



PROCEEDINGS

of the

COMMISSION OF ASSEMBLY

MAY 2012

and of the

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OCTOBER 2012

**ASSEMBLY OFFICERS
2012**

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY OCTOBER 2012

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**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
COMMISSION OF ASSEMBLY
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF VICTORIA
May 2012**

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMISSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA**

At Melbourne, and within the Werner Brodbeck Hall, Assembly Hall, 156 Collins Street, Melbourne, on Tuesday 1 May 2012 at 10.30 am.

1. Constitution

The Commission of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria met by appointment of the previous General Assembly (BB 2011 min 114). The Moderator, Rt Rev Dr Robert Louis Carner, constituted the Commission with prayer.

2. Devotions

Following the reading of scripture by Moderator's Chaplain Rev John Rickard, the Moderator preached an occasional sermon.

3. Roll

The Clerk intimated that the Roll of the Commission of Assembly consisted of those members whose names are on the Roll of the General Assembly, October 2011, and who remain qualified to be members of the Assembly.

4. Apologies

The Deputy Clerk intimated that the following apologies for non-attendance had been received:

Ministers: Neil Benfell, Graham Bradbeer, Andrew Bray, Robert Boan, David Brown, Daniel Combridge, Philip Daffy, Alan Every, Marvin Hagans, Martin Hanse, Neil Harvey, David Palmer, James Playfoot, David Schulz, John Sutherland, Peter Swinn, Andrew Venn, Graeme Weber and Wally Zurrer.

Elders: Gilbert Bell, Harold Evans, Tom Fleming, Ian Fraser, Russel Gray, Rob Herweynen, Alec McCrae, Ian McDonald, Bruce Meyer, David Selman, Norm Sharp and Owen Whiting.

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Sustain the apologies.

The motion was seconded and approved.

5. Associations

The Clerk moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Associate Rev David Currie, minister of the Church of Scotland, and assistant minister at The Scots' Church Melbourne.

The motion was seconded and approved.

6. Business Committee

The report of the Business Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Rev Jared Hood, moved the deliverance:

That the Commission of Assembly:

1. Determine the hours of meeting to be 10:30 am to the finish of business, with: lunch 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm, tea break 3:40 pm – 4:00 pm, dinner 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm, as required.
2. Determine the time for speakers to be as follows:

Conveners	15 minutes
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Seconders	10 minutes
Overturists	15 minutes (total time for Overture to be stated)
Appellants and Petitioners	20 minutes (total time for Appeal or Petition to be stated)
All other speakers	5 minutes.

3. Appoint a Ballot Committee for the Commission of Assembly consisting of: Rev Matthew James (Convener), John Dekker, Dean Carroll Elders Bert Stasse, Doug Fraser.
4. Permit Committee Conveners and Chairpersons who are not members of the Assembly to address the Assembly when their respective Committee's report and deliverance is before the Assembly.
5. Approve the Order of Business.

The motion was seconded and approved.

7. Election of Moderator-Designate

The Clerk reported on the procedure for the election of the Moderator Designate. It was agreed to adjourn the business. (min 9)

8. Church and Nation Committee

The report of the Church and Nation Committee was laid on the table and received. The Convener, Rev Darren Middleton moved the deliverance: That the Commission of Assembly:

1. Request the Moderator and Clerk of the Assembly to write to the Prime Minister, leader of the Opposition, leader of the Greens and all Victorian members of the House of Representatives and the Senate expressing the Church's opposition to the law of marriage being changed as per *the Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2010, the Marriage Amendment Bill 2012 and the Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2012*.
2. Request Presbyteries, Sessions and Congregations to pray that the homosexual marriage legislation will fail and to take every opportunity of expressing their concerns to Members of Parliament.
3. Request the Moderator and Clerk of the Assembly to write to the Foreign Minister the Hon Bob Carr MP and the Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs the Hon Julie Bishop MP asking that the Australian Government express its concern over the recent upsurge in the persecution of Christians and requesting that the appropriate authorities do all within their power to protect Christians from persecution and harm.

The motion was seconded and approved.

9. Election of Moderator-Designate (min 7)

It was agreed to resume the business.

It was agreed to receive the Clerk's report.

The Clerk moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

1. Accept the nominations of Rev David Palmer and Rev Dr John Woodward for the office of Moderator-Designate.
2. Proceed to elect the Moderator-Designate.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The ballot was conducted.

The Moderator announced that as a result of the ballot Rev David Palmer had been appointed as Moderator-designate for 2012/13.

Moderator's Chaplain Rev John Rickard led the Commission in prayer.

10. General Mission Program Committee

The report of the General Mission Program Committee was laid on the table and received.

In the absence of the Convener, Elder Norm Sharp, Rev Greg Goswell moved the deliverance:

1. Approve the General Mission Program for the financial year 2012/13 as follows:

	2012/13
	\$
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES:	
Australian Presbyterian World Mission (Vic.)	47,000
State News	5,000
Theological Education (match actual expenditure of Training Officer)	98,485
SUB-TOTAL: ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES	150,485
INTERDENOMINATIONAL ENTERPRISES:	
Australian Christian Lobby	5,990
W Muehlenberg (previously Australian Family Association)	2,470
ACCESS Ministries	24,110
Council for Chaplains in Tertiary Institutions	500
Saltshakers	2,470
Victorian Council of Churches: Displan	540
SUB-TOTAL: INTERDENOMINATIONAL	36,080
OTHER GRANTS:	
Presbyterian Inland Mission	5,000
SUB-TOTAL: OTHER GRANTS	5,000
TOTAL	191,565
LEVY 10%:	
Property Development Fund	19,200
GRAND TOTAL	210,765

2. Approve the following formula for the allocation of the General Mission Program to presbyteries for the year 2012/13 and until further recommendation is brought before the Commission from the GMP committee:

The total GMP to be apportioned according to the number of communicant and adherent members in the respective presbyteries as published in the most recent report to the General Assembly after applying an equalisation factor of 0.6 for presbyteries in country areas to take account of the different situation faced in those areas.

3. Approve the allocation of the total General Mission Program for the financial year 2012/13 as follows:

PRESBYTERY	Percentage of total	2012/13
		\$
Ballarat	4.84%	10,192
Benalla	6.25%	13,172
Flinders	9.16%	19,302
Geelong	4.47%	9,423
Gippsland	4.98%	10,504
Kilnoorat	7.94%	16,730
Maroondah	8.97%	18,909
Melbourne East	20.45%	43,106
Melbourne North	11.31%	23,837
Melbourne West	17.92%	37,778
North Western Victoria	3.71%	7,812
TOTAL	100.00%	210,765

4. Request presbyteries, to allocate the General Mission Program to their several parishes, and instruct them to advise parishes in writing of their respective allocated amounts, and further, to advise the church office of such allocations.
5. Request presbyteries to recognise that the total of the approved General Mission Program, and thus the amount allocated to the presbyteries, is the minimum amount required by the committees of the General Assembly to perform their respective purposes, and therefore encourage parishes to subscribe more to the GMP where their circumstances permit or where special efforts provide additional funds.
6. Request presbyteries to ask parishes to pay their GMP allocations in full early in the financial year 2012/13, or where this is not possible, to pay the amounts by monthly or quarterly instalments.
7. Encourage our ministers and elders to give particular attention in their public ministry, to the biblical teaching on the responsibility of generous giving for the furtherance of the gospel, setting aside a particular Sunday in each congregation for this purpose.
8. Encourage boards of management to accept that the principle of Presbyterianism is one of mutual support and responsibility and not of independence from one another, and therefore when dealing with the matter of their contributions to the GMP, to take into account the importance of supporting the collective effort of our church.

The motion was seconded and approved.

11. Maintenance of the Ministry Committee

The report of the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee was laid on the table and received.

Elder John Angelico moved the deliverance:

That the Commission of Assembly:

1. Request presbyteries to actively follow-up the submission of Annual Parish Report Forms by the due date so that the Committee can do the work the Assembly expects of it.
2. Declare that as from 1 July 2012:
 - a) the minimum remuneration be increased from \$47,136 pa to \$48,552.
 - b) the minimum stipend component of minimum remuneration be \$31,560 pa.
 - c) the maximum non cash benefit component of minimum remuneration be \$16,992 pa.
 - d) the sustentation qualifying stipend be \$21,850 pa, thus making the maximum grant available \$9,720 pa.
 - e) the additional amount for travel over 6000km of the distance agreed between the minister and his parish as his annual distance of travel on church related matters increase to 46c per km.
 - f) the rate of contribution to Superannuation be maintained at 15% of Actual Remuneration for the year commencing 1 July 2012.
 - g) that supply preaching fees for the year commencing 1st July 2012 increase to:
 - \$124 for one service
 - \$144 for two services and
 - \$170 for three services using the same sermon on the same day
 - \$225 for two services or more, with separate sermons;

and that the travel reimbursement for supply preachers be increased to 46c/km.

3. Set the Long Service Leave Levy for the financial year 2012-13 at \$350 per Parish per Minister, with an equivalent levy for Committees and other bodies where ministers are covered by the LSL provisions.
4. Continue the subsidy of up to 25% of Superannuation per parish per annum for a further year (2013-14).

The motion was seconded and approved.

12. Board of Investment and Finance

The report of the Board of Investment and Finance was laid on the table and received.

The Chairman, Rev Andrew Slater, moved the deliverance:

That the Commission of Assembly:

1. Approve a capital grant of \$250,000 to the Church and Nation Committee from General Assembly funds.
2. Approve the Church Planting Committee budget for 2012/13 and 2013/14 as presented.
3. Approve the Committee Budgets for all committees other than the Church Planting Committee for 2012/13 as presented.
4. Ratify the urgent payment of \$5,000 to assist the GAA's Relations with Other Churches Committee in its funding of the World Reformed Fellowship meetings to be held in Sydney in April 2012.
5. Resolve to apply all of the remaining funds held for GAA purposes towards financial support of the initiatives of the Moderator-General's Church Planting Task Force.
6. Authorise the Board of Investment and Finance to consult with the Moderator-General's Church Planting Task Force following the meeting of the PCSA Assembly in May, so as to be ready to provide financial assistance as soon as it can be used and in the most responsible way.
7. Authorise the Board of Investment and Finance to decide how much to offer to the GAA in support of the Moderator-General's Church Planting Taskforce and on what conditions for the first year up to a limit of \$70,000.
8. Request the Board of Investment and Finance to report on the progress of the Church Planting Taskforce to the October 2012 General Assembly with recommendations for on-going allocations from the GAA fund.
9. Approve the allocation of up to \$30,000 in each of the years 2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14 from the Balfour Trust to the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee for the purpose of compensating parishes for increased superannuation payments.

The motion was seconded and approved.

13. Trusts Corporation

The report of the Trusts Corporation was laid on the table and received.

14. Christian Education and Nurture Committee

The report of the Christian Education and Nurture Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Rev Scott Kroeger, moved the deliverance:

That the Commission of Assembly:

1. Appoint the Rev Brian Harvey to the fulltime position of Youth Ministries Director, as per terms of the BIF standard contract as from 1 May 2012.

2. Thank Mr Brad Haughey for his service to our denomination in his role as the PYV Operations Manager and pray God's every blessing upon him in his future endeavours.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The Moderator thanked Mr Brad Haughey for his services to the PCV.

Moderator's Chaplain, Rev Mark Smith, led the Assembly in prayer.

The Moderator informed Rev Brian Harvey of the Commission's decision.

Moderator's Chaplain, Rev Mark Smith, led the Commission in prayer.

15. Commission to confirm minutes

The Clerk moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Appoint the Moderator and the Clerks of Assembly a Special Commission to scrutinise the minutes of this Commission with the power to make any necessary corrections and to confirm them, and that a copy thereof be sent to members of the Assembly.

The motion was seconded and approved.

16. Ballot Committee discharged

The Clerk moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Thank and discharge the Ballot Committee.

The motion was seconded and approved.

17. Dissolution

The business of the Commission of Assembly now being concluded, after the singing of a hymn the Moderator closed the meeting with the benediction.

CLERKS
J P Wilson
P W Phillips

Certificate

I certify that the minutes of this Commission, having been carefully scrutinised, are hereby confirmed in terms of minute 15 thereof.

Rt Rev Dr Robert L Carner
Moderator

REPORTS

BUSINESS COMMITTEE (Min. 6)

The Business Committee has met to receive and review all papers proposed to be submitted to the Commission of Assembly and is satisfied that they are duly attested, drawn up and in proper form and competent.

Outline of business

The Committee will present a proposed agenda at the start of the Commission. As a guide, the Committee will seek to arrange business according to the following outline.

- Devotions and Constitution
- Roll
- Apologies
- Associations
- Business Committee, p1
- Election of Moderator-Designate, p3
- Church and Nation Committee, p50
- General Mission Program Committee, p52
- Maintenance of the Ministry Committee, p56
- Board of Investment and Finance, p4
- Trusts Corporation, p60
- Commission to confirm minutes
- Ballot Committee discharged
- Dissolution

Jared C Hood
CONVENER

NOMINATION FOR MODERATOR-DESIGNATE (Min. 7)

The following names were put forward by presbyteries as nominations for Moderator-Designate:

Rev David Palmer – Presbyteries of Flinders, Geelong and North Melbourne

Rev Dr John Woodward – Presbytery of Ballarat

John P Wilson
CLERK OF ASSEMBLY

BOARD OF INVESTMENT AND FINANCE (Min. 12)

Committee Budgets

In accordance with the Board of Investment and Finance Regulations the Board presents the Committee Budgets for approval. These were reviewed by the Board prior to being submitted to the GMP Committee for its consideration in cases where GMP was requested.

The process of budget preparation and review is now well established and the Board particularly appreciates the key role played by Mr Michael Ellison, General Manager, in guiding and directing the process and liaising with committee representatives. We again commend the committees for the manner in which they have prepared the budgets under tight time constraints and for their co-operation in working to bring these recommendations to the Commission of Assembly.

A number of committee budgets have been presented with deficits which in some cases are substantial. There are often good reasons for this. Each budget is considered on a case by case basis to determine whether this is reasonable taking account of all the circumstances

There are some matters in particular that the Commission should be aware of in considering the committee budgets.

Church and Nation

The General Assembly in October 2010 approved a grant to the Church and Nation Committee to cover the cost of research officer for 2 days a week for 12 months from October 2011 (GAV Min 28.3 BB p131). At the same time the funding and capital needs of the committee were to be reviewed.

The Church and Nation Committee is very pleased with the work of the Research officer and has indicated its strong desire to have this position funded on a more permanent basis. After consultation with the Committee, the Board of Investment and Finance is recommending a capital grant from General Assembly funds of \$250,000 to the Church and Nation Committee. Based on the current interest rates paid by the Common Fund this will generate an additional \$30,000 income for the Committee each year which covers the present cost of this part time position.

Church Planting

The Church Planting Committee has requested the Board of Investment and Finance to work with it towards moving to a calendar year for budget monitoring. The Board has attempted to accommodate this request and is currently working with the committee to further its implementation. As a consequence the presentation format for this budget is different to the other committees. The Committee has presented a multiyear budget which reflects its current plan for its work over a number of years.

The Board believes this presentation is more representative of the special nature of the work undertaken by this Committee and is supportive of the alternative timeframe which gives a much better understanding of what the Committee is proposing over the next 5 years or so. The presentation shows that the current funding model is able to support a further three church plants in addition to the one at Valley Presbyterian over the next 5 years.

In order to accommodate the request of the Committee to conduct its affairs on a calendar basis, the Board is recommending that the Commission approve the budget for 2013/14 as well as 2012/13.

Maintenance of the Ministry Committee

The level of sustentation grants has risen over recent years. This combined with the lower distribution rates from the Common Fund is resulting in annual deficits of \$40,000 to \$60,000. While this is manageable in the short term it is not sustainable indefinitely. The implications of a reduction in sustentation may be significant.

Theological Education Committee

The budget has been prepared on the basis that student enrolments are maintained at the current level for the budget period. This follows an increase in 2011 of approximately four additional Equivalent Full Time students which has been maintained. Based on this more conservative expectation the general budget is projecting a deficit for 2012/13 of just over \$50,000 reducing in the following years. Student enrolment numbers are a key factor in the overall funding of the college. While the estimate is conservative 'the possibility of increased enrolments remains' which would have immediate impact on reducing any deficit.

Excess interest which had accumulated in the Fernside Trust and Library Trust was fully expended a few years ago. While both trusts continue to generate income on the capital sums, it is insufficient to meet the full expenses, so the shortfall is being covered from the general fund. The amount being funded in this way is slightly more than the deficit in the general fund.

The bursary expense is similarly more than the income in that trust with the deficit being funded from accumulated interest. If this continues, the general fund may similarly need to fund any shortfall in the future.

Clearly the funding of the college remains a challenge. The Board of Investment and Finance and Theological Education Committee are continuing to monitor this situation closely.

Budget Presentation

Regarding the overall presentation of the budgets, committees have provided a revised projection of income and expenditure for the current year. This updated information provides a more accurate financial picture based on the currently available information but the original budget for 2011/12 remains as the only approved budget. Committees are reminded therefore that where they wish to spend funds which are not in the 2010/11 budget as originally approved, they should seek approval under the provisions of BIF regulation 5(g)(ii).

It will be noted that in the columns on the far right of each page, projections are included for two further years beyond 2012/13. This has been done to assist in assessing the ongoing viability of various programs from a financial perspective and gives an indication of the sustainability of current expenditure proposals. However, it is only the columns headed '2012/2013 Proposed' that are being submitted for approval by the Commission at this time, except in the case of the Church and Nation Committee where the column headed '2013/2014 Proposed' is also being approved.

