2017 Diocesan Representatives Conference

**Around the Dioceses**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Report** | **Plans** |
| Adelaide – Mary Catford |
| * Invited to join ABM Auxiliary in Adelaide
* Very impressive – raise a lot of money selling items
* New Archbishop (Geoff Smith) is previous ABM National Executive Director
 | *
 |
| Armidale – Bill and Judy Howarth |
| * Support of parishes continue to fall. 7 out of 30 parish support ABM. This year down to 5
* Moree – new vicar. Income down
* Cathedral parish – doubled giving. Other parish has increased giving.
* Diocese supports Uganda, Solomons and Eye Openers International (registered with Anglican AID).
* 5-6 breakfasts a year. Looked at Uluru Statement and Celia’s response.
* Australia day gathering at the Howarth’s on patio
* Music and mulled wine evening in the evening.
 | * Luncheons – Judy and Richard Bloomfield are the guests at the next lunch. Talk about Wontulp.
* Martyr’s week-end in September.
* Mission week-end in October – ABM presenting at this year’s.
 |
| Ballarat – Mathew Crane |
| * Talk of forming committee
* Ladies guild raises money for ABM
* Most churches has posters in them
* Has increased giving.
* Martry’s Synod Mass is good fundraiser
* Ministry Dev Com set the 5 Marks of Mission as their guiding principles.
* Encourage participation in the Pilgrimages.
 | *
 |
| Bathurst – VACANT |
|  |  |
| Bendigo – Michael Hopkins |
| * Running same as previously
* Auxiliary has a new member
* Focus on Prayer support for programs and using the Prayer Diary
* Has lots of annual events as is a rural diocese – strawberry fair, apron festival, etc
* Giving declined slightly – due to rural parishes. Been 23 church closures in the Bishops time.
* Competing with BCA parishes. CMS launching a concerted effort too.
 | *
 |
| Brisbane – Ken Spreadborough |
| * Many speaking engagements
* Have an ABM Facebook page
* Very blessed with Synod – always have a slot to speak. Plus a stall
* Had a Provincial Conference. This year was Cairns; next year in Rockhampton
* November Appeal – Jan Gate stepping down so huge thanks to her
* Auxiliary – offering prayer support. Is aging and declining in numbers though
* Youth Ambassador – had 3 this year. Diocese pay to get them there; ABM pay in-country costs.
 | * Coaldrake Award – 36 in Brisbane diocese. Trying to work out how to do it – synod or other event
 |
| Bunbury – Bill Byleveld |
| * Not much change on the parish level in relation to ABM
* Diocesan level – involvement in developing a partnership with Kapsabet, Kenya
* Very good for self-reflection as a diocese
* Working with Perth diocese.
 | * Looking at taking ordinands over to Kapsabet to help broaden their understanding of what’s happening in the Church.
 |
| Canberra/Goulburn – Paul Black |
| * Bishop Stuart – supporter of ABM. Sends out anything that comes in to the diocese
* No committee – important to have a rep each year
* Interesting patterns in giving – some unexpected results from CMS and evangelical parishes
 | *
 |
| Gippsland – Vacant  |
|  |  |
| Grafton – Janice Peate |
| * First year for Janice
* Diocese gave $18.5K to ABM
* Bishop is on ABM Board
* No Committee – is a declining Auxiliary
* Janice is the new President of the Grafton Auxiliary
* No limit in the diocese as to number of members on committee – so identified people passion about mission. Has recruited Greg Jenks, new Dean and Development Committee member.
* Diocese always allocates spot for mission on at Synod.
* Gave $4K to sand damns in Kenya.
 | *
 |
| Melbourne – Brett Collins |
| * Committee been around 7 years in current format. Six people on committee.
* Successful launch of Lent Appeal. 10 out of top 15 parishes attended launch. Planning 2018 already.
* Hosted those attending the Wontok Schools conference.
* Clergy conference – every 3 years – is a must for the ABM Committee.
* 17 request for speakers and met most of those.
* Attending parish council and thanking them for their donation has worked well.
* Giving is OK – on par with last year.
