTION FOR BILL TO PASS - 1 AGAINST - BILL PASSED BY SYNOD MAJORITY - CARRIED BILL 02: LICENSING STATUTE 2017 - 2021 AMENDMENT (SENIOR LAY CANONS) Bill 2025 - Wardens not required to be LLM's making it streamlined - VOTE 1: UNANIMOUS - NO COMMITTEE - VOTE 2: MOTION BILL TO PASS: - BILL PASSED BY SYNOD - CARRIED (FOR TIME REASONS: DR RENAE REQUESTED THAT BILL 4 BE BROUGHT TO SYNOD BEFORE BILL 3) BILL 04: DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT STATUTE AMENDMENT BILL 2025 - Relates to sub-clause B - BILL REASON: Tidying Up: Using correct titles to entities and timing required for solution. - - MOTION MOVED TO BE PUT IN AMENDED FORM. - VOTE 1: UNANIMOUS. CARRIED. - NO COMMITTEE - NO QUESTIONS - VOTE 2: BILL PASSED BY SYNOD - CARRIED Postponed until Saturday 11th: BILL 03: STATUTE TO CONSENT TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PROVINCE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA 1914
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5.38PM	REVD NICK FREELAND	NOTICES - SYNOD SUSPENDED FOR THE REST OF THE DAY
5.45PM	REVD.DR. RICHARD GOETZ	EVENING PRAYER

DAY 2: SATURDAY OCTOBER 11TH, 2025		
TIME	SPEAKER	EVENT
8.45AM	GEOFF (ARCHDEACON)	ANNOUNCED VOTING OPEN
9.15AM		Voting closed
		Morning Prayer commenced Led by Revd. Gaelan Baguil.
9.38AM	BISHOP IAN	Order of the Day - thanks to catering team & musicians
	GEOFF (ARCHDEACON)	Results of yesterday's survey - report to generated to members of Synod.
9.40AM	BISHOP IAN	Resuming Order of the day - MOTION voting procedures & Testing of electronic devices. Delayed due to technical issues.
	REVD. PAUL BARTLEY WILLIAMS PARISH	Invited to speak / sell a pitch on 2026 Church Calendars for sale. Which features the church in Williams.
9.45AM	REVD. NICK FREELAND	Return to voting procedures
9.47AM	BISHOP IAN	Call for questions
		Call for Petitions
		Late notice motions
	REVD. ALEX SCUTT PARISH OF MANDURAH	Read the late Motion as follows: MOTION: That the Synod gives thanks for the work of the Crown Nomination Commission. That this Synod recognises the election of Bishop Sarah Mullally as the 106 th Archbishop of Canterbury. Commends in prayer the Church of England, the Anglican Communion, and the Archbishop of Canterbury designate, asking God's wisdom, grace and guidance for her leadership and ministry in the years ahead. That Synod asks the Bishop to convey this motion to the Archbishop of Canterbury designate. That Synod invites Bishop Sarah Mullally to visit the Diocese should she ever visit Australia.

		MOVER: ALEX SCUTT SECONDER: RENAE BARKER VOTING TO HEAR THE MOTION: 16 AGAINST 56 IN FAVOUR
	DR. RENAE BARKER (ADVOCATE)	BILL 03: STATUTE TO CONSENT TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PROVINCE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA 1914 MOVED THE BILL - Documents distributed onto tables. - Postponed from yesterday - Bill relating to our Province - To Correct former procedural areas. - Big B - Diocesan Bishop - Part of General Synod. - Little b - Assistant Bishops not part of General Synod. Applies only to Perth Diocese have 2 Little b Bishops. - How the Archbishop is appointed - not related to us. - Further inconsistencies with the national constitution - tidy up. - All three Dioceses of the Province must consent. - Questions? - None Vote 1: Carried Unanimously. No Need for Committee Vote 2: Bill Passed Unanimously.
10.00AM		MORNING TEA
10.20AM	REVD. NICK FREELAND (REGISTRAR)	AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2024 - 2025 BUDGET & FINANCIAL PLANS FOR 2025-2026 - As Per Financial Reports distributed to Synod. 7.10.25 SPECIAL MENTION: - Bunbury Diocese Trustees are the only legal entity in the Diocese to enter into contact, owns all property, holds certain monies, Manages Payroll and employment matters, Manages acquisitions and disposal of assets