Additional Expenditure

Since the 2011/12 budgets were approved by the Commission of Assembly, the Board has approved the following amendments to committee budgets in accordance with BIF regulation 5(g)(ii):

BIF Minute	Committee	Amount \$	Purpose
143/11	HCCC	* 83,000	Hughes Trust – full time position in paediatric chaplaincy.
195/11	TEC	5,000	Study leave travel and conference expenses
302/11	TEC	28,328	Transitional arrangements for the new principal
302/11	TEC	2,400	Long Service Leave payment
309/11	METRO	* 2,600	Advertising
	Church		
345/11	Planting	5,200	Travel and conference fees
346/11	METRO	19,000	Trainee grants
447/11	PYV	800	Video recorder

* Funding was offset by a reduction in other expenses

GAA Funds

Background

This matter originates from a resolution of the 2004 Assembly to 'approve the grant of \$25,000 per annum for five years to help build up the capital available to the GAA, this amount with interest to be retained in the PCV accounts until the expiry of that period' (Min 49.4 2004 BB p48).

In May 2010, the Commission of Assembly resolved to 'Give effect to 2004 GAV minute 49.4 by retaining the accumulated balance of special funds held for the GAA, forwarding the interest annually to the GAA and this year particularly, applying the interest to the support of the National Journal Committee' (Min. 9.2 2010 BB p9). The amount sent was \$32,366.

In October 2011, the Assembly decided '..not to distribute funds held for GAA purposes at this time ..'(Min 91.3 2011 BB p139) but to 'request the BIF to bring a recommendation for (their) distribution to the 2012 Commission of Assembly' (Min. 91.4 2011 BB p139).

Apart from the 2010 payment in support of the National Journal committee, the only other payment has been \$5,000 to assist the Relations with Other Churches Committee of the GAA with funding for the World Reformed Fellowship meetings to be held in Sydney in April. The BIF made this payment at the request of the Committee's current Convener, Rev John Wilson, together with Very Rev Allan Harman, and seeks ratification as part of the present deliverance.

Thanks to the continued strong rate of distributions from the Common Fund, the accumulated balance of funds held for the GAA will be approximately \$260,000 by the end of April.

Assessment

In the process of assessing how best to deploy these funds, the BIF took account of many factors, including the following -

1. At present there appears to be no pressing need to build up the capital available to the GAA - but see items 4 to 7 below.
2. As a result of the morphing of 'Australian Presbyterian' into 'AP', the necessary funding assistance by the State churches through the GAA for the National Journal Committee is now at a manageable level.
3. Subsequent to the Victorian Assembly's request to the BIF in October 2011 to consider the financial needs of the Presbyterian Inland Mission (Min. 91.8 2011 BB p139), receipt of a large bequest has considerably eased PIM's financial situation.
4. The GAA has recognised the great financial need of the smaller states, through appeals for assistance by the 2007 and 2010 Assemblies and authorising the Moderator-General to establish an appeal to assist church planting in Western Australia. Some assistance has gone to WA from that appeal and the PCV had earlier sent \$10,000 (in 2004) to assist the Balga congregation.
5. An initiative of Rt Rev David Jones, soon after becoming Moderator General in 2010, was to form an ad hoc group styled the 'Moderator-General's Church Planting Task Force' to foment a church-planting movement within the church and to focus on South Australia and Western Australia initially. Members of this Task Force are the Moderator General, Rev Bruce Meller (Superintendent, Ministry and Mission, NSW) and Rev Peter Barson (Qld).
6. That Task Force has been invited to assist the South Australian church and Revs Jones and Meller have spent time in South Australia surveying the situation, speaking about church planting and church re-vitalisation and engaging in discussion with assembly representatives. The SA Assembly meets at the end of May and the Moderator General's Task Force awaits the outcome of certain reports and recommendations to be considered then.
7. The GAA Finance committee has allocated some funds in support of what the Task Force is hoping to achieve in South Australia but the amount is likely to be sufficient only for partial on-going support of a single work.
8. The funds set aside by the PCV for GAA purposes are accruing interest in the Common Fund at a far higher rate than available to the GAA trustees.

Recommendation

After careful consideration, the BIF recommends that the Assembly continue to hold the funds set aside for GAA purposes but follow the lead given by the Moderator General and thereby earmark these funds for support of initiatives generated by the Moderator General's Church Planting Task Force. In practice, this would most likely result in support of church planting in South Australia but, if initiatives in that State did not begin or progress, Western Australia would potentially benefit by the proposed deliverance no.5.

While it is not known yet exactly what strategy will be adopted for South Australia and what personnel might be available, the BIF further recommends that reliance be placed on the advice of the Moderator General's Church Planting Task Force in regard to this matter and that the BIF be given sufficient flexibility to respond promptly on behalf of the Assembly in the shorter term, as and when required. Deliverances numbered 6 to 8 have been framed accordingly.

D Andrew Slater
CHAIRMAN

BOARD OF INVESTMENT AND FINANCE SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Maintenance of the Ministry Superannuation subsidy

The report of the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee to this Commission includes a deliverance:

4. Continue the subsidy of up to 25% of Superannuation per parish per annum for a further year (2013-2014).

This was not reflected in the budget which was submitted to the BIF for consideration. However the figures for 2013/14 are indicative and not being approved by this commission.

The superannuation subsidy has been funded from the Balfour Trust as approved by the Commission of Assembly in May 2009, as follows:

16. Board of Investment and Finance (min. 10)

...

2. Approve the allocation of up to \$30,000 in each of the years 2009/10 and 2010/11 from the Balfour Trust to the Maintenance of the Ministry committee for the purpose of compensating parishes for increased superannuation payments.

This approval expired in June 2011.

In its earlier report the BIF drew the attention of the Commission to the proposed deficit in the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee's budget both for the 2012/13 year and future years. The BIF considers that if the Commission is to approve the extension of the superannuation subsidy then additional funding should be found to support this. Apparently a previous extension of the subsidy was not matched with an extension of the funding from the Balfour Trust. The BIF is seeking to address this as well as the further extension which is now proposed. The Balfour Trust has sufficient funds available to fund the subsidy for the period up to and including the 2013/14 year and still remain in surplus.

The BIF is therefore recommending that the superannuation subsidy continue to be funded from the Balfour Trust up to \$30,000 per annum until June 2014.

D Andrew Slater
CHAIRMAN

**General Assembly
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13**

8

**Budget
for
Approval**

Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12% 12% 12% 12%

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
Income								
1080	General Mission Programme	195,375	209,042	164,463	207,000	210,765	250,000	250,000
1160	Donations & Gifts	5,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
1359	Interest Common Fund General	489,637	496,000	325,238	490,000	485,000	483,000	485,000
1359	Interest Transfer ex Fraser Trust	36,955	27,700	2,590	15,176	29,800	32,200	33,600
1501	Management Fees	132,132	138,847	96,265	144,398	143,012	147,302	151,721
1601	Rental Trusts Corporation	422						
1640	Scots Church Property Trust	63,044	60,000	51,700	71,700	75,000	75,000	75,000
1650	Sundry Income	364		12				
1652	Archival Fees	813	1,000	561	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1990	Profit/(Loss) on sale of Asset	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Income		923,741	932,589	640,829	929,274	944,577	988,502	996,321
Expenditure								
1. Personnel Related Expenses								
2810	Salaries & Wages	289,823	305,629	212,609	314,552	330,823	341,648	352,797
2640	Non Cash Benefits	10,498	10,756	6,875	10,313	10,622	10,941	11,269
2245	Fringe Benefits (Employee)	15,512	15,670	10,700	16,050	16,050	16,050	16,050
2550	Long Service Leave	767	5,879	4,686	7,029	7,240	7,457	7,681
2870	Superannuation	30,234	32,488	22,366	33,915	35,009	35,649	36,809
2830	Staff Amenities	1,020	900	770	900	900	1,000	1,000
2220	Education & Training	822	1,000	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2250	Fringe Benefits Tax	6,804	7,550	4,836	7,550	7,550	7,550	7,550
2541	Manse Energy - Clerk	1,389	1,500	1,439	1,500	2,000	2,000	2,000
2140	Consultancy	-	-	800	800	-	-	-
2793	Housing Allowance	11,700	11,700	9,750	19,500	23,400	23,400	23,400
2930	Temporary Staff	750	3,000	277	3,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2950	WorkCover Levy	4,103	4,258	3,714	3,714	3,826	3,941	4,059
2955	Disability Insurance	1,164	1,200	794	794	794	794	873
2920	Travelling Expenses	707	1,000	223	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total Personnel Related Expenses		375,293	402,530	279,840	421,617	441,213	453,429	466,487

**General Assembly
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13**

8

Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12% 12% 12% 12%

**Budget
for
Approval**
12%

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
2. Office Related Expenses								
2010	Accounting & Audit Fees	21,619	22,000	13,586	22,000	23,100	24,255	25,468
2030	Advertising Magazines	255		0				
2130	Computer & Software Costs	1,706	2,000	762	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2180	Depreciation - Furniture & Equipment	2,225	2,000	1,440	2,000	2,200	2,200	2,200
2280	General Expenses	-	500	-	500	500	500	500
2399	Insurance Public Liability, PI etc	2,675	2,800	3,239	3,239	3,500	3,850	4,235
2700	Postage Printing & Stationery	8,191	10,000	4,980	7,500	10,000	11,000	11,000
2760	Maintenance Office Equipment	-	200	75	200	200	200	200
2850	Subscriptions	110	-	-	-	-	-	-
2910	Telephone & Fax	9,761	10,500	6,257	10,500	11,000	11,500	11,500
Total Office Related Expenses		46,544	50,000	30,340	47,939	52,500	55,505	57,103
3. Grants								
2290	Grants o/s PCOV - AP, PIM, Kilmore	10,610	-	10,000	12,000	25,000	-	-
2291	Grants paid PCOV Committees	11,303	40,000	-	-			
2292	Grants PWMU	9,935	10,000	6,855	10,000	10,500	10,815	11,139
2294	Grants - Research Assistant		21,975	5,182	21,975	0	-	-
2310&2311	General Mission Programme Distribution	195,375	209,042	164,463	207,000	210,765	250,000	250,000
Total Grants		227,223	281,017	186,500	250,975	246,265	260,815	261,139
4. Property Related Expenses								
2120	Cleaning & Rubbish Removal	-	2,500	230	500	1,000	1,000	1,000
2391	Insurance Fire & General	153	200	170	170	200	220	240
2540	Light Power & Heating	2,210	2,500	1,119	2,500	2,600	2,700	2,700
2710	Property Maintenance	441	1,000	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total Property Related Expenses		2,805	6,200	1,518	4,170	4,800	4,920	4,940

**General Assembly
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13**

8

**Budget
for
Approval**

Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12% 12% 12% 12%

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
ARCHIVES								
Income								
1652	Archival Fees ex Private Researchers	665	1,000	561	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total Archival Income		665	1,000	561	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Expenses								
2132	Computer & Software Costs	175	250	-	250	250	250	250
2222	Education & Training	175	200	-	200	200	200	200
2282	General Expenses	271	300	292	300	300	300	300
2552	Long Service Leave			5,688	8,532	1,000	1,000	1,000
2702	Printing & Stationery	616	400	541	400	200	200	200
2703	Archival Boxes & Wallets	58	200	-	200	500	500	500
2704	Retrieval	2,402	2,250	1,730	2,250	2,100	2,100	2,100
2752	Rent	5,000	5,000	3,333	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
2812	Salaries	30,735	27,983	21,679	28,200	29,046	29,917	30,815
2835	Storage	8,688	7,000	5,211	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
2706	Digitisation of Blue Books	-	-	-	-	3,000	-	-
2852	Subscriptions & Reference Books	102	100	-	100	100	100	100
2872	Superannuation	3,070	2,798	2,168	2,820	2,905	2,992	3,081
2912	Telephone & Fax	1,426	850	752	850	850	850	850
2922	Travelling Expenses	62	50	100	50	50	50	50
2952	WorkCover Levy	307	308	278	278	320	329	339
Total Archive Related Expenses		53,085	47,689	41,772	56,430	52,820	50,788	51,785
Surplus/(Deficit) on Archival Operations		(52,420)	(46,689)	(41,211)	(55,430)	(51,820)	(49,788)	(50,785)

**General Assembly
Specific Trusts
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13**

						Budget for Approval		
						12%	12%	12%
Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
Deakin (Moderators) Trust								
Receipts								
1351	Interest Common Fund Specific	23,961	23,900	15,867	23,900	23,600	23,600	23,600
Payments								
2590	Moderators Expenses	26,126	24,000	11,864	24,000	23,900	23,600	23,600
Total Expenditure		26,126	24,000	11,864	24,000	23,900	23,600	23,600
Surplus		(2,165)	(100)	4,003	(100)	(300)	0	0
Balance of Specific Funds		196,745	196,645	200,748	196,645	196,345	196,345	196,345
Fraser Trust								
Receipts								
1353	Interest Common Fund Specific	90,553	91,700	60,852	92,800	94,800	97,200	99,600
Payments								
2791	Rent Paid Missionaries on Home Assignment	31,553	45,000	16,207	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
2400	Interest transfer to General	36,955	27,700	2,590	15,176	29,800	32,200	33,600
2870	Superannuation Missionaries	13,440	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure		81,948	72,700	18,798	60,176	74,800	77,200	78,600
Surplus (Indexation of Capital)		8,605	19,000	42,055	32,624	20,000	20,000	21,000
Balance of Funds		757,376	776,376	799,431	790,000	810,000	830,000	851,000
						2.0%	2.5%	2.5%
Insurance								
Receipts								
1354	Interest Common Fund Specific	23,080	26,600	15,288	23,400	24,300	24,400	24,400
Payments								
2385	Insurance Claims & Risk Management	18,630	2,000	5,000	23,630	24,000	24,000	24,000
Surplus		4,450	24,600	10,288	(230)	300	400	400
Balance of Funds		192,791	217,391	203,079	202,849	203,149	203,549	203,949

**General Assembly
Specific Trusts
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13**

						Budget for Approval		
						12%	12%	12%
Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
Capital Fund Reserve								
Receipts								
1340	Interest on Loans to Congregations @ 5.5%	137,622	195,229	91,270	168,550	233,750	247,500	247,500
1355	Interest Common Fund Specific	167,949	171,000	115,051	175,000	187,000	197,000	207,000
1440	Other Investment Income	5,197	0	3,015	6,030	6,000	6,000	6,000
Total Income		310,768	366,229	209,336	349,579	426,750	450,500	460,500
Payments								
2401	Interest on Loans from TC @ 8%	237,985	283,970	160,839	299,644	340,000	360,000	360,000
2402	Interest paid to Depositors	2,127	2,300	1,189	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,300
Total Expenditure		240,112	286,270	162,028	301,944	342,300	362,300	362,300
Surplus		70,655	79,959	47,308	47,636	84,450	88,200	98,200
Balance of Funds		1,439,681	1,519,640	1,507,927	1,555,563	1,640,013	1,728,213	1,826,413
	Deposits from Congregations, PWMU etc	118,710	120,000	119,383	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000
	Loans	3,097,187	4,000,000	2,940,247	4,000,000	4,500,000	4,500,000	4,500,000
	Break Even Loan Balance		6,843,251			7,466,700	7,872,060	8,295,420
Other Specific Trusts - GAA, Overseas Visitors								
Receipts								
1163	Donations - Pres-Aid	108,351	0	5,293	5,293	0	0	0
1164	Presaid Donations Christmas	69,118	0	45,153	45,153	0	0	0
1166	Donations - Bushfire Appeal	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
1350	Interest - Overseas Visitors	97,924	12,900	6,316	12,632	12,800	13,100	13,500
1241	Grants from GA		0	0	0	0	0	0
1350	Interest - GAA		26,300	23,749	35,624	29,400	29,400	29,400
Total Income		275,403	39,200	80,511	98,702	42,200	42,500	42,900
Payments								
2291	Grants Paid - Overseas Visitors Fund	9,968	10,000	0	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
2290	Grants Paid - GAA	1,602	26,300	5,000	35,624	29,400	29,400	29,400
2294	Grants - Pres-Aid	179,946	0	28,419	50,446	0	0	0
Total Expenditure		191,516	36,300	33,419	96,070	39,400	39,400	39,400
Surplus / (Deficit)		83,887	2,900	47,092	2,632	2,800	3,100	3,500
Balance of Funds - O/S Visitors		103,711		110,027	106,343	109,143	112,243	115,743
Balance of Funds - GAA		245,246		255,181	245,246	245,246	245,246	245,246
Balance of Funds - Pres-AID Funds		50,879		43,341				
Balance of Funds - Accrued Interest				7,500				
Surplus/(Deficit) Specific Trusts		165,431	126,359	150,747	82,562	107,250	111,700	123,100
TOTAL	Balance of Specific Funds	2,986,429	2,710,052	3,119,734	3,096,646	3,203,896	3,315,596	3,438,696

**Australian Presbyterian World Missions Vic
Specific Trusts
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13**

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						Budget for Approval		
						12.0%	12.0%	12.0%
						Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12.0%		
Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
Aboriginal Trusts								
Income								
1351	Interest Common Fund Specific	2,758	1,500	1,072	1,450	431	0	0
Expenditure								
2291	Grants	15,000	10,000	5,000	10,000	7,100	0	0
Surplus/(Deficit)		(12,242)	(8,500)	(3,928)	(8,550)	(6,669)	0	0
Specific Funds		15,219	6,719	11,291	6,669	0	0	0
Vanuatu Trusts								
Income								
1352	Interest Common Fund Specific	21,822	21,800	14,259	21,500	21,300	21,200	21,100
Expenditure								
2292	Grants	26,000	22,000	11,000	22,000	22,000	22,000	22,000
Surplus/(Deficit)		(4,178)	(200)	3,259	(500)	(700)	(800)	(900)
Specific Funds		136,288	136,088	139,547	135,788	135,088	134,288	133,388
Perpetual Funds		41,451	41,451	41,451	41,451	41,451	41,451	41,451
Beatty Trust								
Income								
1353	Interest Common Fund Specific	15,917	15,900	10,555	16,000	15,900	15,900	15,900
Total Income		15,917	15,900	10,555	16,000	15,900	15,900	15,900
Expenditure								
2293	Grants - APWM National Office	16,000	16,000	8,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000
Total Expenditure		16,000	16,000	8,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000
Surplus/(Deficit)		(83)	(100)	2,555	0	(100)	(100)	(100)
Specific Funds		132,590	132,490	135,145	132,590	132,490	132,390	132,290