* Marketing Working group – supports the marketing and communications team. Brett is on this group along with some Board members
 | * Looking for new direction. Going back to review guidelines for committees. Over the next 2-3 months
* Recruitment – Identifying top giving parishes and getting 1 person from each parish to be on Committee.
* Coaldrake Award – hosting a gathering in the diocese.
 |
| Newcastle – Katherine Bowyer – unable to attend |
| *
 |  |
| North Queensland – Rod Gooden |
| * Holding its own in giving.
* Cairns used to be CMS parish but now very focused on ABM.
* Hosted provincial ABM conference. Bishop present and gave a good wrap-up about the diocese
* Diocese is now using the term “ministry district” rather than parish – focuses on mission and ministry. May be good for ABM
 | *
 |
| North West Australia – VACANT |
| *
 | *
 |
| Northern Territory – Keith Joseph |
| * One of largest diocese geographical – but smallest by population.
* Has 3 viable parishes – can afford to pay for fulltime minister.
* Others paid by CMS and BCA
* 2 parishes giving to ABM.
* Quite a bit of personal giving from Alice Springs
* No paid aboriginal clergy in the territory.
 | *
 |
| Perth – Lionel Snell |
| * Perth in a challenging position at the moment with ++Roger retiring.
* Committee shrunk in size. Last serving missionary has stepped down.
* Have the partnership with Eldoret
* In discussions about scholarship with Education unit.
* Speaker Program is filled by Claire and Lionel
*
 | * Rebuilding committee – trying to track down parish and institutional (Schools Commission) people for committee.
* Lots of ideas about fundraising.
* Reinvigorating the love and support for ABM
 |
| Riverina – Janet Mills – unable to attend |
|  |  |
| Rockhampton – Val Gribble and Delfina Trail – unable to attend |
| *
 | *
 |
| South Australia (Provincial) – +Chris McLeod – unable to attend |
| * The Murray is on SA Provincial Committee - have the Annual Dinner next Friday at Christ Church North Adelaide. 80 people attending
 | *
 |
| Sydney – Edwina Waddy |
| * Has been urged and helped to increase the size of the committee.
* John Deane link in process. Chris and John attending.
* Committee have always said if they can’t get to clergy then it’s an uphill battle. Function with Bishop Garry for Sydney clergy hosted a few weeks ago.
* People who don’t know ABM aren’t necessarily anti-ABM.
 | * Organising Martyr’s Day.
* Looking at doing more social activities to gather people.
 |
| Tasmania – Trevor Smith |
| * Tim Swifte has retired from committee
* Tasmanian Auxiliary has closed – still a couple of parish auxiliaries
* Warwick Cuthbertson has retired from parish ministry so has more time to spread the ABM word
* Chris gave a presentation to a faithful group
* Had a table at synod – lot of stuff taken. Well accessed even though nobody manning the stall
* How do we train ordinands but also the old ones
* Diocese is number 8 on the hit list of giving
 | * Had a candidate for the Youth Ambassador but not a pilgrimage to send them on. Head office need to investigate further
* Talking to the Youth Ambassadors they asked how long they remain a “Youth Ambassador”. Now starting to refer to them as YA Alumni - need to change expectations
 |
| The Murray – Paul Devenport |
| * Profile of ABM increased in the Diocese – recognised number 1 agency
* Annual Report was included in Synod.
* Paul spoke at Synod – stimulus was the promotional materials available.
* Media Release getting in The Murray Anglican newspaper.
* More amenable to ABM material going out to clergy.
* Giving dropped – diocese has gone to an integrated accounting system. No local treasurer.
 |  |
| Wangaratta – Clarence and Michelle Bester |
| * Diocesan cycle of understanding ministry
* Current strategic plan for the diocese
* Replaced Kim Benton
* 7 parishes supporting – 7 others not supporting as much.
* Support within the diocese continues.
 | * Redefine and re-establish links within parishes with ABM
* Stamps still going to Norm Hart – need to find out what’s going on with that.
 |
| Willochra – Vacant |
| *
 | *
 |