		HEADLINES: - NET ANNUAL PROFIT: \$598,555.67 - mostly due to tree harvest \$285K No longer a source of income - OPERATING LOSS: \$388,207.55 - due to repayment of Cathedral loan. - Total income up 4.8% - COST OF OPERATING: \$480K. - due to repayment up against last year - ADMISTRATION COSTS OF ER \$20,000 passed on to the parishes. - VALUE OF INVESTMENTS UP \$32,741.56 (3.66%) IMPACT OF REDRESS: 4 years ago - No Provision. - CURRENT PROVISION \$1,035,000 - No litigation settled. - 3 current claims - Still face \$14K of legal costs. Accounts tidied up over the last year with recording/ streamline of expenses which will be evident in next year's report. - Doing more ministry with stipended people - FFM exceeded \$50K - Rental income only on Diocesan properties & seeking competitive income. - does not include Parish Rectory income - Campsite rates have improved. - Cheapest campsite in the Holy Mile. - Investment revaluation down COST OF OPERATING: - Diocesan Expenses \$452K over budget. - Property costs under budget - good news. - Total cost of Operating \$28K over budget EXPENSES: - Asset register provides figures for depreciation - Insurance went up 9.8% - Budget 7.8% - Looking at the moment at Industrial Special risk policy (Buildings) hope to come down (Trustees)
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		TOTAL EQUITY - Assets coming down. CASH VS LIABILITY - Shortfall \$841,326.55 (in cash) INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO - Capacity \$2,930,173.94 - non sustainable in 5-6years. PROPERTY PORTFOLIO - Freehold land - Land Granted to us by the Crown - with buildings. Which cannot be sold unless we buy the land from the Crown first. Problem is we don't have the cash to purchase the land. eg. Gnowangerup Rectory - can only be rented and in not good repair.
11.07AM	REVD. NICK FREELAND (REGISTRAR)	QUESTIONS: - NO QUESTIONS - MOTION SYNOD APPROVES AUDITED ACCOUNTS - MOVED: Revd. Nick - Seconder Marilyn Royer (Trustee Accountant) - MOTION: CARRIED unanimously
	REVD. NICK FREELAND (REGISTRAR)	REPORT OF CURRENT CASH FLOW - Income not keeping pace with expenditure. - Diocese requires parishes to quickly turn around their stipend invoices quickly. We have no capital to carry parish debt. - ER Admin Fee reduced. - Decline of Rentals of Cliff Street in Albany (not to be seen as BNB) - designed as a place of retreat. - Centralised costs not met by Assessment income. - Properties returned to the Diocese does not remove the problem. - Trustees monitoring the problems carefully. - Wanese Maloney commended for her work - including cashflow forecast.

		ASSESSMENTS FY 2025-2026 - Proposing an increase of 1% this year up to 15% (the lowest in any Diocese) - Synod Costs, Clergy retreat, conference passed back to the parishes this would help Diocesan Cashflow - Parishes urged to consider this in the future. - Updated guidelines for financial returns and reports and urged to submit returns quickly. - Hubs to commence and guidebook created to help.
11.25AM		QUESTIONS TO REGISTRAR ON ACCOUNTS - ADRIAN FRY - OYSTER HARBOUR - From a cashflow perspective, Is there a view in the Diocese to track the number of working adults in each parish, so that parishes that are increasing in numbers of working adults, might be incentive to continue that growth? - Answer: Look to consider in the future REVD. SHANE MARQUES - LIVING WATER What is / can you clarify a sinking fund and the estimated costs for clergy conf etc.? ANSWER: - Yes, to be provided. ZIECH VAN ONSELEN - WILLIAMS PARISH Income report page 1 - school contributions what is that money and what does it relate to? ANSWER: Schools make a per capita contribution to the Diocese based on per capita enrolments. REVD. JAMES MURRAY - AUSTRALIND Anglican education currently has 3400 students, is there a possibility to increase that to \$100 dollars per student thus providing \$340,000 per year, to the Diocese? ANSWER: Certainly, a discussion point and there may be capacity to have that question in the future.

		REVD. JAMES MURRAY - AUSTRALIND (2nd Question). - Thanks to Nick for his work - appreciated. - QUESTION: Proportionally giving, Costs of Clergy would be disproportionate back on parishes. To solve it suggested to increase assessment. - ANSWER: To be discussed at next trustees meeting. REVD. JUSTINE RICHMOND - DUNSBOROUGH - QUESTION: Is there possible to have more information on Cliff Street distributed to clergy and church workers. Additionally, are their things parishes could be praying for to contribute back to the Diocese. - ANSWER: Nick said he would circulate information on Cliff Street, and secondly, yes there are. Not Specific. - NO FURTHER QUESTIONS.
11.30AM	REVD. NICK FREELAND (REGISTRAR)	- MOTION 2: MOVED TO INCREASE DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT BY 1% AFFECTIVE 1 JANUARY 2026. - SECONDER: Mrs Marilyn Royer - Trustee Treasurer. - VOTE: 1 against 1 abstained - carried
11.32AM	REVD. NICK FREELAND (REGISTRAR)	- ADDITIONAL MOTION: Costs of synod, clergy retreats charged back to synod. - SECONDER AGREED: Mrs Marilyn Royer - Trustee Treasurer QUESTIONS TO THE MOTION: - REVD. JAMIE MURRAY - AUSTRALIND. Discussion to be had for parishes with less income. - JUSTINE RICHMOND: DUNSBOROUGH: Endorsed that sentiment. - CANON IAN MABEY - MANDURAH- Bishop in Council & Trustees already debated the issue. Move a motion that second part be reversed back to B.IC for further debate.