**Christian Education & Nurture
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13**

**Budget
for
Approval
12%**

Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12% 12%

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	
Income								
1359	Interest Common Fund General	79,577	80,600	53,679	81,000	83,600	87,200	
1600	Rentals Received	4,576	4,992	3,744	4,992	4,992	4,992	
1660	Training Day Income / PYV Contributio	1,339	2,000	0	2,000	2,200	2,200	
Total Income		85,492	87,592	57,423	87,992	90,792	94,392	
Expenditure								
Seminars								
2583	Fuelled	4,111	2,800	30	2,800	4,200	4,200	
Total Seminar Expenses		4,111	2,800	30	2,800	4,200	4,200	
Committee								
2920	Travelling Expenses	2,207	2,500	2,531	4,000	3,500	3,500	
Total Committee Expenses		2,207	2,500	2,531	4,000	3,500	3,500	
Office								
2180	Depreciation	1,874	1,860	1,189	1,780	1,589	90	
2700	Postage Printing & Stationery	154	200	0	200	250	250	
CEC Office								
2701	Stationery, Office Supplies	0	200	0	0	0	0	
2751	Office Rental	200	1,000	0	0	0	0	
2921	Travelling Expenses	0	500	0	0	0	0	
Total Office Expenses		2,228	3,760	1,189	1,980	1,839	340	

**Christian Education & Nurture
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13**

Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12%

**Budget
for
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12%

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	
	Staff							
2294	PYV Operations Manager /Admin	20,390	31,200	20,800	31,200	0	6,000	
2295	PYV Youth Worker Subsidy					43,550	44,857	
2550	Long Service Leave Levy	0	232	150	150	0	0	
2640	NCB	4,044	8,331	4,125	4,125	0	0	
2790	Rent assistance	5,000	10,000	5,000	5,000	0	0	
2813	Stipend - CEC	7,509	15,469	7,659	7,659	0	0	
2870	Superannuation	1,617	3,570	1,768	1,768	0	0	
2950	Workcover Levy	0	338	263	263	436	0	
2955	Disability Insurance	582	650	397	397	0	0	
Total Staff Expenses		39,142	69,789	40,161	50,562	43,986	50,857	
	Miscellaneous							
2133	Website	505	600	270	600	600	600	
2280	General Expenses	1,132	500	0	500	600	600	
2292	PYV Camp Fees	9,400	7,540	6,688	7,540	8,000	8,250	
	PYV Subsidy	18,000	0	0	0	0	0	
2392	Insurances Professional Indemnity	300	300	330	330	330	330	
Total Miscellaneous Expenses		29,337	8,940	7,288	8,970	9,530	9,780	
Total Expenses		77,025	87,789	51,199	68,312	63,055	68,677	
Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations		8,466	(197)	6,224	19,680	27,738	25,716	
Balance of Funds at end of year								
	General	407,264	408,927	414,677	428,724	458,051	483,856	
	Peptual	268,250	268,250	268,250	268,250	268,250	268,250	
TOTAL		675,514	677,177	682,927	696,974	726,301	752,106	

**Christian Education & Nurture
Specific Trusts - Allan Trust
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13**

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**Budget
for
Approval**

Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12% 12% 12%

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
Income								
1060	Sales - See For Yourself	2,757	500	1,951	500	500	500	500
1351	Interest Common Fund Specific	56,297	57,200	39,272	60,100	62,400	65,100	67,900
Total Income		59,054	57,700	41,222	60,600	62,900	65,600	68,400
Expenditure								
2030	Advertising & promotion	1,492	0	0	0	0	0	0
2031	SFY electronic marketing	583	0	528	589	0	0	0
2071	Bursaries & Prizes	1,545	2,800	1,605	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,800
2281	General Expenses	107	0	482	600	0	0	0
2293	Contribution to Youth Worker	0	33,000	0	18,492	38,000	39,520	41,101
2295	PYV Operations Manager	9,315	0	0	0	0	0	0
2781	Production	5,375	0	0	0	0	0	0
2782	Design	15,050	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses		33,467	35,800	2,615	22,481	40,800	42,320	43,901
Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations		25,587	21,900	38,607	38,119	22,100	23,280	24,499
Balance of Funds at end of year								
General		454,397	476,297	493,004	492,516	514,616	537,896	562,395
Peptual		27,852	27,852	27,852	27,852	27,852	27,852	27,852
TOTAL		482,249	504,149	520,856	520,368	542,468	565,748	590,247

**Presbyterian Youth in Victoria
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13**

Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12%

**Budget
for
Approval
12%**

12%

12%

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/20112 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
EighteenThirty Camp (~Mar 2012)								
1032	Income		14,100	0	14,100		0	0
2735	Expenses		14,075	0	14,075		0	0
	Surplus/(Deficit) on EighteenThirty Cam	0	25	0	25	0	0	0
West State Camp (~Apr 2013)								
1033	Income		5,891	314	5,891	6,472	6,666	6,866
2736	Expenses		5,795	0	5,795	6,182	6,368	6,559
	Surplus/(Deficit) on West State Camp	0	96	314	96	290	298	307
East State Camp (~Oct 2012)								
1034	Income		10,254	0	10,254	11,049	11,381	11,722
2737	Expenses		9,675	455	9,675	11,068	11,400	11,742
	Surplus/(Deficit) on East State Camp	0	579	(455)	579	(18)	(19)	(19)
Volleyball (~Apr 2013)								
1020	Income	2,452	2,100	0	2,100	2,500	2,575	2,652
2720	Expenses	1,745	2,100	134	2,100	2,000	2,060	2,122
	Surplus/(Deficit) on Volleyball	707	0	(134)	0	500	515	530
North State Camp (~Sep 2012)								
	Income		0		0	11,049	6,180	6,365
	Expenses		0		0	10,853	6,180	6,365
	Surplus/(Deficit) on West State Camp	0	0	0	0	197	0	0
Bookstall & Tuckshop								
1021	Income	0	0	837	0	0	0	0
2724	Expenses	0	0	572	0	0	0	0
	Surplus/(Deficit) on Merchandising	0	0	265	0	0	0	0
Merchandising								
1022	Income	1,145	800	589	800	500	800	800
2722	Expenses	3,493	1,500	0	0	730	1,500	1,500
	Surplus/(Deficit) on Merchandising	(2,348)	(700)	589	800	(230)	(700)	(700)
Internship								
1062	Income	1,510	2,400	1,855	2,400	2,500	0	0
2733	Expenses	2,087	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Surplus/(Deficit) on Internship	(577)	2,400	1,855	2,400	2,500	0	0
Net Surplus/(Deficit) on all Events		(22,212)	(8,711)	(5,351)	(3,287)	(7,261)	(5,570)	(5,717)
Income								

**Presbyterian Youth in Victoria
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13**

Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12% 12% 12%

**Budget
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Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/20112 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
1169	Donations Miscellaneous	2,937	0	5,760	5,760		0	0
1170	Donations to Subsidise Campers	1,342	1,500	834	834	1,500	1,545	1,591
1180	PYV Mission Trip	0	0	0	0		0	0
1060	Equipment Hire	1,299	500	1,074	1,056	1,000	1,030	1,061
1061	Bus Hire	170	500		0		0	0
1063	Surge Training Income	180		0				
1241	CENC Funding - Youth Worker	20,000	0	0	0	43,550	44,857	46,202
1245	CENC Funding	29,705	31,200	20,800	31,200	0	6,000	7,000
1248	Allan Trust Funding - Youth Worker	0	33,000	0	18,492	38,000	39,520	41,101
1359	Interest Common Fund	47,414	47,400	32,593	48,900	49,400	48,700	48,900
1990	Profit / (loss) on sale of Assets	0		(600)	(600)			
Total Income (excl Camps & Events)		103,045	114,100	60,460	105,642	133,450	141,652	145,855
General Expenses								
2150	Council expenses	320	100	585	585	500	515	530
2060	Bank Charges & Debits Tax	478	100	702	800	103	106	109
2130	Computer / Website / Software	2,000	2,000	1,970	2,000	2,300	2,369	2,440
2180	Depreciation	3,151	2,300	1,090	1,568	1,357	515	89
2220	Leader Training	7	0	0	0	1,920	1,978	2,037
2275	First Aid	977	1,000	425	1,000	750	773	796
2278	General Printing & Publicity	2,147	2,300	352	2,300	3,100	3,193	3,289
2279	Music Expenses	604	700	553	700	1,000	1,030	1,061
2280	General Expenses	2,003	500	0	100	200	206	212
2281	PA Equipment Storage	126	0	0	0	0	0	0
2290	Donation - Outside camps	500	0	0	0	0	0	0
2392	Insurances	2,000	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,420	2,541	2,668
2600	Motor Vehicle Expenses - Van	2,737	3,000	960	960	0	0	0
2721	AGM Expenditure (~Dec)	101	200	0	0	100	103	106
2738	Camper Subsidy (linked to 1170)		1,500	0	834	1,500	1,545	1,591
2769	Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	556	1,000	544	1,000	1,200	1,236	1,273
2929	Travelling Expenses	272	0	0	0		0	0
Total General Expenses		17,979	16,900	9,380	14,047	16,450	16,109	16,202
Office								
2910	Telephone	1,395	700	395	700	576	593	611
2911	Internet access/usage	486	800	436	800	719	741	763
2750	Rate & Taxes - Office	173	0	0	0		0	0

**Presbyterian Youth in Victoria
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13**

Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12% 12% 12%

**Budget
for
Approval
12%**

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/20112 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
Summary								
	Camp Fees & Events	103,417	156,432	123,143	161,071	117,468	118,651	122,186
	Income	103,045	114,100	60,460	105,642	133,450	141,652	145,855
	Total Income	206,462	270,532	183,603	266,712	250,918	260,302	268,042
	Camp & Event Costs	125,629	165,143	128,494	164,358	124,729	124,221	127,903
	Other Costs	72,802	109,863	51,698	93,253	132,185	134,692	137,719
	Total Expenses	198,431	275,006	180,191	257,611	256,913	258,913	265,621
	Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	8,031	(4,474)	3,411	9,101	(5,996)	1,389	2,420

Capital Items								
	Camp Deposits		0	(150)	150	0	0	
	Motor Vehicles (sold)		0	(4,258)	(4,258)	0	0	
	Prepaid Camp Income		0	26,152	26,152	0	0	
	Video Equipment		0		800	0	0	
	Sound Equipment		0		0	1,000	0	
	Trailer Tyres & wheels		0		0	500	0	
	Enter Details Here		0		0	0	0	
	Enter Details Here		0		0	0	0	
	Enter Details Here		0		0	0	0	
	Total Capital Expenditure			21,744	22,844	1,500	0	0

**Church & Nation Committee
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13**

						Budget for Approval		
						12%	12%	12%
Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12%						12%	12%	12%
Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
Income								
1030	Colloquium Registration Fees	6,372	0	0	0	15,000	0	0
1080	General Mission Programme	4,281	0	0	0	5,000	0	0
1240	Overseas Speaker Travel Grant	5,739	0	0	0	7,500	0	0
		16,392	0	0	0	27,500	0	0
1068	Sales Booklets	322	300	0	300	300	300	300
1241	Grant from General Assembly		21,975	5,182	21,975	0	0	0
1359	Interest Common Fund	10,118	10,800	7,086	10,800	41,000	41,600	42,200
Total Income		26,832	33,075	12,268	33,075	68,800	41,900	42,500
General Expenditure								
2130	Computer & Software Costs	800	1,100	0	1,100	1,150	1,150	1,150
2140	Consultancy	1,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
2180	Depreciation			11	60	69	69	69
2289	General Expenses	775	1,000	800	1,000	1,200	1,400	1,400
2392	Insurance Professional Indemnity	300	330	330	330	350	350	350
2580	Conferences	0	750	1,273	750	800	850	850
2709	Postage Printing & Stationery	364	400	61	400	450	500	500
2748	Publications Cost		500	0	500	600	650	650
2810	Research assistant wages		18,445	4,672	18,445	21,450	22,094	22,756
2870	Research assistant superannuation		1,845	467	1,845	2,145	2,209	2,276
2850	Journal Subscriptions (& Books)	343	550	72	550	600	650	650
2851	Books	1,143	1,110	318	1,110	1,200	1,200	1,200
2910	Telephone & Fax	574	700	340	700	750	800	800
2911	Research ast - internet, phone, cons		1,500	43	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
2920	Travelling Expenses	434	2,000	842	2,000	2,500	2,750	2,750
2950	Insurance W/Cover Premiums	0	185	185	185	193	199	205
Total General Expenditure		5,731	30,415	9,413	30,475	34,957	36,371	37,106

**Church & Nation Committee
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13**

						Budget for Approval		
						12%	12%	12%
Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12%						12%	12%	12%
Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
Colloquium								
2030	Colloquium Advertising & Brochures	635	0	0	0	1,000	0	0
2281	Colloquium Miscellaneous	1,669	0	0	0	1,500	0	0
2285	Colloquium Meals	4,637	0	0	0	4,500	0	0
2350	Colloquium Honorariums	5,305	0	0	0	7,500	0	0
2708	Colloquium Printing and Stationary	675	0	0	0	3,500	0	0
2921	Colloquium Travel	3,184	0	0	0	6,500	0	0
2922	Colloquium Accommodation	3,060	0	0	0	4,500	0	0
Total Colloquium Expenditure		19,164	0	0	0	29,000	0	0
Total Committee Expenditure		24,896	30,415	9,413	30,475	63,957	36,371	37,106
Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations		1,936	2,660	2,855	2,600	4,843	5,529	5,394
General Funds		89,322	91,982	91,729	341,523	346,366	351,895	357,290

Capital Items								
	Capital Grant from Assembly				(250,000)	0	0	0
	Office furniture			459	459	0	0	0
	Enter Details Here				0	0	0	0
	Enter Details Here				0	0	0	0
	Enter Details Here				0	0	0	0
	Enter Details Here				0	0	0	0
	Enter Details Here				0	0	0	0
	Enter Details Here				0	0	0	0
	Enter Details Here				0	0	0	0
Total Capital Expenditure				459	(249,541)	0	0	0

**Church Planting Committee
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13 and Calendar 2013**

Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	Budget for Approval	Budget for Approval	2014/2015 Projected	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Projected	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
					2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Proposed					
Income											
Interest Common Fund	80,814	82,700	55,198	82,796	82,400	74,700	54,400	41,400	27,100	22,400	27,700
Rentals Received - Officer	20,184	23,690	15,211	22,817	23,300	23,800	24,300	24,800	25,300	25,800	26,300
Scots Church Distribution	111,345	110,000	123,158	123,158	125,000	125,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Conference Income	360										
Total Income	212,703	216,390	193,567	228,771	230,700	223,500	328,700	316,200	302,400	298,200	304,000
Expenditure											
Committee operations											
Training of committee members	798	2,000		3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Committee sponsored training of others	45	3,000	1,450	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Website expenses				1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
National conference subsidy		3,000	4,670	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Postage & Stationery	38										
Staff Amenities	218	500									
Geneva Push	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Travel reimbursements	513		2,745	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Total Committee Operations	21,612	28,500	28,865	38,000	33,000	33,000	33,000	33,000	33,000	33,000	33,000
Church Planter Evangelist											
Church planter evangelist - Stipend	13,645	30,637	20,424	30,637	31,403	32,188	32,993	33,818	34,663	35,530	18,209
Non-Cash Benefit	8,928	19,500	12,965	19,500	19,988	20,487	20,999	21,524	22,062	22,614	11,590
Superannuation	2,939	7,070	4,714	7,070	7,247	7,428	7,614	7,804	7,999	8,199	4,202
Rental/Manse Allowance	12,598	23,400	15,576	23,400	23,985	24,585	25,199	25,829	26,475	27,137	13,908
Manse Energy Expenses	560	3,000	2,620	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	1,500
LSL Levy		300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
Disability Insurance/Workcover		2,850	1,765	2,850	2,921	2,994	3,069	3,146	3,225	3,305	3,388
Telephone/Fax	584	1,068	802	1,068	1,095	1,122	1,150	1,179	1,208	1,239	635
Removal Expenses	12,481										
Assistant church planter #2 (not allocated)											
Total Church Planters	51,735	87,825	59,166	87,825	89,938	92,104	94,324	96,600	98,932	101,323	53,731
Church plant #1 (VPC- 2011)											
Church planter - role funded above											
Team members (not theologically trained)		19,780	6,875	16,415	29,500	21,000					
Operating grants	16,546	10,000	8,688	10,221	21,000						
Capital grants				7,200	7,500	9,000	4,500				
Total Church Plant #1	16,546	29,780	15,563	33,836	58,000	30,000	4,500				

**Church Planting Committee
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13 and Calendar 2013**

Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	Budget for Approval	Budget for Approval	2014/2015 Projected	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Projected	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
					2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Proposed					
Church Plant #2 (2012?)											
Church planter - 1 Apr start		43,912		21,169	89,938	92,104	87,585	56,000	24,000		
Team members (not theologically trained)				7,500	29,500	21,000					
Operating grants		10,000		7,000	21,000						
Capital grants				5,000	7,500	9,000	4,500				
Total Church Plant #2		53,912		40,669	147,938	122,104	92,085	56,000	24,000		
Church Plant #3 (2013?)											
Church planter - 1 Jan start					43,358	92,104	94,324	82,023	48,000	16,000	
Team members (not theologically trained)					15,000	29,000	14,000				
Operating grants					14,000	14,000					
Capital grants					6,000	9,000	8,000	3,000			
Total Church Plant #3					78,358	144,104	116,324	85,023	48,000	16,000	
Church Plant X (The unforeseen)											
Church planter							45,478	96,600	98,932	84,464	32,000
Team members (not theologically trained)							15,000	29,000	14,000		
Operating grants							14,000	14,000			
Capital grants							6,000	9,000	8,000	3,000	
Total Church Plant X							80,478	148,600	120,932	87,464	32,000
Property Expenses - Officer											
Insurance - Fire & General	467	500	518	518	500	500	500	500	500	500	500
Property Expenses	3,470	2,000	1,528	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Rates & Taxes	12,604	14,000	15,024	15,024	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000
Total Property Expenses - Officer	16,541	16,500	17,070	17,542	16,500	16,500	16,500	16,500	16,500	16,500	16,500
TOTAL Expenses	106,435	216,517	120,664	217,871	423,735	437,812	437,211	435,722	341,365	254,287	135,231
Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	106,269	(127)	72,903	10,899	(193,035)	(214,312)	(108,511)	(119,522)	(38,965)	43,913	168,769
Balance of General Funds	850,128	850,001	934,111	861,027	667,993	453,681	345,169	225,647	186,682	230,595	399,364