**Other Reports**

|  |
| --- |
| Auxiliary – Mary Catford |
| * Tasmania Auxiliary closed but parishes still supporting
* Perth Auxiliary closed but parishes still supporting
* Willochra – waned a lot
* Age is increasing
* Sydney Auxiliary very active and does a lot
 |  |

Outcomes

**Networking**
- Ideas from other dioceses about what works
- Bringing clergy and laity together
- How to link Dio Reps with ABM staff on a regular (more than annual) basis? Is this desirable/possible?

**Partner Experience**
- Exchange programmes – Pacific Islands and with Australia
- Youth Ambassador Pilgrimage Program

**Reconciliation**
- More on ABM involvement with NAIDOC – cross cultural material
- ABM fund a scholarship for indigenous person (NT!)

**Promotional**
- People Resources to promote ABM
- Promotion in smaller rural communities
- Methods of educating rural areas re ABM
- Updated promotional material for Diocesan and Parish magazines
- ABM strategies
- Things to do differently
- Speaker support
- Distance & speakers knowledge of ABM through their parishes
- What can be done if visitors cannot come to a Diocese from ABM & there are not people able to do it from within?
- How to deal with a Diocese where support for ABM is diminishing
- The Lent Appeal
- ABM is not adequately publicised in parishes in Adelaide
- Speakers – not encouraged even if we had a supply of willing people
- Project Updates – more needed

**Growth**
- Combating distance & isolated parishes
- Is ABM growing or declining? What are the joys and challenges?
- Few committee members – not clear where we will find recruits
- To help people recognise the impact ABM can have through our love of Jesus Christ

**Mission Support**
- Mission strategies in other Dioceses
- Finances – rural parishes who find it hard to make ends meet
- ABM’s offer to help Dioceses with mission strategies
- Share ideas – getting more info re: ABM and its mission
- How do we best connect Parishes to the mission initiatives of ABM
- Diocesan indifference to the point of criticism of ABM method of theology

Speaker Strategy

**Talent**
- 3 categories that we need to work for
- Difficulty in finding talent in Tasmania and Northern Territory
- Engaging in overseas contacts
- ABM staff members
- ABM’s perception being a government funded agency
- Criticism of ABM’s Missiology
 - Doesn’t send missionaries
 - Tasmania’s perspective – isn’t saving souls
- Encouragement for those who are giving and giving well
- The cost of bringing overseas visitors prohibitive
- Possible use of retired clergy to be trained and lay people
- Problem of Dioceses concentrating on their own mission
- Possible bigger groups coming from O/S but it is difficult if there is no diocesan support

**Market (location)**
- For parish fundraising – not individual
- First thing is to get into parish
- Decide where attendees are greater rather than fewer
- How long does one speak for?
- Clergy preferred by clergy – generally
- Might be preferable to attend a “meal event” with interaction from guests and speakers – rather than sermon and deputation
- Synods can be an irritation / annoyance so we put clergy and lay people off
- Can General Synod help with re-enforcement of ABM as the official mission arm of the Anglican Church to Bishops?
- ABM – a tool for parishes to do mission

**Resources**
- Good and passionate speakers / hands on / energy
- Empower speakers
- Education officer
- Regional remote Dioceses – parishes
- Knowledge of projects
- Network of people – who they are
- No need to reinvent the wheel
- Technology needed – material / resources – print and media – need a mix of both
- Content of presentation – the website has a wealth of resources
- Partners mag / moneyboxes
- Follow up
- Who are we targeting?
- Twitter / Facebook – needs to be more active plus link
- Print material
- On-A-Mission
- Clergy engagement

ABM Conference Locations

2018 – Adelaide
2017 – Brisbane
2016 – Canberra
2015 – Newcastle
2014 – Perth
2013 – Melbourne
2012 – Sydney
2011 – Southport
2010 – Adelaide
(This is as far as CB’s corporate knowledge goes back!)