		- NICK FREELAND (REGISTRAR): Suggested remove second part of the motion. - JAMIE MURRAY - AUSTALIND Sought clarification...BIC could make the decision on behalf of synod & objects to the motion. - KEVIN (CHANCELLOR): BIC can vote for Synod but their votes come back to Synod. - Jamie -Australind - thanked Chancellor for clarification and withdraw objection.
11.39AM	BISHOP IAN	- MOVED: TO WITHDRAW ADDITIONAL MOTION AND TAKE IT BACK TO BISHOP IN COUNCIL FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION - VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF SYNOD.
11.40AM	REVD. NICK FREELAND (REGISTRAR)	- MOTION 3: BUDGET FY 2025 - 2026 - SECONDER: Mrs Marilyn Royer - Trustee Secretary. - BUDGET COMMENDED TO SYNOD - VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY BY MEMBERS OF SYNOD.
11.50AM	REVD. SHANE MARQUES LIVING WATER	- M2025/01 - Faithfulness in Service - MOVER: REVD SHANE MARQUES - SECONDER: REVD DR. RICHARD GOETZ - EXPLANATION: This proposed amendment would change the wording of items 7.2 in order to more clearly reflect the bible's teaching on sexual ethics that clergy specifically would be required to uphold. This would be the original wording, as is still in place in many Anglican Diocese in Australia. - This motion is brought seeking to amend the wording of item 7.2. "It is appropriate for clergy and church workers to value this gift, taking responsibility for their sexual conduct." To become: "It is appropriate for clergy and church workers to value this gift, taking responsibility for their sexual conduct by

		maintaining chastity in singleness and faithfulness in marriage.” - REVD. SHANE: Spoke to the motion commending the motion for the sake of: 1. Honesty & integrity to scripture 2. Our Discipleship and obedience to Jesus 3. And common sense. - MATTHEW O'BRIEN - CATHEDRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL - Speaking against the motion. - Addresses Synod with respect for those raising the Faithfulness in Service motion but expresses deep concern for the Diocese's unity and health. - Notes that this is the third consecutive year the Faithfulness in Service motion has been introduced in a similar form, which risks entrenching division and prolonging unhelpful debate. - Explained that Faithfulness in Service sets behavioural standards for clergy and those in significant Church roles. - Argued that regulating clergy behaviour should occur in appropriate clergy forums, not through repeated Synod motions. - Suggests extending these standards to all parish and institution leaders is neither appropriate nor practical and opposes supporting the motion for this reason. - Acknowledges concerns about the pastoral implications of further amendments to Faithfulness in Service, advocating for thoughtful and prayerful consideration in a more suitable forum. - References recent speeches at this Synod by school principals on inclusivity and growing the Church through welcoming and valuing all people. - Recommends Bishop-in-Council establish a subcommittee including relevant Synod members to explore
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		these issues in-depth and facilitate genuine dialogue. - Concludes by moving that Synod proceed to the next item of business to promote unity and wisdom.
12.00OPM	DR RENAE BAKER (ADVOCATE)	STANDING ORDER 19A - STATES THAT A SYNOD MOTION TO MOVE TO THE NEXT ITEM OF BUSINESS & TO STOP THE EXISTING MOTION WITH OUT DEBATE - MAY BE GRANTED AS A MOTION BY SYNOD. - DR. ZIECH VAN ONSELEN - PARISH OF WILLIAMS - Question regarding original motion: - Exact wording not recorded. - CHANCELLOR: Spoke to the original motion explaining that Civil law takes precedence over our statutes, so wording is likely to be changed at General Synod in 2026 anyway. - MOTION TO MOVE THE NEXT ITEM OF BUSINESS - VOTE: 45 FOR AGAINST: 25 ABSTAINED: 4
12.10PM	REVD ALEX SCUTT MANDURAH PARISH	MOTION: That the Synod gives thanks for the work of the Crown Nomination Commission. That this Synod recognises the election of Bishop Sarah Mullally as the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury. Commends in prayer the Church of England, the Anglican Communion, and the Archbishop of Canterbury designate, asking God's wisdom, grace and guidance for her leadership and ministry in the years ahead. That Synod asks the Bishop to convey this motion to the Archbishop of Canterbury designate. That Synod invites Bishop Sarah Mullally to visit the Diocese should she ever visit Australia. MOVER: ALEX SCUTT SECONDER: Dr. RENAE BARKER - Revd. Alex spoke to the motion. - Jamie Murray Australind - Spoke objecting to the Motion. - Renae Barker (Advocate) & Seconder - spoke to the Motion.

		- Alex - Put the Motion to Synod. - Motion: carried - 7 abstained
12.20PM	BISHOP IAN	Result of election - Rosemary Cussons elected to bishop in council.
12.22PM	GEOFF (ARCHDEACON)	LEAVE OF THANKS FOR: - PARISH OF OYSTER HARBOUR - DIOCESAN OFFICE STAFF - SYNOD MEMBERS & EXECUTIVE - BISHOP AS PRESIDENT