Church Planting Committee
Specific - Property Development Fund
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13 and Calendar 2013

Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	Budget for Approval	Budget for Approval	2014/2015 Projected
					12%	12%	
					12%	12%	12%
Income							
General Mission Program	17,297	19,000	14,061	19,000	19,200	20,000	20,000
Donations Property Development	4,684	11,000	8,800	13,200	13,500	14,000	14,500
Interest Property Development Fund	154,667	130,000	80,351	118,300	71,800	51,900	29,800
Total Income	176,648	160,000	103,211	150,500	104,500	85,900	64,300
Expenditure							
Consultancy	0	20,000	0	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Grants Property Development	529,022	700,000	320,978	700,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Total Expenditure	529,022	720,000	320,978	720,000	270,000	270,000	270,000
Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	(352,374)	(560,000)	(217,766)	(569,500)	(165,500)	(184,100)	(205,700)
Property Development Fund	1,167,705	607,705	949,939	598,205	432,705	248,605	42,905

Health & Community Chaplaincy Committee
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/2013

12%
 Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12% 12% 12% 12%

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
Income								
1160	Donations and Gifts	600	1,000	554	1,000	600	600	600
1161	Good Friday Appeal	13,326	20,000	2,663	20,000	17,000	17,000	17,000
1240	Grant : HCCVI Kirkbrae Internship-St Andrews Fund		12,500	12,500	12,500	12,750	0	0
1247	Grant: Application to St Andrews Fund Deaf Chaplaincy		5,000	0	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
1249	Grant : HCCVI	29,236	30,138	21,927	30,138	10,000	10,300	10,600
1359	Interest Common Fund General	85,518	85,800	57,621	86,400	86,400	86,700	86,900
1410	Interest Minister's Home Loan	470	345	246	345	215	78	78
Total Income		129,150	154,783	95,511	155,383	131,965	119,678	120,178
Expenditure								
2030	Advertising (inc Good Friday Appeal)	535	750	0	750	700	735	772
2110	Chaplaincy Fees - Hospitals	14,400	18,000	9,600	18,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
2111	Chaplaincy Fees - Prisons	500	1,200	0	1,200	600	600	600
2112	Chaplaincy Fees - Police	1,200	1,200	800	1,200	600	600	600
2113	Chaplaincy Fees - Sports	1,200	1,200	800	1,200	600	600	600
2114	Tertiary Chaplains (AFES Workers)	30,000	30,000	15,000	30,000	26,000	26,000	26,000
2116	Community Chaplaincy (Deaf)	25,345	26,105	17,403	25,345	26,888	27,695	28,525
2180	Depreciation Furniture/Equipment	0	0	177	296	355	355	59
2226	Pastors Renewal Retreats	2,275	3,500	0	0	2,500	2,500	2,500
2227	Chaplaincy Resources(Tracts,books,DVDs)	415	1,000	59	1,000	500	500	500
2228	Education & Training - Chaplains	589	6,000	0	6,000	1,500	1,500	1,500
2280	General Expenses	923	600	675	675	1,000	1,000	1,000
2282	Chaplains' Appreciation Luncheon		600	482	600	100	100	100
2290	Public School Chaplaincy Grants	500	1,000	0	1,000	0	0	0
Chaplaincy Co-ordinator								
2815	Salary	20,000	20,600	13,800	20,700	22,786	23,470	24,174
2875	Superannuation	2,000	2,060	1,380	2,070	2,279	2,347	2,417
2954	Workcover Levy - General	461	525	454	454	465	500	515
2392	Insurance Professional Indemnity	800	850	880	880	900	900	900
2911	Phone (co-ordinator)		300	91	300	360	360	360
2752	Heathmont House office rental		1,000	1,473	2,340	1,000	1,000	1,000
2580	Ministers Family Camp Expenses	10,850	13,500	16,490	16,490	15,000	15,500	16,000
2580	MFC Administration Wages	3,000	3,500	3,000	3,000	3,500	3,500	3,500
2700	Postage Printing & Stationery & Secretarial Fees	986	1,200	508	1,200	1,000	1,000	1,000
2800	Professional Supervision	0		100	100			
2830	Staff Amenities	0		78	78			
2921	Travel - Corrections	1,200	2,000	0	2,000	1,500	1,500	1,500
2922	Travelling Expenses - Committee	903	1,200	925	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200

**Health & Community Chaplaincy Committee
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/2013**

						Budget for Approval		
						12%	12%	12%
						12%		
Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:						12%	12%	12%
Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
2118	Kirkbrae Chaplaincy- Junior Internship- total (Half social services committee) linked to funding		12,500	6,353	12,500	12,750	0	0
Total Committee Expenditure		118,082	150,391	90,529	150,579	130,083	119,461	121,322
Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations		11,069	4,392	4,983	4,804	1,882	217	(1,144)
General Funds		952,821	960,300	959,757	961,142	967,797	972,922	976,391
Capital Items								
	Loan Repayments		(4,287)	(2,842)	(4,287)	(4,417)	(4,554)	(4,554)
	Laptop		1,200	1,066	1,066	0	0	
	Enter Details Here		0		0	0	0	
	Enter Details Here		0		0	0	0	
	Enter Details Here		0		0	0	0	
	Enter Details Here		0		0	0	0	
Total Capital Expenditure			(3,087)	(1,776)	(3,221)	(4,417)	(4,554)	(4,554)

Maintenance of the Ministry Committee
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13

Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12% **Budget for Approval** 12% 12% 12%

General Operations

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2013/2014 Projected
Income								
1440	Other Investment Income	8,700		0				
1359	Interest Common Fund General	90,051	90,000	58,983	88,000	89,000	86,000	84,000
1240	Grant from Balfour Trust (Grants Rec)	12,645	30,000	15,171	30,000	27,000		
Total Income		111,395	120,000	74,154	118,000	116,000	86,000	84,000
Expenditure								
2140	Consultancy	570	1,200	0	1,200	900	1,200	1,200
2290	Grants Paid	0	0	7,930	7,930	0	0	0
2401	Interest Subsidy Ministers Car Loans	16,572	20,400	9,723	16,000	20,400	20,400	20,400
2700	Postage, Printing & Stationery	420	600	0	600	600	600	600
2881	Sustentation Travel Grants	21,980	8,100	4,581	8,100	7,200		
2885	Superannuation Subsidy	12,645	30,000	15,171	30,000	27,000	0	0
2889	Sustentation Expense General	102,660	70,000	62,803	124,708	96,000	96,000	96,000
2920	Travelling Expenses	0	240	0	240	240	1,200	1,200
Total Expenses		154,846	130,540	100,208	188,778	152,340	119,400	119,400
Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations		(43,451)	(10,540)	(26,054)	(70,778)	(36,340)	(33,400)	(35,400)
General Funds		886,400	875,860	860,346	815,622	779,282	745,882	710,482
Peptual Funds		42,466	42,466	42,466	42,466	42,466	42,466	42,466
Capital Items								
	Enter Details Here		0		0	0	0	
	Enter Details Here		0		0	0	0	
Total Capital Expenditure					0	0	0	0

**Maintenance of the Ministry Committee
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13**

Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12% **Budget for Approval** 12% 12% 12%

Long Service Leave Funds

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2013/2014 Projected
Income								
1130	LSL Levy	33,900	33,000	34,200	34,200	39,900	34,200	34,200
1135	Entitlements tsf from other states	3,457	0	0	0	0	0	0
1358	Interest Common Fund General	86,537	86,000	59,294	89,000	88,000	86,000	84,000
Total Income		123,894	119,000	93,494	123,200	127,900	120,200	118,200
Expenditure								
2550	Long Service Accrual - not cash	94,217	114,064	52,437	114,064	121,936	123,325	124,851
Total Expenses		94,217	114,064	52,437	114,064	121,936	123,325	124,851
Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations		29,677	4,936	41,057	9,136	5,964	(3,125)	(6,651)
	Long Service Taken - cash	102,198	168,000	27,763	168,000	180,000	180,000	180,000
Provision for Long Service Leave		639,040	585,104	663,714	585,104	527,039	470,365	415,215
General Funds		993,844	944,844	1,059,575	949,044	896,944	837,144	775,344

**METRO Committee
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13**

8

**Budget
for
Approval**

Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12% 12% 12%

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
Income								
1359	Interest Common Fund	80,534	81,400	54,375	81,800	81,500	81,200	81,400
1650	Youth Metro Income			1,000		1,100	1,500	1,500
1060	Conference Income / Book Sales	70		0	70	200	200	200
Total Income		80,604	81,400	55,375	81,870	82,800	82,900	83,100
Expenditure								
2030	Advertising	0	3,100	3,041	3,100	500	500	500
2221	Youth Metro Expenses			1,133	4,675	13,500	13,500	13,500
2222	Adult Metro Expenses				250	750	750	750
2250	Events	887	3,000	0	3,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2280	Convener's Expenses				100	500	500	500
2289	Contingency	49	500	0	500	500	500	500
2290	Grants for trainees	49,845	50,900	31,425	67,708	72,100	60,000	36,000
2709	Postage Printing & Stationery	187	500	350	500	500	500	500
2850	Subscriptions, books and journals	225	1,500	0	1,500	1,000	1,000	1,000
2920	Travelling Expenses		100	0	100	100	100	100
2921	Interview Facilitation		500	0	500	0	0	0
Total Committee Expenditure		51,192	60,100	35,949	81,933	90,450	78,350	54,350
Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations		29,412	21,300	19,426	(63)	(7,650)	4,550	28,750
General Funds		838,164	859,464	857,590	838,101	830,451	835,001	863,751

Ministry Development Committee
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13

8

Budget
for
Approval

14%
 Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12% 12% 12%

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
Income								
1160	Donations and gifts Home Mission	500						
1359	Interest Common Fund	169,002	165,000	113,670	173,000	142,000	97,000	86,000
1640	Scots Church Property Trust	445,381	440,000	492,632	492,632	500,000	500,000	1,000,000
1660	Embers to Flame Conference	10		5,104				
1990	Profit/(Loss) on Sale of Asset	6,015		0	0			
Total Income		620,908	605,000	611,406	665,632	642,000	597,000	1,086,000
Expenditure								
1. Grants								
2864	Second Ministry Workers (See Evangelism)	28,750	88,250	23,083	50,000	108,750	100,000	100,000
2865	Intentional Interim Ministry (See Evangelism)		10,000	0	0	10,000	20,000	20,000
2867	Cross Cultural Subsidies		84,523	0	101,069	180,000	165,000	165,000
2290	Grants Paid - Capital	103,430	1,500,000	5,735	600,000	900,000	0	0
2860	Subsidies to Congregations	158,890	314,000	129,664	322,969	296,000	300,000	300,000
Total Grants		291,070	1,996,773	158,483	1,074,038	1,494,750	585,000	585,000
2. Ministry Development Director								
2181	Depreciation - Motor Vehicle	5,006	4,951	3,310	4,951	4,951	4,951	4,951
2280	General Expenses	820	1,000	818	1,000	1,000	500	500
2790	Manse Allowance	24,000	24,000	16,000	24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000
2831	HM Director's Discretionary	167	1,000	14	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2850	Subscriptions	364	200	136	200	200	200	200
2955	Disability Insurance	1,894	2,100	1,027	1,027	1,027	1,027	1,078
2540	Light Power & Heating	7,010	4,000	2,127	4,000	4,000	4,800	4,800
2550	Long Service Leave Levy	6,580	450	300	300	450	450	450
2600	Motor Vehicle Running Costs	7,891	7,000	5,789	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
2640	Non Cash Benefits	16,176	16,661	11,309	16,935	17,845	18,380	18,931
2810	Salary	30,036	30,937	20,998	31,721	33,133	34,127	35,151
2870	Superannuation	6,470	7,140	4,714	7,070	7,283	7,501	7,726
2141	Professional Supervision		420			1,000	1,200	1,200
2910	Telephone & Fax	5,889	4,000	2,728	4,000	4,000	4,400	4,400
2920	Travelling Expenses	4,788	7,000	2,561	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
2950	WorkCover	699	752	625	625	643	654	665
Total Ministry Development Director Expenses		117,788	111,191	72,876	108,829	112,531	115,190	117,052

Ministry Development Committee
General Operations
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13

8

14%
 Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12% 12% 12%

Budget
for
Approval

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
3. Office								
2030	Advertising	451	3,000	489	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2060	Bank Charges	165	100	78	100	100	100	100
2145	Contract Research for profiles	1,114	10,000	0	0	5,000	0	0
2180	Depreciation Office Equipment	2,599	2,500	1,715	2,500	2,229	1,500	1,500
2282	General Expenses	1,042	1,000	687	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2510	Legal Fees	2,055		900	0	0	0	0
2551	Long Service Leave Accrual	0	0	648	876	876	902	929
2752	Office Rental	15,000	15,600	10,400	15,600	16,224	16,792	17,380
2912	Telephone & Fax	1,254	1,500	838	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
2921	Travel expenses - Office	450	0	0	0	0	0	0
2130	Computer & Software Costs	4,086	2,000	208	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2700	Postage Printing & Stationery	5,382	7,000	2,088	7,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
2812	Salaries	40,288	46,153	30,587	46,153	47,765	49,198	50,674
2872	Superannuation	4,658	4,615	2,967	4,615	4,776	4,920	5,067
2952	WorkCover Levy	600	535	459	463	473	487	502
Total Office Expenses		79,144	94,003	52064.17	81,807	87,943	84,398	86,651
4. Committee								
2830	Staff Amenities	1,416	1,600	702	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
2922	Travelling Expenses	364	500	130	500	500	1,000	1,000
Total Committee Expenses		1,780	2,100	832	1,700	1,700	2,200	2,200
5. Miscellaneous								
2140	Consultancy	995	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2220	Education & Training	2,097	2,000	410	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2230	Evangelistic Materials	0	0	0	0	1,000	1,000	1,000
2225	District Interim Moderator	0	40,000	0	0	40,000	60,000	80,000
2581	Training inc. Embers to Flame, ESL, Peacewise	6,734	25,000	18,665	25,000	25,000	10,000	10,000
Total Miscellaneous Expenses		9,826	68,000	19,075	28,000	69,000	74,000	94,000
Total Expenses		499,607	2,272,067	303,330	1,294,374	1,765,924	860,788	884,904
Surplus/(Deficit) Operations		121,301	(1,667,067)	308,076	(628,742)	(1,123,924)	(263,788)	201,096
Balance of General Funds		2,968,034	1,304,418	3,281,783	2,343,619	1,224,551	938,116	1,146,592
Capital Items								
	Computer	1,364	2,000		2,000	2,000		
	Photocopier					1,200		
	Other	2,682	2,000		2,000	0	0	0
	Motor Vehicle (less trade in)	4,657	0		0	0	30,000	0
Total Capital Expenditure			4,000	0	4,000	3,200	30,000	0

Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13

**Budget
for
Approval**

	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed
<u>INCOME</u>					
Commonwealth Funding	5,222,794	5,669,000	3,685,826	5,630,365	5,844,972
Resident Fees	1,890,239	1,905,000	1,314,496	1,981,759	2,041,212
Interest Received	37,716	38,000	34,952	47,562	20,000
Other Operating Income	53,523	37,000	24,294	48,629	13,000
Total Operating Income	7,204,272	7,649,000	5,059,566	7,708,315	7,919,184
<u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u>					
Catering Costs	285,178	290,000	197,356	309,432	340,375
Administration Expenses	202,178	223,000	128,558	193,106	200,830
Transport And Vehicle Expenses	(6,701)	11,000	7,897	15,171	20,000
Committee Expenses	4,900	4,000	6,744	7,432	8,000
Chemist And Medical	69,790	69,000	49,919	71,160	74,006
Continance Costs	86,411	95,000	47,452	67,472	70,171
Cleaning, Laundry And Housekeeping	272,206	285,000	177,548	267,065	280,419
Consultants Fees	67,983	80,000	63,377	82,097	70,000
Contract Therapy	23,907	25,000	50,443	100,128	120,000
Insurance	71,137	80,000	51,354	77,972	85,000
Rates, Taxes And Utilities	273,520	340,000	146,727	245,055	250,000
Occupational Health And Safety	6,040	5,000	7,051	0	0
Net Maintenance Costs	321,358	345,000	164,232	344,875	412,000
Security Costs	31,063	33,000	21,401	32,722	35,000
Staff Costs	6,132,843	6,300,000	4,298,003	6,556,203	6,814,007
Total Operating Expenses Before Depreciation	7,841,811	8,185,000	5,418,061	8,369,890	8,779,808
Total Depreciation	767,893	800,000	506,734	763,100	770,000
Total Operating Result After Depreciation	(1,405,432)	(1,336,000)	(865,228)	(1,424,675)	(1,630,624)
Non-Operating Income:					
Commonwealth Subsidy - Capital	168,558	145,000	51,166	100,363	80,000
Accomodation Charge	553,284	505,000	448,989	600,114	618,117
Retentions On Bonds	321,200	320,000	208,945	307,631	300,000
Interest Received On Investments	1,683,740	700,000	588,474	918,255	700,000
Net Increase in Investments	13,536	0	(915,832)	(915,832)	0
Non-Operating Expenses	(8,169)	(7,000)	4,333	1,900	10,000
Other Income - Trusts Transferred	0	0	0		
Donations - Specified	0	45,000	31,679	28,099	25,000
Total Non-Operating Income	2,732,151	1,708,000	417,754	1,040,530	1,733,117
Surplus/(Deficit) For Period	1,326,719	372,000	(447,474)	(384,145)	102,493

**Theological Education Committee
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13
General Operations**

**Budget
for
Approval**

Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12.0% 12.0% 12.0% 12.0%

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
Income								
1168	Donations and Gifts General	303	5,000	544	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
1080	General Mission Programme	85,749	100,492	74,369	100,492	98,485	100,534	102,702
1241	Grants received	11,303		1,000	1,000			
1359	Interest Common Fund-General	219,981	220,000	148,052	221,000	223,000	224,000	226,000
1600	Rental of TEC Manse	0	15,600	13,907	20,880	17,400	17,400	17,400
1601	Rental Income Accom Units	88,514	44,400	47,222	59,400	48,946	50,414	50,414
1650	Sundry Income	89	1,000	55	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1655	Milne Thanksgiving Dinner	200		6,109	6,109			
	less proceeds to Overseas Mission			(1,535)	(1,535)			
1702	Tuition - Fee paying students	196,634	272,318	266,968	199,527	207,321	218,931	231,192
1700	Tuition ex Bursaries (Candidates)	108,862	109,102	72,743	140,184	151,414	159,893	168,847
	Intensive - Ed Welch		0	40,000	40,000			
	Israel Study Tour			50,400	50,400	0	55,440	0
	Study Tour airfares			(50,400)	(50,400)	0	(55,440)	0
1702	Audit, Overseas Students			6,767	13,534	14,000	14,500	15,000
1703	Tuition Fees Short Courses	13,261		3,662	7,324	8,000	8,000	8,000
	TOTAL Tuition Fees	318,757	381,420	390,140	400,569	380,735	401,324	423,038
1709	Ministers Conference Income	2,065	3,000	35	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
1990	(Loss) on Sale of Motor Vehicle	(367)				(2,000)		
Total Income		726,594	770,912	679,897	816,915	775,565	802,672	828,554
Expenditure								
Staff Related								
2810	Salaries	219,097	218,475	154,955	225,876	227,704	234,536	241,572
2640	Non Cash Benefits	79,593	81,724	52,366	85,290	81,768	75,031	86,747
2600	Motor Vehicle Running Expenses	7,026	8,500	5,743	10,952	9,000	9,000	9,000
2830	Staff Amenities	182	0	(187)	0	0	0	0
2870	Superannuation	35,948	43,320	24,469	45,768	44,826	46,171	47,556
2950	WorkCover Levy	4,009	4,363	5,185	5,189	5,345	5,505	5,670
2955	Disability Insurance	7,957	8,752	4,293	4,293	4,293	4,293	4,508
2550	Long Service Leave	1,200	2,250	2,028	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
2840	Study Leave (non cash)	39,362	41,445	21,944	41,445	42,224	43,627	45,361
	Study Leave Expenses (cash)				5,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
2181	Depreciation Motor Vehicle	4,397	4,400	2,939	4,400	5,250	5,250	5,250
2541	Lighting & Heating - Manses	9,939	10,000	7,534	11,000	10,000	11,000	11,000
2911	Telephone & Fax-Manses	5,782	6,000	3,666	6,000	7,000	7,500	8,000
2490	Lecturers' Fees	7,170	10,000	5,925	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
2920	Travelling Expenses	15,476	12,000	10,718	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
2229	Education & Training	4,496	6,000	995	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
2810	Missions Course Funding		(25,000)	(16,498)	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	(8,000)
Total Staff Related Expenses		441,634	432,229	286,075	449,714	448,910	453,413	493,164

**Theological Education Committee
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13
General Operations**

**Budget
for
Approval**

Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12.0% 12.0% 12.0% 12.0%

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
2792	Total Manse Expenses (not met by F	1,373	10,054	24,140	32,820	17,720	15,534	7,372
2520	Total Library Related Expenses	0	39,520	23,473	35,780	36,068	36,364	36,669
Office Related								
2910	Telephone & Fax	7,175	7,500	3,234	7,500	8,000	8,500	8,500
2700	Postage Printing & Stationery	14,510	12,000	5,628	12,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
2540	Light Power & Heating	10,899	15,000	9,461	16,000	17,000	18,700	20,570
2760	Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	385	500	702	702	500	500	500
2130	Computer & Software Costs	6,268	5,000	4,890	5,000	8,500	6,000	6,000
2850	CCLI, Copyright	1,879	1,500	503	2,000	2,100	2,200	2,300
2392	Insurance Professional Indemnity	2,544	2,600	2,742	2,742	2,879	3,023	3,174
Total Office Related Expenses		43,661	44,100	27,160	45,944	53,979	53,923	56,044
Property Related								
2183	Depreciation Plant & Equipment	5,128	4,700	4,310	6,465	6,459	3,859	3,859
2186	Depreciation Buildings	33,443	33,600	22,355	33,600	33,600	33,600	33,600
2120	Cleaning & Rubbish Removal	9,687	9,000	7,376	9,000	9,500	10,000	10,000
2820	Security Costs	1,871	1,500	1,550	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Total Property Related Expenses		50,128	48,800	35,591	50,565	51,059	48,959	48,959
Training Officer								
2815	Salaries	31,538	32,513	21,445	32,168	33,133	34,127	35,151
2641	Non Cash Benefits	24,905	17,494	11,550	17,325	17,845	18,380	18,931
2641	NCB - Extra Travel		8,158	5,400	8,100	8,343	8,593	8,851
2752	Manse / Rent	24,960	25,666	17,065	24,865	23,400	23,400	23,400
2555	Long Service Leave	300	450	300	300	300	300	300
2545	Utilities	2,606	2,000	2,020	2,000	2,100	2,100	2,100
2228	Office Expenses, Conferences, Material	3,778	2,500	640	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
2915	Telephone	1,458	2,000	1,723	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2875	Superannuation	6,470	7,144	4,714	7,070	7,283	7,501	7,726
2951	WorkCover Levy	344	378	466	466	509	560	616
2956	Disability Insurance	1,989	2,188	1,073	1,073	1,073	1,073	1,127
Total Training Officer Expenses		98,346	100,492	66,396	97,867	98,485	100,534	102,702

**Theological Education Committee
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13
General Operations**

**Budget
for
Approval**

Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12.0% 12.0% 12.0% 12.0%

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
Miscellaneous Expenses								
2030	Advertising Magazines	3,937	7,000	10,086	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
	Principal Change over and relocation	1,314	12,000	15,048	15,048			
2032	Marketing					12,000	12,000	12,000
2045	ACT Admin Fees	29,021	38,142	17,883	37,971	35,873	37,882	40,004
2050	Affiliation & Admin Fees	4,400	5,000	5,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
2060	Bank Charges, FID & Debits Tax	1,928	2,000	1,509	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2180	Depreciation	8,836	8,500	6,096	9,142	10,000	10,000	10,000
2281	General Expenses - Short Courses	837	3,000	2,668	3,000	0	0	0
2713	Property Maintenance - Manses	10,435		0				
2921	Hospitality	1,445	2,000	1,425	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2831	Student Expenses	1,523	2,000	1,223	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2280	General Expenses	1,665	2,000	303	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2586	Ministers' Conference Expenses	2,124	6,000	379	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Total Miscellaneous Expenses		67,466	87,642	62,120	91,161	83,873	85,882	88,004
Residential Units								
2185	Depreciation (Residential Units)	27,622	27,452	18,489	27,730	27,730	27,730	27,730
2542	Light & Power	174		393	600	1,000	1,000	1,000
2391	Insurance	842	884	934	934	981	1,030	1,081
2712	Maintenance & Cleaning	5,494	3,500	3,548	3,500	4,000	4,000	4,000
2350	Property Manager Honorarium	3,893	3,893	3,893	3,893	4,010	0	0
2751	Rates	1,735	1,600	523	1,600	1,800	1,900	2,000
Total Residential Units		39,760	37,329	27,780	38,257	39,520	35,660	35,811

**Theological Education Committee
Income & Expenditure Budget 2012/13
Specific Trusts**

8

**Budget
for
Approval**

Projected Common Fund Interest Rates: 12% 12% 12% 12%

Account No	Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Budget	8 Months to Feb-12	2011/2012 Projected	2012/2013 Proposed	2013/2014 Projected	2014/2015 Projected
	Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	(17,411)	(28,579)	129,788	(23,999)	(52,744)	(25,624)	(38,289)
	Surplus/(Deficit) Specific Trusts	20,095	(24,344)	2,497	(51,570)	(58,373)	(62,703)	(62,580)
	Total Surplus/(Deficit)	2,685	(52,923)	132,285	(75,569)	(111,117)	(88,326)	(100,869)
	Total Specific Funds	718,521	697,033	651,310	679,491	621,657	559,495	497,454
	Total Perpetual Funds	1,800,646	1,827,646	1,810,430	1,831,646	1,864,646	1,898,646	1,927,646

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND NURTURE COMMITTEE (Min. 14)

Since last General Assembly the CENC have found it necessary to communicate to the Commission of Assembly and ask that an urgent matter be placed before it.

The CENC is pleased to announce that after a particularly long search for a Youth Ministries Director, we believe we have found a suitable man who we are eager to present to the Assembly. This has not been without a number of problems, changes in direction and goals, subsequent emerging needs by the PYV, training in youth leadership and recognition of a larger role to the wider Victorian youth complement. It has been a difficult challenge to navigate for us as a committee.

The vacancy left by the Rev Andrew Vines happened at a time when the PYV was responding to many of the initiatives put into place as a result of his ministry. With a part-time Operations Manager for the camping ministry, there was brief thinking that perhaps we did not need to replace Rev Vines. The Operations Manager's role was expanded to full-time and we searched in vain for a part-time CENC Youth Worker.

The PYV Leadership Training Program evolved into the Youth Metro Training scheme where the lack of development of youth ministry outside that of PYV became noticeable and a need that we must fill. Hence we changed the name of the job title to that of Youth Ministries Director to better suit the wider perspectives intended. It was at this time that the PYV Council with one voice, determined to get the CENC to find a full-time person for the new job title with its wider perspectives. The PYV Council is most agreeable and supportive of these new directions.

God is gracious and in his sovereign timing and much to our surprise and delight, (and when things were looking very discouraging), we received communication from a suitable candidate indicating that he felt God's strong call to this position. His wife and family have concurred. We have sought to move with some swiftness to put him into place and now bring him before the Assembly. Since that time, he has demitted his charge with the assent of his congregation at Warburton and that of the Presbytery of Maroondah.

Rev Brian Harvey has been unanimously approved by the CENC to be presented before the Commission of Assembly for appointment to the full-time position Youth Ministries Director. Brian has a long history of youth work and development at the kinds of levels needed by the CENC. While we lose him as a valuable member of the CENC, we look forward to a great ministry he will have in the kind providence of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rev Harvey has extensive experience in youth ministry with his work with the Salvation Army in Victoria and Tasmania. During those years he worked with Fusion in high schools, established youth drop-in centres, established their Youth Ministries Development program for Western Victoria. Brian has served in a pastoral charge and is an active member of the CENC along with his wife Anne. Brian has been the PYV portfolio holder for the last 2 years and has attended most PYV camps and functions as the CENC representative. Since last year, the congregation of Warburton have allowed Brian to serve the PYV one day a week as the Youth Ministries Director on a non-paid basis which has been a great blessing to the PYV Council and its president.

The position of the Youth Ministries Director (formerly the CENC Youth Worker) has been approved by the Assembly in the past in both part-time and full-time roles as was needed. The job description is essentially the same as before and the CENC will closely monitor any needed changes that may occur in the future and bring them to Assembly. The BIF has costed the ability of the CENC to pay for the position and this has been made easier by the recent resignation of our Operations Manager, Mr Brad Haughey. Brad is moving on to other career paths and has left the PYV in sterling shape and was so efficient as to work himself out of a job. The CENC thanks Brad for his service to this committee, to the PYV, METRO and Fuelled Training Days.

Scott Kroeger
CONVENER

CHURCH AND NATION COMMITTEE (Min. 8)

Each year the Church & Nation Committee is requested:

...to report to the Commission of Assembly on any emerging important and urgent matters relating to their brief as set out in the Committee's regulations.

There are three such matters we wish to report on.

Same Sex Marriage

Late last year as expected, the Labor Party at its Federal Convention adopted homosexual marriage as its policy, although allowing MPs for this electoral term, a conscience vote. The ALP did this despite Prime Minister Gillard's election promise that the Labor position on marriage was that it was the exclusive domain of a man and a woman.

As it stands, there are now three homosexual marriage bills before the Federal parliament. The first Bill is in the Upper House and was introduced in 2010 by the Greens' Senator Sarah Hanson-Young. It is called the *Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2010*. This particular Bill was sent to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee for an Inquiry. Your Committee made a submission and encouraged congregations to do the same.

On February 13, two other bills were introduced into the lower house. The first is a private member's Bill by Labor MP Stephen Jones entitled the *Marriage Amendment Bill 2012*. The second bill is a joint effort between Greens MP Adam Bandt and Independent MP Andrew Wilkie, called the *Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2012* and is of a similar nature to Stephen Jones' private member's bill.

There was an inquiry into both of the lower house bills by the House Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs. The Church and Nation Committee made a substantial submission to the inquiry. Submissions closed on April 20 and we expect the House Standing Committee's report to be tabled on 18 June, 2012.

At this stage, if the Coalition maintains its current position (opposing homosexual marriage), then all three bills would be defeated. There is talk that if that happens, a compromise position of legislating Civil Unions might receive Coalition support for a conscience vote. If that were to occur, it is likely that such legislation would be successful. The Church and Nation Committee is also opposed to Civil Unions as they too mimic, and will no doubt morph into marriage.

Accordingly, the Committee wishes the Assembly to request the Moderator and Clerk of the Assembly to write to the Prime Minister, leader of the Opposition, leader of the Greens and all Victorian members of the House of Representatives and the Senate expressing the Church's opposition to the law of marriage being changed as per the *Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2010*, the *Marriage Amendment Bill 2012* and the *Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2012*.

Violence against Christians

The Committee is greatly concerned with increasing reports of violence against Christians overseas. We are concerned for the persecution of Christians in Muslim majority countries, in particular Sudan, Syria, and Nigeria.

Accordingly, the Committee would like the Assembly to request the Moderator and Clerk of the Assembly to write to the Foreign Minister the Hon Bob Carr MP and the Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs the Hon Julie Bishop MP asking that the Australian Government express its concern over the recent upsurge in persecution of Christians.

Research Assistant

The Committee would also like to inform the Assembly that Mrs Fleur Letcher was appointed Research Assistant to the Church and Nation Committee since we last reported. This has been a successful appointment and we would remind the Assembly that funding still needs to be secured to make the position permanent.

Darren Middleton
CONVENER

GENERAL MISSION PROGRAM COMMITTEE (Min. 10)

1. Distribution of the General Mission Program

1.1 Introduction

In introducing its report, the committee again wishes to emphasise that the total of the General Mission Program (GMP) which it recommends to the Commission, and thus the amount allocated to each presbytery, should be seen as the **minimum** amounts required by the benefiting committees of the General Assembly to perform their respective purposes. Parishes therefore are encouraged to subscribe more to the GMP, as some have done, where their circumstances permit or special efforts provide.

1.2 Current year 2011/12

At the May 2011 Commission of the General Assembly, the amount of \$209,042 was approved as the total of the GMP allocated to presbyteries for the financial year 2011/12. To the end of February 2012 approximately 76% of the total has been received compared to 76% to February 2011 against a total GMP of \$222,210.

1.3 Year 2012/13

After considering the applications and budgets put forward in the submissions of assembly committees, the committee is recommending a total amount of \$210,765 for the financial year 2012/13, which is an increase of 1% over 2011/12.

The committee notes the decisions of the Assembly in 2006 and 2007 relating to funding the Training Officer:

Note that the General Mission Program committee is responsible for funding the position (Training Officer) and request the GMP committee to make suitable arrangements to increase the funding of the Theological Education Committee to meet the terms of appointment of the Training Officer. GAV 2006 Min 18.2 BB p14

Declare that all the expenses of the Training Officer shall be covered by GMP additional to all other allocations the TEC may receive. GAV 2007 Min 66.13 BB p84,

and understands the reasons for those decisions. We ask whether the same funding circumstances still apply today. This represents almost 50% of the annual GMP and limits the flexibility of the committee in allocating funds to other possible ministries. Perhaps the Assembly could explore alternate means of funding the position of the Training Officer either in part or whole?

The Church and Nation Committee had originally requested an allocation of \$5,000 GMP. This was prior to resolving the funding of the research assistant. The GMP Committee has been informed that the BIF are intending to recommend that the Commission approve an allocation of \$250,000 as capital to the Church and Nation Committee from General Assembly funds. Assuming this is approved, the committee does not see the need to allocate GMP in addition to the capital injection. On this basis, the committee has made no allocation of GMP to the Church and Nation Committee.

Certain of the beneficiaries listed under "Inter-denominational Enterprises" were to be included only if the Church and Nation Committee certifies that they are worthy of continued support. Such certificate has been given to this committee. The amounts

allocated to these enterprises have been increased by 3% based on the CPI in accordance with the resolution of General Assembly in 2005.

The resulting net total of the General Mission Program for 2012/13 is \$210,765 distributed as follows, with the 2011/12 amounts shown for comparison:

	2011/12 \$	2012/13 \$
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES:		
Australian Presbyterian World Mission (Vic.)	47,000	47,000
State News	5,000	5,000
Theological Education (to match actual expenditure: Training Officer)	100,492	98,485
SUB-TOTAL: ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES	152,492	150,485
INTERDENOMINATIONAL ENTERPRISES:		
Australian Christian Lobby	5,820	5,990
W Muehlenberg (previously Australian Family Association)	2,400	2,470
ACCESS Ministries	23,410	24,110
Council for Chaplaincies in Tertiary Institutions	500	500
Saltshakers	2,400	2,470
Victorian Council of Churches: Displan	520	540
SUB-TOTAL: INTERDENOMINATIONAL	35,050	36,080
OTHER GRANTS:		
Presbyterian Inland Mission	2,500	5,000
SUB-TOTAL: OTHER GRANTS	2,500	5,000
TOTAL	190,042	191,565
LEVY 10%:		
Property Development Fund	19,000	19,200
GRAND TOTAL	209,042	210,765

2 Allocation of the General Mission Program to presbyteries

2.1 Formula

The recommended formula for the allocation to Presbyteries of the total of the General Mission is as follows:

the total GMP to be apportioned according to the number of communicant and adherent members in the respective presbyteries as published in the most recent report to the General Assembly after applying an equalisation factor of 0.6 for presbyteries in country areas to take account of the different situation faced in those areas.

2.2 Allocation of GMP for financial year 2012/13.

In accordance with the approved formula, it is recommended that the net General Mission Program for 2012/13, i.e. \$210,765, be allocated as follows:

PRESBYTERY	Percentage of LY total	Percentage of total	2012/13 \$
Ballarat	4.81%	4.84%	10,192
Benalla	6.56%	6.25%	13,172
Flinders	8.88%	9.16%	19,302
Geelong	4.46%	4.47%	9,423
Gippsland	4.68%	4.98%	10,504
Kilnoorat	8.78%	7.94%	16,730
Maroondah	8.93%	8.97%	18,909
Melbourne East	20.21%	20.45%	43,106
Melbourne North	11.20%	11.31%	23,837
Melbourne West	17.73%	17.92%	37,778
North Western Victoria	3.76%	3.71%	7,812
TOTAL	100.00%	100.00%	210,765

Presbyteries should note that while the total GMP has increased by 1%, the allocation to a particular presbytery may decrease and will certainly not increase by exactly 1%. This is a consequence of the relative changes in communicant and adherent numbers between presbyteries. Congregations should also note that the manner in which the presbytery allocates its total GMP may contribute further to the difference in comparison to the previous year. The relative percentage allocation to each presbytery is shown in the above table.

Norm Sharp
CONVENER

MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE (Min. 11)

The Committee reports the following matters to the Commission of Assembly 2012.

1. Declaration of Terms of Settlement

As of our 1st March 2012 meeting, approximately 58% of parishes have not submitted their APRs for terms of settlement to be declared. This compares with last year's figure of 60%, and the detailed figures vary widely between presbyteries. We remind Home Mission Stations that they are required to lodge APRs along with Charges and Appointment Parishes. Correspondence was circulated to presbyteries in late March reminding them of the state of affairs within their bounds.

APRs were due to be received by the Committee no later than the end of February according to the timetable set out in the APR. We remain concerned that some presbyteries experience difficulty in following up late returns. At the 2010 Assembly, members of the Committee spoke in favour of the Overture/s to allow more flexible end of year dates, because we foresaw a smoothing of the document flow resulting from adoption of the measure. To some extent this improvement is already taking effect, albeit we suggest, by dint of oversight rather than planning, as parishes will take some time to adjust their financial year cycles. When this has been done, the timetable printed in the APR may be adapted to the parish's new cycle.

2. Annual Parish Reports

As reported last year, a number of Reports are being presented incomplete or with incorrect information, although these reports had been approved by presbytery. Again in this past year we have seen a number where the Committee had to seek further information before the terms could be declared.

The Committee intends to maintain the simplified process of advising presbyteries and parishes of requirements for 2012-2013. **We alert Boards of Management to our Annual Circular summarizing many of the figures required for the completion of APRs.** It is normally sent from the PCV Office in late May, hopefully in time to encourage and assist Treasurers with the June budgetary process. It is also an ongoing resource through the year, supplying various figures useful to Boards e.g. recommended amounts for pulpit supply. The letter in electronic form is then placed on the PCV website under *Forms* → *Annual Parish Reports*, along with APR pages and equivalent letters for previous years. Completed reports should be sent **via Presbytery to the Registrar's address as listed in 'The Key' and on the PCV website.**

After this Committee has assessed the ability of the parish to sustain the terms of settlement and declared terms, the Reports are available for use by other Committees without requiring the same level of detailed submissions by Parishes. We alert other Committees to the fact that APRs are available once submitted to us.

As intended from Assembly 2006, the Annual Parish Report is sent to all Charges and Home Mission Stations. It should not be necessary, but we again remind HMS Treasurers that the essential costs of operating as a HMS are similar to those of an Appointment Charge or Full Charge. Assistance provided via the MDC should be represented in the records as such, rather than being lost in the net results, simply because subsidised items are not accounted for.

The record keeping processes should represent no further burden, and a standardized chart of accounts should eventually reduce the required effort.

Standardised charts of accounts are available from the PCV website under *Forms* → *M&M Forms*, or *Forms* → *Downloads*. For parish treasurers wishing to use manual cash books, the line items of the financial page in the APR should be sufficient as column headings to record their income and expenditure.

Whilst it is not strictly within the remit of this Committee, we are concerned that the quality of audits and the presentation of parish accounts vary greatly between parishes. Our long-term aim is to ensure that standardised accounts enable treasurers and auditors to present financial reports consistently and well, and that the reports should be comparable across the State.

3. Minister's Remuneration

In 2008, at the request of Assembly, the Committee reviewed the principles underlying the structure of the remuneration package recommendations. With the 2010 recommendations to Commission of Assembly, the Committee concluded the approved restructuring of base remuneration to a Stipend/NCB ratio of 65/35.

The recommended base remuneration for 2012-13 remains in this proportion, yielding figures of **\$31,560** and **\$16,992** respectively. The Committee makes no further recommendations regarding components of remuneration at this stage, but is in discussion with members of the BIF and proposes to report again on this subject on an on-going basis. A further review was scheduled for 2012, but has been deferred to 2013. As reported at Assembly 2011, a comparison of remuneration with secondary teaching yielded some useful inferences and the joint remuneration/retirement review will continue.

The Committee recommends that the rate of Superannuation contribution remain at 15% of actual remuneration as set last year.

The consumer price index for Melbourne for the calendar year 2011 rose by 3.1% and excluding transport increased by 3.09%, compared to 2.83% for 2010. Official and unofficial estimates of inflationary expectations through 2012-13 remain mixed, with the impact of new Federal imposts such as the carbon (dioxide) tax being obscure at this stage. The Reserve Bank view as interpreted from interest rate policy is for a 'steady as she goes' stance and overall inflation outlook. However, the prospects for average fuel costs is that they stay around \$1.40-\$1.50 per litre for metropolitan Melbourne, compared to \$1.30-1.40 actually recorded during 2010-11. In line with this, the Committee believes that the remuneration of ministers should be increased by 3% from 1st July 2012, with the minimum remuneration recommended to increase from \$47,136 to **\$48,552 pa**.

Based on the above, the recommended Sustentation Qualifying Stipend is \$21,850 and the Maximum Sustentation Grant available would move to **\$9,720**.

4. Vehicle Running Costs.

The running costs for a motor vehicle increased by 3.1% for the same period, compared with an increase of 1.79% in 2010, reflecting the mixed movement in crude oil and petrol prices across 2011. The cost of crude oil remains within the range \$US95-110 per barrel equivalent. The large improvement in exchange rates between the \$A and \$US in 2009 has flattened in the range presently seen around parity to \$US1.10. As reported last year, continued buying pressure from the strong economies of India and China means that the Asian oil market (upon which our fuel prices are based) is well ahead of the New York and European markets which are

regularly quoted in the press. Recent reports from oil refiners in Australia seem to portend a shift of production capacity offshore to lower cost locations in Asia, which may lead to some improvement in pricing. Commentators are not holding their breath waiting, however.

We believe that the additional amount for travel which was increased at Assembly from 44c to 45c per km should increase again to 46c from July 1st 2012. The economic outlook for fuel prices and operating costs requires close attention, and is becoming a regular feature of our reports.

These increases are modest and, whilst the political arena is highly fluid, we again commend all efforts directed towards wise economic management. (Drafting of this report began on the day of the ALP Caucus vote to retain Ms Gillard as the party leader and Prime Minister.)

5. Supply Preaching Fees

Commensurate with the above, the Committee recommends increasing Supply Preaching fees to the following levels:

\$124 for one service

\$144 for two services

\$170 for three services using same sermon on the same day; and

\$225 for two services or more, using separate sermons.

The travel reimbursement for supply preachers is at the same rate as applies for church-related travel in excess of 6000km (above), the current figure being **46c/km**.

6. Long Service Leave

As a part of its management of the Long Service Leave fund, the Convener prepares an annual budget with assistance from the BIF and the General Manager.

Taking into account the accumulating earnings of the Fund, the Committee believes that a Levy expressed as a dollar amount of **\$350** is sufficient to provide for the fully-funded benefits now set out in our Regulations. This represents an increase from the 2011 figure of \$300.

The Committee recommends that this figure be applied for 2012-13 in the same way that operated in prior years. If two or more ministers in a parish are eligible for LSL under our Regulations, \$350 per minister applies. For other bodies within the PCV which derive their Terms from our regulations, the equivalent will apply. The levy applies even while a parish is vacant, reflecting the sharing of the overall cost across the entire Church.

7. Superannuation subsidy

The 2009 Commission of Assembly re-introduced a Superannuation Subsidy sufficient to meet up to 25% of the cost of Superannuation to a parish. The subsidy remains available to Parishes by application to the Committee via their Presbytery. The amount tentatively budgeted by the Committee was generously covered by the BIF, and to date this year eleven Parishes have availed themselves of the subsidy.

The subsidy is scheduled to expire at the end of 2012-13, but the Committee recommends that it continue for a further year viz. 2013-14.

John M Angelico
CONVENER

TRUSTS CORPORATION (Min. 13)

Scots Church Properties Trust

In accordance with the terms of minute 63.1 of the October 2011 Assembly (BB p130), the Hon Justice Bruce McPherson, retired judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland and member of Ann St Presbyterian Church in Brisbane, has been selected as mediator to assist the Trusts Corporation and trustees of the Scots Church Properties Trust to work together to try and formulate joint questions for submission to the Attorney-General and the Court on the correct interpretation of the Scots' Church Trust Deed and to ensure due and proper administration of the trusts contained in that Trust Deed.

The solicitor acting for the trustees of the Scots Church Properties Trust has requested that the issues to be placed before the mediator be identified beforehand and a "statement of background facts and key documents" be prepared. The Trusts Corporation agrees that this is a necessary preliminary step.

The Trusts Corporation has been working to prepare this material. As reported previously the matter is complex and so it has taken some time to prepare and collate the necessary material. It is expected that this will be finalised and made available to the Scots' Church Trustees in the very near future.

D Andrew Slater
CHAIRMAN

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF VICTORIA
OCTOBER 2012**

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
of the
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA
1st Sederunt: Monday 8 October (pm)**

At Melbourne, and within The Scots' Church, Monday 8 October 2012 at 7.30pm.

1. Constitution

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria met by appointment of the last Assembly (BB 2011 min. 116). The Moderator, Rt Rev Dr Robert Carner, constituted the Assembly with prayer.

2. Roll

The Clerk laid on the table the certified rolls of presbyteries and the Roll of Assembly compiled from them and moved that it be given interim authority and be submitted for confirmation at the 2nd sederunt.

The motion was seconded and approved.

3. Apologies

The Clerk noted the apologies as follows:

Ministers:

For all sederunts: Theo Fishwick, Martin Hanse, Neil Harvey, Ian Johnstone, Grant Lawry, Richard O'Brien, Tony Parle, Martin de Pyle, Gary Stephens, Peter Swinn, Mike Wharton, Wally Zurrer.

For this sederunt: Keith Allen, Ivan Barker, Philip Burns, John Cromarty, Phil Daffy, Rob Duncanson, Alan Every, Miles Fagan, Graham Nicholson, Andrew Robinson.

Elders:

For all sederunts: Malcolm Browning, Doug Butcher, Russell Gray, Andrew Kerr, John Lagerwey, Stewart McKerrow, Alec McRae, Ben Nelson, Peter Prendergast, Bill Sangster, Norm Sharp.

For this sederunt: John Angelico, Tom Fleming.

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the apologies.

The motion was seconded and approved.

4. Assembly Papers

The Clerk laid on the table Assembly Paper 2, and Assembly Paper B, together with the agenda for the 2nd sederunt.

5. Election of Moderator

The Clerk intimated that Rev David John Palmer, retired minister, had been elected as Moderator Designate of this General Assembly by the Commission of Assembly in May 2012 (min. 9).

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Appoint Rev David John Palmer, retired minister, as Moderator of the 2012 General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The outgoing Moderator, Rev Dr Robert Carner, put the moderatorial questions to Mr Palmer, inducted him into his office with prayer, and, together with the ex-moderators, gave him the right hand of fellowship.

The Moderator signed the Assembly Bible, which has been signed by every Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria since its formation in 1859.

The Moderator addressed the Assembly.

6. Worship

The Moderator, Rt Rev David Palmer, conducted public worship, and preached the occasional sermon: "Grace beyond measure", from Luke 15:11-32.

7. Adjournment

The Assembly adjourned to meet at 9.30am on Tuesday 9 October 2012 in The Scots' Church Melbourne and thereafter in the Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall, 156 Collins Street Melbourne, which having been duly intimated, the Moderator closed the sederunt with the benediction.

CLERKS:
J P Wilson
P W Phillips

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
of the
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA
2nd Sederunt: Tuesday 9 October (am)**

At Melbourne, and within The Scots' Church, and afterwards in the Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall, Tuesday 9 October 2012 at 9.30am.

8. Constitution

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria met pursuant to adjournment. The Moderator, Rt Rev David Palmer, constituted the Assembly with prayer.

9. Communion Service

The Assembly met for a communion service. The Moderator, Rt Rev David Palmer, led the worship and conducted the Lord's Supper, and Rev Dr John Wilson, Clerk of Assembly, led the Assembly in the first of his Assembly expositions, "Union in Christ - experienced through the indwelling Spirit", based on Romans 8:1-11.

10. Roll

The Clerk laid on the table the certified rolls of presbyteries and the Roll of Assembly compiled from them, and moved that it be declared to be the Roll of the Assembly. The motion was seconded and approved.

11. Apologies

The Clerk noted the apologies as follows:

Ministers:

For this sederunt: Keith Allen, Neil Benfell, Phil Daffy, Miles Fagan, Andrew Robinson, Mark Tonkin, Andrew Venn.

For this and all subsequent sederunts: Graham Bradbeer, Ken Martin.

Elders:

For this sederunt: Doug Fraser, John Singleton.

For this and all subsequent sederunts: Harold Evans, Albert Meeuwissen.

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the apologies.

The motion was seconded and approved.

12. Associations

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Associate for all sederunts:

1. Rev David Currie, minister of the Church of Scotland and assistant minister at The Scots' Church Melbourne.
2. Rev Kevin Murray, member of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in New South Wales.

The motion was seconded and approved.

13. Welcomes

The Moderator welcomed all present.

14. Business Committee

The report of the Business Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Rev Dr Jared Hood, moved the deliverance.

The deliverance was seconded.

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause.

Clauses 1-3 were approved.

Clause 4 was moved and seconded.

The Clerk moved that the Assembly amend clause 4 by leaving out the words 'with the singing of the Royal Anthem' and the insertion of the word 'jointly' after the word 'addresses', so that the clause would read:

4. Carry the royal address and the loyal addresses jointly with the singing of Rejoice! 613, *God of eternity*, verses 1-2, 5-6.

The amendment was seconded and disapproved.

Clause 4 was approved.

Clauses 5-9 were approved.

Rev Ken Brown moved an additional clause 10:

That the Assembly:

10. Devote the final twenty minutes of business immediately before dinner each day to prayer unless the time is already allocated to other specific functions; the prayer to be conducted in groups formed on the floor of the assembly between seated rows of members under the general guidance of the moderator and his chaplains.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

The deliverance as a whole was moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Determine that the hours of meeting be:

First Sederunt	Monday 8 October, 7:30pm
Second Sederunt	Tuesday 9 October, 9:30am to 5:30pm
Third Sederunt	Tuesday 9 October, 7:00pm to 9:00pm
Fourth Sederunt	Wednesday 10 October, 9:30am to 5:30pm
Fifth Sederunt	Wednesday 10 October, 7:00pm to 9:00pm
Sixth Sederunt	Thursday 11 October, 9:30am to the finish of business
2. Determine that refreshments be taken daily from 3:30pm to 3:50pm, that lunch be taken daily from 12:30pm to 2:00pm, and that a dinner break be taken on Thursday from 5:30pm to 6:30pm, as necessary.
3. Determine that the time for speakers be as follows:

Conveners	15 minutes
Seconders	10 minutes
Overturists	15 minutes (total time for Overture to be stated)
Appellants and Petitioners	20 minutes (total time for Appeal or Petition to be stated)
All other speakers	5 minutes
4. Carry the royal address with the singing of the royal anthem, and the loyal addresses with the singing of Rejoice! 613, *God of eternity*, vv. 1-2, 5-6.
5. Appoint a Ballot Committee for the Assembly consisting of:
Rev Philip Daffy (Convener), John Dekker, Matthew James
Elders Bert Stasse, Doug Fraser

6. Permit committee conveners and chairpersons who are not members of the Assembly to address the Assembly when their respective committee's report and deliverance is before the Assembly.
7. Approve generally the outline of business as given in the report.
8. Approve the Order of Business for the second sederunt, Tuesday, 9 October, 2012.
9. Note that Assembly Prayer meetings are held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings of Assembly, from 8.30am to 9.15am, and encourage members to attend.

The motion was seconded and approved.

15. Minutes of the Previous Sederunt

The Deputy Clerk laid on the table the minutes of the 1st Sederunt.

16. Minutes of the May 2012 Commission of Assembly

The Deputy Clerk laid on the table the minutes of the Commission of Assembly, held 1 May 2012, and moved that they be received.

The motion was seconded and approved.

17. Ministerial and Elders' Jubilees

The Clerk advised the Assembly that he has been notified that:

1. Very Rev Dr Allan Harman celebrates 50 years since ordination. Allan Harman was ordained on 21 March 1962 in the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia, Geelong. His own father, Rev Joseph Harman, and also Rev Edwin Lee took part in the service.
2. Elder Linton Mills celebrates 41 years as an elder. Linton Mills was inducted into the Boort Charge of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria on 10th October 1971 and continues in that position today.

The Moderator presented certificates commemorating the service of these men.

18. New Members

New members of the Assembly were introduced to the Moderator.

The Moderator welcomed the new members to the Assembly.

19. Ministerial and Elders' Deaths

The Clerk reported that Rev Bruce Nixon had died since the last Assembly.

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Note the passing of the Rev W Bruce Nixon and record the following as a tribute in the minutes:

Rev Walter Bruce Nixon

Rev Walter Bruce Nixon was a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia who served the church at Deepdene, Koo Wee Rup, Mt Evelyn and as Associate to Dr Max Putnam of Scots Church, 1977 - 1979. Bruce was born on 20th November 1934 and died on 8th September 2012, aged 77 years. In his youth, he was part of Knox Presbyterian Church Ivanhoe, attended Scotch College and was a leader and Bible Study leader at Knox PFA before training for the ministry at The Melbourne Bible Institute (now Melbourne School of Theology) and Ormond College in the years prior to Union. Bruce was a man of great intellect and curiosity, a man gentle and humble, a man who loved our Saviour Jesus

Christ and his gospel, and a man who loved and served his community well, especially his recording the history of the Yarra Valley and the paintings and diaries of Victoria's first governor, Charles Joseph La Trobe who was a fine Christian man. Though in latter years he worshiped at the Anglican Church in Healesville, he remained until now on the books of the PCA. The celebration of Bruce's life was conducted at "Riverbank" in Yarra Glen and was attended by nearly 500 people and they heard a strong testimony to the saving grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The motion was seconded and approved.
The Moderator led the Assembly in prayer.

20. Royal Address

The Clerk moved the royal address, as follows:

That the Assembly:

Request the Moderator to transmit through his Excellency the Governor of Victoria the following address to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II:

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty,

May it please Your Majesty:

We, the commissioners of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, now convened in Melbourne in the year of our Lord two thousand and twelve do respectfully renew our expression of loyalty to Your Majesty's person and to the throne.

We are mindful of the responsibilities laid upon you by the duties of Your Majesty's high office as Queen of Australia. Therefore we, in our Assembly, in our local congregations and in our private devotions, do pray that the Sovereign Triune God will by His Holy Spirit grant Your Majesty every grace needful for discharging the duties of your office to His pleasure and glory, and in obedience to His most Holy Word.

We note this year that you have reached the diamond jubilee of your coronation. This is a remarkable achievement and your long reign has been a contribution to the stability and prosperity of the Commonwealth of Nations. For this milestone we thank God and offer to you our congratulations.

We also thank you for your encouraging and convincing Christmas Day speech (2011) in which you clearly expressed your personal faith in Christ as Saviour. In these days of political uncertainty in many nations, we give thanks for all the liberties that flow from our Christian heritage. In the light of this heritage, and with an earnest desire for the further glory of Christ in the world, it is the prayer of our Assembly that Your Majesty, as Queen of Australia, will do all in your power to affirm that Jesus Christ alone is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

It is our sincere prayer that the Lord Jesus Christ, the only King and Head of the Church, may in His mercy, continue to bless Your Majesty, His

Royal Highness, Prince Philip and the members of your family, and sustain you in body and mind for His service in the days ahead.

We, the ministers and elders of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria have the honour and humble privilege to be Your Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects.

Signed in our name and at our appointing.

Moderator

The motion was seconded and approved with the singing of the Royal Anthem, "God save our gracious Queen."

21. Loyal Addresses

The Clerk moved the loyal addresses as follows:

That the Assembly:

1. Request the Moderator to transmit to Her Excellency the Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia the following address:

To the Governor General,

May it please Your Excellency:

We, the commissioners of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, send respectful greetings to you.

It is our prayerful desire that, in fulfilling the many and varied duties of your office, you will know, trust and follow the guidance God gives in his Holy Word.

For over 110 years the Governor-General has played an important role in the life of our nation, and your grace, dignity and wisdom have served us well in recent years.

We seek God's enabling grace for you, so that all you say and do will express grace, mercy and peace.

2. Request the Moderator to transmit to the Prime Minister of Australia the following address:

To the Prime Minister,

We, the commissioners of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, meeting in Melbourne respectfully send greetings to you, your ministers and to all the members of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

The Triune God, who is the true Lord and sovereign of the whole world, has entrusted you with a high responsibility. He has ordained that for the time being you should lead our nation under Him, and make the glory of

the Lord Jesus Christ the defining principle of its public good. To that end you have the responsibility to encourage all that He calls good and to restrain that which He defines as evil. In the performance of these tasks, you are of course ultimately accountable to Him.

You are our 27th Prime Minister, and, like those have done before you, you daily take up this responsibility in the face of many calls for wise leadership. We remind you that ultimately “wisdom is from above” and we commend to you to call upon the wisdom of the God of the universe, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Bible tells us that “prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for all in high position, that we may live peaceable and quiet lives, in all godliness and holiness” (1 Timothy 2:1-2). To that end, we pray constantly that you and your government will govern with that sense of righteousness, honesty and integrity which comes from God’s Law and the knowledge of Jesus Christ, and that you will know and trust God’s saving grace, mercy and peace as you govern.

3. Request the Moderator to transmit to the Premier of Victoria the following address:

To the Premier,

We, the commissioners of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, meeting in Melbourne respectfully send greetings to you, your ministers and to all the members of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council.

The Triune God, who is the true Lord and sovereign of the whole world, has entrusted you with a high responsibility. He has ordained that for the time being you should lead our state under Him, and make the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ the defining principle of its public good. To that end you have the responsibility to encourage all that He calls good and to restrain that which He defines as evil. In the performance of these tasks, you are of course ultimately accountable to Him.

You are our 46th Premier of this state, and, like those have done before you, you daily take up this responsibility in the face of many calls for wise leadership. We remind you that ultimately “wisdom is from above” and we commend to you to call upon the wisdom of the God of the universe, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Bible tells us that “prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for all in high position, that we may live peaceable and quiet lives, in all godliness and holiness” (1 Timothy 2:1-2). To that end we pray constantly that you and your government will govern with that sense of righteousness, honesty and integrity which comes from God’s Law and the knowledge of Jesus Christ, and that you will know and trust God’s saving grace, mercy and peace as you govern.

Moderator

The motion was seconded and approved with the singing of the hymn, “*God of eternity*” vv. 1–2, 5–6 (Rejoice! 613).

22. Past Moderator

The report of the Past Moderator, Rev Dr Robert Carner, was received.

Dr Carner spoke of his year in office.

The Moderator expressed the thanks of the Assembly to Dr Carner.

23. Death of Very Rev Murray Ramage

Moderator announced that Very Rev Murray Ramage, Moderator General 1992-1995, had been called home on the evening of Thursday, 4 October, after a long illness.

The Moderator led in prayer.

24. Moderator’s Committee

The report of the Moderator’s Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Rev Graeme Weber, moved the deliverance:

That the Assembly:

1. Record appreciation for the moderatorship of Rev Dr Robert Carner.
2. Recognise the support and assistance given by his wife Coral.
3. Congratulate Rt Rev David Palmer on his election as Moderator and seek the blessing of God on his year of office.
4. Request the Moderator to visit the presbyteries of Ballarat and Melbourne West.
5. Request the Moderator to visit one of the mission fields of our church in consultation with the APWM (Vic) Committee.
6. Request conveners of all Assembly committees to invite the Moderator to a meeting of their committee during his moderatorial year.

The motion was seconded and approved.

25. Board of Investment and Finance

The report of the Board of Investment and Finance was laid on the table and received.

The Chairman, Rev Andrew Slater, moved the deliverance.

That the Assembly:

1. Approve an Assembly Rate of nil for the 2013-2014 year.
2. Approve the following honoraria:

Deputy Clerk	\$2,575
Business Convener	\$790
3. Request the Board of Investment and Finance to report on the progress of the Moderator General’s Church Planting Task Force to the 2013 Commission of Assembly with recommendations for on-going allocations from funds held for GAA purposes.

The motion was seconded and approved.

26. Trusts Corporation

The report of the Trusts Corporation was laid on the table and received.

The Chairman, Rev Andrew Slater, moved the deliverance:

That the Assembly:

- Allocate the balance of the bequest from Irene Helen Hicks (\$7,792) to the General Assembly for its general purposes.

The motion was seconded and approved.

27. Church and Nation Committee

The report of the Church and Nation Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Rev Darren Middleton, moved the deliverance.

The motion was seconded.

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause.

Clauses 1-5 were approved.

Clause 6 was approved.

Clause 7 was approved.

The deliverance as a whole was moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Commend the Committee website www.yourCaN.org to presbyteries, sessions and congregations where copies of CaN government submissions and other helpful materials may be found.
2. Encourage presbyteries and sessions to make use of the Committee's willingness to speak on matters that fall within its purview at meetings or gatherings.
3. Encourage sessions to give contact details of a nominated member of their congregation who has an interest in matters ethical and political to be an information bridge between the Committee and congregations.
4. Encourage the Moderator to attend the Australian Christian Lobby National Conference in Canberra, October 2013, representing the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.
5. Endorse the Committee's plans for a second Religion in the Public Square in August 2013, with Rev Dr Mark Durie and the Hon John Anderson AO as keynote speakers.
6. Endorse the Committee's statement on equality as a helpful Christian statement and commend it to the wider church.
7. Request the Church and Nation Committee to report to the Commission of Assembly on any urgent matters and subsequent actions that may emerge between Assemblies as defined by the Committee's regulations.

The motion was seconded and approved.

28. Code and General Administration Committee

The report of the Code and General Administration Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Rev Dr John Wilson, moved the deliverance.

The motion was seconded.

Rev Dean Carroll sought leave to move to amend clause 3 by inserting the words 'twelve month'.

Leave was granted.

Rev Dean Carroll moved that the Assembly amend clause 3 by inserting in it the words 'twelve month' after 'a', so it would read 'Declare a twelve month moratorium etc.'.

The amendment was seconded and disapproved.

Clauses 1-4 were approved.

Very Rev Dr Allan Harman moved:

That the Assembly:

5. Request the Code Committee to consider rule 4:89 re 'Union, readjustment or dissolution of congregations' with a view to:

- a. proposing alterations to clarify the wording, including a definition of the term 'readjustment', or its possible deletion;
- b. consider, in consultation with the Trusts Corporation and the ad hoc committee looking at the use of Sites Reserve monies, the issues relating to property when congregations are united, with a view to ensuring that in a union any property becomes available for the benefit of the new united congregation to the extent of its foreseeable need without a congregation having to be dissolved according to rule 4:90;
- c. consider the possible deletion of the last sentence ('At all times the Presbytery encourages and assists mission stations and appointment parishes to rise to the status of a charge'), or inserting it at a more appropriate place in the Code;
- d. consider this matter urgent (in the light of clause 3 above) and report in the usual way with recommendations to the next General Assembly.

Rev Darren Middleton sought leave to move to amend subclause b. by leaving out the words 'to the extent of its foreseeable need'.

Leave was granted.

Rev Darren Middleton moved that the Assembly amend subclause b. by deleting the words 'to the extent of its foreseeable need', so that it would read:

- b. consider, in consultation with the Trusts Corporation and the ad hoc committee looking at the use of Sites Reserve monies, the issues relating to property when congregations are united, with a view to ensuring that in a union any property becomes available for the benefit of the new united congregation without a congregation having to be dissolved according to rule 4:90;

The amendment was approved.

Clause 5 as amended was approved.

The deliverance as a whole as amended was moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Delete all words of rule 5:17 and insert the following words in their place:

Vacancy in Office

- 17 a) Any vacancy in the office of Law Agent occurring when the Assembly is not sitting shall be filled by the appointment of a Law Agent to hold office until the next meeting of the Assembly. This appointment is to be made by resolution of the Board of Investment and Finance.
- b) If the Law Agent is on leave, ill, or otherwise unavailable to perform the duties of Law Agent, the Board of Investment and Finance shall engage a qualified legal practitioner to act as Law Agent for the time that the Law Agent is on leave, ill, or otherwise unavailable.
- c) If it is possible, the Board of Investment and Finance shall consult with the Law Agent prior to engaging a legal practitioner under rule 17(b).
- d) The Law Agent, or someone acting on his or her behalf, shall notify the Clerk and/or the General Manager of the period of time the Law Agent will be on leave, ill, or otherwise unavailable to perform the duties of Law Agent.

2. Endorse the work of the Committee in approaching each Assembly committee, asking for views on how 'a greater measure of co-ordination and co-operation in the work of the church may be secured and increased efficiency be promoted in the work of the Assembly and its committees'.
3. Declare a moratorium on proposed changes to the PCV Code, except for urgent reasons, to allow a thorough review process to take place by the Committee as its own regulations direct.
4. Appoint the Selection Committee, in the following terms:
 CITY: Rev Andrew Bray (Rt 14) (Convener), Rev John Rickard (Rt 15),
 Rev Dean Carroll (Rt 14), Mr Reg Butcher (Rt 13), Elder Bert Stasse
 (Rt 15)
 COUNTRY: Rev Hui Lim (Rt 15), Rev Neil Harvey (Rt 14)
5. Request the Code Committee to consider the rule 4:89 re 'Union, readjustment or dissolution of congregations' with a view to:
 - a. proposing alterations to clarify the wording, including a definition of the term 'readjustment', or its possible deletion;
 - b. consider, in consultation with the Trusts Corporation and the ad hoc committee looking at the use of Sites Reserve monies, the issues relating to property when congregations are united, with a view to ensuring that in a union any property becomes available for the benefit of the new united congregation without a congregation having to be dissolved according to rule 4:90;
 - c. consider the possible deletion of the last sentence ('At all times the Presbytery encourages and assists mission stations and appointment parishes to rise to the status of a charge'), or inserting it at a more appropriate place in the Code;
 - d. consider this matter urgent (in the light of clause 3 above) and report in the usual way with recommendations to the next General Assembly.

The motion was approved.

It was agreed to vary the order of day to take up the State News Committee's report.

29. State News Committee

The report of the State News Committee was laid on the table and received.

In the absence of the Convener (Rev Neil Harvey) the Clerk moved the deliverance.

That the Assembly:

1. Express its appreciation to Mrs Chiara Bilyj for her capable editorship of *fellow workers*.
2. Encourage individuals, parishes, presbyteries and assembly committees and organisations to contribute articles to and make use of our State Newsletter as a means of raising prayerful interest in the work of the church.

The motion was seconded and approved.

30. Overture 3 – from Five Members of the Assembly re: Federal Vision Theology

The overture was laid on the table and received.

The overture was stated by Rev Kevin Maxwell and Rev Paul Seiler.

Questions were asked of the overturists.

Rev Kevin Maxwell moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the overture.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Rev Kevin Maxwell moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Appoint an ad hoc committee to investigate the soteriology of the Federal Vision/Auburn Avenue theologies and determine whether these viewpoints and formulations conform with or are compatible with the system of doctrine taught in the Westminster Confession of Faith read in the light of the Declaratory Statement, whether they are hostile to or strike at the very heart of the gospel, and present a declaration or statement regarding the issues raised by these viewpoints to the 2013 General Assembly.
2. Appoint Rev Dr Douglas Milne as the Convener of the ad hoc committee.
3. Appoint the faculty of the Presbyterian Theological College, Victoria, as the members of the committee.

The motion was seconded and approved.

31. Church Planting Committee

The report of the Church Planting Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Rev Don Elliott, moved the deliverance.

The motion was seconded.

Leave was granted for Richard Wilson, Church Planter, to speak.

Mr Wilson addressed the Assembly on the progress of Valley Presbyterian Church and church planting in the wider PCV.

It was agreed to adjourn the debate (min. 67)

32. Commission for Church Institutions

The report of the Commission for Church Institutions was laid on the table and received.

The Clerk moved the deliverance:

That the Assembly:

Appoint the Moderator (Chairman), Clerk of Assembly, Deputy Clerk, Business Convener, Law Agent, Rev Douglas Robertson, Ivan Barker, Andrew Bray, John Cho, Trevor Cox, Philip Daffy, John Dekker, Graham Nicholson, Chris Siriweera, Graeme Weber and elder Dr Robert Baldock with five members to form a quorum as the Commission for Church Institutions, a commission to exercise the powers of the General Assembly:

1. with respect of or conferred by constitutional documents of Scotch College and Presbyterian Ladies' College, and instruct the Commission that in making appointments to Group A and Group C of the Council of these schools it should appoint persons committed to upholding the trusts on which those schools are held;
2. with respect to the constitutions of any other school or institution in connection with the Presbyterian Church of Victoria as may be necessary or expedient from time to time and in particular powers of appointment or removal of officers and directors.

The motion was seconded and approved.

33. Belgrave Heights Christian School

The report of the Belgrave Heights Christian School was laid on the table and received.

34. St Andrews Christian College

The report of St Andrews Christian College was laid on the table and received.

35. Scotch College

The report of Scotch College was laid on the table and received.

36. Adjournment

The Assembly adjourned to meet at 7.00pm on Tuesday 9 October 2012, which having been duly intimated, the Moderator closed the sederunt with the benediction.

Clerks
J P Wilson
P W Phillips

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
of the
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA
3rd Sederunt: Tuesday 9 October (pm)**

At Melbourne, and in the Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall, Tuesday 9 October 2012 at 7.00pm.

37. Constitution

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria met pursuant to adjournment. The Moderator's Chaplain, Rev Ken Brown, led the Assembly with the reading of Scripture, prayer and singing. The Moderator constituted the Assembly with prayer.

38. Apologies

The Deputy Clerk noted the apologies as follows:

Ministers:

For this sederunt: Keith Allen, John Cho, John Cromarty, Phil Daffy, Miles Fagan, Clinton Le Page, Andrew Robinson, Mark Tonkin.

Elders:

For this sederunt: Doug Fraser.

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the apologies.

The motion was seconded and approved.

39. Business Committee

The Business Convener laid on the table a proposed agenda and moved that it be approved.

The motion was seconded and approved.

40. Minutes of the Previous Sederunt

The Deputy Clerk laid on the table the minutes of the 2nd Sederunt.

41. Maintenance of the Ministry Committee

The report of the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Elder John Angelico, moved the deliverance:

That the Assembly:

1. Thank presbyteries for their continued assistance in dealing with Annual Parish Reports and providing helpful comments to guide the Committee.
2. Encourage charges to avail themselves of the new Convener's knowledge and skills where this would assist the treasurer and board.
3. Encourage all charges to develop a financial budget each year approved by their board of management, and presented to the congregation.
4. Encourage presbyteries to assist charges develop a yearly financial budget by advising them of the GMP allocation and presbytery rate as soon as possible each year.
5. Encourage all charges and home mission stations to forward their completed Annual Parish Reports to their presbytery as early as possible, and no later than the due date.

6. Encourage presbyteries to establish standing committees to assess the finances of parishes on a consistent basis, and to evaluate all applications for assistance in the light of the understanding gained thereby.

The motion was seconded and approved.

42. Social Services Committee

The report of the Social Services Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Elder Robert Lowe, moved the deliverance.

The motion was seconded.

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause.

Clause 1 was approved.

Clauses 2-4 were approved.

The deliverance as a whole was moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Approve of the Social Services Committee conducting a state wide appeal within the Presbyterian Church of Victoria to build a Chapel at Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes.
2. Thank committee members and especially those who now retire under the 9 year rule, for their faithful service during the last Assembly year.
3. Give thanks to God for the ministry of Rev Wally Gear, Rev Andrew Bray and Mrs Janine Moyter, Pastoral Care Intern, for their pastoral care work with the residents of Kirkbrae and Tannoch Brae.
4. Approve that \$6.5 million of the committee's funds be committed over a period of 24 months to construct 12 one and two bedroom units, a new administration centre and relocation of the maintenance sheds.

The motion was seconded and approved.

43. General Mission Program Committee

The report of the General Mission Program Committee was laid on the table and received.

In the absence of the Convener (Elder Norm Sharp) Rev Dr John Woodward moved the deliverance.

That the Assembly:

1. Commend those parishes and presbyteries which have fully subscribed their allocation for the 2011/12 General Mission Program and particularly commend those congregations which have subscribed more than the amount allocated to it by their presbytery.
2. When considering allocations to parishes request presbyteries to consider each parish's ability to meet their allocation irrespective of the formula used in deciding the respective allocations.
3. Request presbyteries to remind sessions, boards of management and congregations of the need for this vital missions program and encourage ministers and sessions to designate one Sunday in the current year as GMP Sunday for the purpose of promoting the General Mission Program in their congregations.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The Moderator led in prayer for Elder Norm Sharp.

44. Petition 1 – from Presbytery of Kilnoorat re: Dissolution of North Warrnambool Congregation

The petitioners were brought to the bar.

The petition was taken as read and received.

The petitioners stated the petition.
Questions were asked.

The Clerk moved:
That the Assembly:
Grant the prayer of the petition.
The motion was seconded and approved.

The Clerk moved:
That the Assembly:
Agree to the decision of the Presbytery of Kilnoorat taken on 8 May 2012 to dissolve the North Warrnambool congregation (in accord with rule 4:90).
The motion was seconded and approved.
The Moderator informed the petitioners of the decision of the Assembly.
The petitioners were removed from the bar.

45. Petition 2 – from Presbytery of North Western Victoria re: Subdivision and sale of part of the Bendigo manse property

The petitioners were brought to the bar.
The petition was taken as read and received.
The petitioners stated the petition.
Questions were asked.

The Clerk moved:
That the Assembly:
Grant the prayer of the petition.
The motion was seconded and approved.

The Clerk moved:
That the Assembly:

1. Give permission to the Presbytery of North Western Victoria (in accord with BIF regulation 9 and rule 4:105) to subdivide and sell part of the manse property at 4 Drechsler Street Flora Hill (Bendigo), this part measuring approximately 20m by 20m.
2. In the matter of proceeds of sale, draw the attention of Presbytery to BIF regulation 9 and 10 (a) and (b).

The motion was seconded and approved.
The Moderator informed the petitioners of the decision of the Assembly.
The petitioners were removed from the bar.

46. Petition 3 – from Presbytery of Flinders re: Use of the Seaford Manse

The petitioners were brought to the bar.
The Rev Dr Robert Carner took the chair.
The petition was taken as read and received.
The petitioners stated the petition.
Questions were asked.

The Clerk moved:
That the Assembly:
Grant the prayer of the petition.
The motion was seconded and approved.

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Notwithstanding GAV min. 99, 2011, and in the light of changed circumstances, permit the Presbytery of Flinders to withdraw from the sale of the former Seaford manse, so that the property may be used instead for ministry purposes with the Frankston Parish.
2. Permit the property at 12 Erwin Drive Seaford to be used as a manse site in conjunction with the Frankston congregation under the terms of the Model Trust Deed.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The Moderator informed the petitioners of the decision of the Assembly.

The petitioners were removed from the bar.

Rt Rev David Palmer resumed the chair.

47. Overture 1 – from Five Members of the Assembly re: Strategy Committee Proposal

The overture was laid on the table and received.

The overture was stated by Rev Dr Robert Carner and Elder Tony Zirngast.

Questions were asked of the overturists.

Rev Dr Robert Carner moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the overture.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

The Clerk moved that the Assembly:

Dismiss the overture:

The motion was seconded and approved.

48. Building and Property Committee

The report of the Building and Property Committee was laid on the table and received.

49. Adjournment

The Assembly adjourned to meet at 9.30am on Wednesday 10 October 2012, which having been duly intimated, the Moderator closed the sederunt with the benediction.

CLERKS:
J P Wilson
P W Phillips

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
of the
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA
4th Sederunt: Wednesday 10 October (am)**

At Melbourne, and in the Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall,
Wednesday 10 October 2012 at 9.30am.

50. Constitution:

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria met pursuant to adjournment. The Moderator, Rt Rev David Palmer, constituted the Assembly with prayer.

51. Assembly Expositor

The Assembly Expositor, Rev Dr John Wilson, led the Assembly in the second of his Assembly expositions, "Union in Christ – enjoyed by being adopted into God's family," based on Romans 8:12-17.

52. Apologies

The Deputy Clerk noted the following apologies:

Ministers:

For this sederunt: Phil Daffy, Graeme Weber.

For this and all subsequent sederunts: Andrew Bray.

Elders:

For this and all subsequent sederunts: John Angelico.

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the apologies:

The motion was seconded and approved.

53. Business Committee

The Business Convener laid on the table a proposed agenda and moved that it be approved.

The motion was seconded and approved.

54. Minutes of Previous Sederunt

The Deputy Clerk laid on the table minutes of the 3rd sederunt.

55. ACCESS Ministries

The report of Access Ministries was laid on the table and received.

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Alison Thomas and Mr Justin Simpson (Director, CRE) to the Assembly.

Mrs Thomas addressed the Assembly on the work of spreading the Word of God in schools, and introduced Mr Simpson to the Assembly.

Mr Simpson addressed the Assembly. He thanked the Church for its support of ACCESS Ministries, brought greetings from ACCESS CEO, Dr Evonne Paddison, and spoke on the importance of CRE for a generation of children largely ignorant of the Bible and the Christian Faith.

The Moderator led in prayer for the work of ACCESS Ministries.

56. The Bible Society in Australia (Victoria)

The report of the Bible Society in Australia (Victoria) was laid on the table and received.

The Bible Society representative, Rev Keith Allen, moved the deliverance:

That the Assembly:

1. Encourage individuals and representatives of congregations where appropriate to make their own contact with Bible Society Australia for purposes of support and information.
2. Express to Bible Society Australia our prayerful support in its continuing task of making the Scriptures available and read in every language and among every people in the world.
3. Request Bible Society Australia through its CEO to indicate to the General Assembly the ways in which it would want to be related to this Assembly.

The motion was seconded and approved.

57. Ministry Development Committee

The report of the Ministry Development Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Rev Tony Bird, moved the deliverance:

That the Assembly:

1. Encourage healthy and resourced congregations as well as struggling congregations to consider sister church relationships.
2. Encourage all aid-receiving parishes to re-assess their ministry paradigm, encouraging them to engage in the Ministry Tool Box and Embers to a Flame.
3. Encourage ministers and sessions to prayerfully search out and challenge suitably gifted members of their congregations and to intentionally disciple such members, with the goal that the Lord may lead them to consider Home Mission service and/or training and candidating for the Ministry of Word and Sacraments.
4. Encourage congregations to engage in evangelism training and to use opportunities to share their faith by engaging the participation of the Ministry Development Committee (or other agency) for training, and applying for an evangelism grant from the Ministry Development Committee.
5. Encourage presbyteries with vacancies to consider an Intentional Interim Moderator where such a ministry would be beneficial.
6. Encourage vacant churches to consider a District Interim Moderator to provide consistent and efficient guidance in their time of vacancy and to release Interim Moderators to focus on the congregation that has called them.
7. Thank retiring MDC members Mr John Dalstead and Rev Gerald Vanderwert for their diligent and faithful service on the committee.
8. Give thanks to the Lord for the faithful ministry of the Ministry Development Director, Rev Dr Robert Carner.
9. Thank Mr Ben Palmer for his secretarial support to the Director and committee.
10. Thank Mrs Rosslyn Grant, Mrs Sharee Barnett, Mr John Vandenberg, and General Manager Mr Michael Ellison for the invaluable help, support and advice that the Church Office gives to the committee.

The motion was seconded and approved.

58. Australian Presbyterian World Mission (Vic) Committee

The report of the APWM (Vic) Committee was laid on the table and received.

Moderator welcomed the following missionaries to the Assembly:

Calvin and Ruth Mathys and infant daughter Petra
Jeanette Bennett
Len Pearce

The Moderator welcomed Rev Kevin Murray, APWM National Director, to the Assembly, and invited him to speak.

Rev Kevin Murray addressed the Assembly on the work of APWM.

Rev Dean Carroll led in prayer for the missionaries of our Church.

The Convener, Rev Phil Simmonds, moved the deliverance:

That the Assembly:

1. Praise God for our missionary team, and commend to God and the wider church those who serve the Lord Jesus as part of that team.
2. Request the Moderator to give the greetings of the Assembly to all our serving missionaries.
3. Praise God for his blessing upon STAMP 2012 (Malawi/Zambia) and request ongoing prayer that God would use and bless these short-term mission trips for his glory.
4. Praise God for strengthened relationships with the CCAP Synod of Blantyre, Malawi, and the CCAP Zambia Synod through the STAMP 2012 (Malawi/Zambia) visits.
5. Encourage ministers, sessions and mission committees to seriously consider a short-term mission trip (especially STAMP and Work Partners) as a method of increasing interest and involvement in world mission.
6. Encourage all congregations to remember in prayer our PCV missionaries, and promote specific missions prayer groups within the life of their congregations.
7. Encourage all congregations to extend financial and prayerful support for our missionaries who minister to the Aboriginal community, especially Rev Rick and Kayleen Manton.
8. Praise God for the work of the PWMU State Council and branches in the support of missions.
9. Praise God for the ministry of the APWM National Office in Sydney, and encourage the wider church to extend financial and prayerful support for the ministries of the APWM National Director and our partner churches and missionaries within Australia and overseas.
10. Commend the regular APWM publications to the wider church.
11. Give praise to God for the growth of the 'Work Partners' short-term mission trips and commend these to the Victorian church.
12. With regard to the oversight of trustees, approve and regularise the ORBUS arrangement as it has been practised since the signing of the Agreement on 22nd September 2010.
13. Approve the appointment of the Clerk of Assembly, PCV, as the Australian Trustee of the ORBUS Centre in Blantyre, Malawi.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The Moderator led in prayer for the missionaries of the Church, for the work of APWM, and especially for the work in Malawi.

59. Archive

The report of the Archive was laid on the table and received.

The Clerk presented to the Moderator for the Assembly a portrait of Rev Dr John G Paton, pioneer missionary to the New Hebrides, which had been preserved and restored, to be hung in the Church Office, and Dr Helen Gillan, representing the donors of the portrait. The Moderator welcomed Dr Gillan to the Assembly, and thanked her for the gift.

The Clerk moved the deliverance:

That the Assembly:

1. Thank the PCV Archivist, Mrs Christine Palmer, together with her volunteers, for the way they apply themselves with professional expertise, faithfulness and cheerfulness to the job of supervising the PCV Archive on our behalf.
2. Thank Mary and Helen Gillan, great granddaughters of the Rev Dr John G Paton, for their generous gift of a glass photographic portrait of Paton.
3. Continue to remember God's gifts and blessings to this church over the years, and to recall God's mercy and kindness of his grace toward us, by keeping and maintaining a faithful record of past events in the life of the PCV.

The motion was seconded and approved.

It was agreed to vary the order of the day to take up Communication 8.

60. Communication 8 – from Very Rev Bob Thomas, re: Work of PresAID

Communication 8 from Very Rev Bob Thomas re: work of PresAID was laid on the table and received.

Very Rev Bob Thomas moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Give thanks to the Lord our God for the generosity of his people displayed since the establishment of PresAID, and the many ways in which our sister churches in various parts of the developing world have consequently been assisted to improve and extend their work and witness.
2. Encourage all congregations of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria to participate in the 2012 PresAID Christmas Day Appeal and all our people to give generously to the appeal.

The motion was seconded and approved.

61. Death of Rev Dr Alex Stevens

The Moderator announced that Rev Dr Alex Stevens, a minister of this Church, went to glory early this morning.

The Moderator led the Assembly in prayer for Mr Steven's family.

62. Presbyterian Ladies College

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Elaine Collin, Principal, Presbyterian Ladies College, to the Assembly, and invited her to speak.

Mrs Collin addressed the Assembly on the work of the College and its students.

The Moderator thanked Mrs Collin for her address.

The report of Presbyterian Ladies College was laid on the table and received.

63. Home Mission Workers Association

The Moderator welcomed Miss Rion Jennings to the Assembly.

Miss Jennings addressed the Assembly.

The Moderator thanked Miss Jennings for her report and the splendid work of the Association.

The report of the HMWA was laid on the table and received.

Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee

The report of the Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Rev Miles Fagan, moved the deliverance:

That the Assembly:

1. Give thanks to God for the faithful work of all our paid and voluntary chaplains, asking for his blessing on their continued labours in a variety of fields in the coming year, and in particular giving thanks for the way that both Keith Bell and Janine Motyer have settled down and been welcomed in their respective new workplaces.
2. Give thanks to God for the sustaining of the committee and the effectiveness of its work, particularly with relation to Mrs Kathy James who has served the HCCC and this denomination to the highest levels possible.
3. Praise God for the overwhelming generosity of PCV congregations in contributing to this year's Good Friday Appeal and for grace and wisdom for the committee in the faithful administration of these funds.
4. Pray for guidance and direction for the HCCC in all future endeavours relating to the recruitment, development and training of future chaplaincy and pastoral care workers, giving thanks in particular for the establishment of the new Pastoral Care internship at Kirkbrae.
5. Give thanks for the provision of suitable office and meeting spaces for HCCC at both Heathmont House and Scots' Church, being grateful, in particular for the men and women who maintain these venues to the highest of professional standards.
6. Pray for God's leading and guidance in our ongoing engagement with external chaplaincy providers and government linked organisations including the HCCVI, ACCESS Ministries and the Victorian Council of Churches.
7. Pray that HCCVI's strategies and future directions and HCCC's engagement with chaplaincy at the coalface will be in unison, and in particular where there are differences, praying that we will seek God's guidance and grace to maximize the potential of what is offered.
8. Give thanks for many opportunities for collaboration with other Assembly committees in the mutual support of important denominational work and pray for God's help and blessing on all such endeavours in the future, 'Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!' (Ps 133:1)
9. Pray for the ongoing pastoral care of our chaplains, ministers and their families and for God's grace and help to them as they continue to minister across a range of spheres.
10. Encourage presbyteries to consider forming a committee of Pastoral Care to further enhance the pastoral oversight of its members.
11. Suggest that the operation of presbytery Pastoral Care Committees could include prayer days, making regular contact other than presbytery meetings, and a sub-committee of pastorally sensitive people to support and pray for minister / elders in pastoral situations requiring any early intervention.
12. Pray for the recruitment and training of more chaplains to minister to the community through emerging opportunities in sports chaplaincy, and especially praying for Rev Jeremy Dover as he seeks to devote time to both parish and Sports Chaplaincy Australia commitments.

The motion was seconded and approved.

65. Petition 5 – from Presbytery of Benalla re: Dissolution of the Tallangatta Congregation

The petitioners were brought to the bar.
The petition was taken as read and received.
The petitioners stated the petition.
Questions were asked.

The Deputy Clerk moved:
That the Assembly:
Grant the prayer of the petition.
The motion was seconded and approved.

The Deputy Clerk moved:
That the Assembly:
1. Agree to the decision of the Presbytery of Benalla taken on 29 June 2012 to dissolve the Tallangatta congregation (in accord with rule 4:90).
2. Declare that this decision shall have immediate effect (in accord with rule 6:15).

The motion was seconded and approved
The Moderator informed the petitioners of the Assembly's decision.
The petitioners were removed from the bar.

66. Petition 6 – from Presbytery of Benalla re: Sale of the Tallangatta Property

The petitioners were at the bar.
The petition was taken as read and received.
The petitioners stated the petition.
Questions were asked.

The Deputy Clerk moved:
That the Assembly:
Grant the prayer of the petition.
The motion was seconded and approved.

The Deputy Clerk moved:
That the Assembly:
1. Give permission to the Presbytery of Benalla (in accord with BIF regulation 10(c) and rule 4:105) to sell the property at Tallangatta.
2. In the matter of proceeds of sale, draw the attention of Presbytery to BIF regulation 10 (c) and (d).

The motion was seconded and approved.
The Moderator informed the petitioners of the Assembly's decision.
The petitioners were removed from the bar.

67. Church Planting Committee (min. 31)

It was agreed to resume the business.
It was agreed to adjourn the debate (min. 95)

68. Defence Force Chaplaincy Committee

The report of the Defence Force Chaplaincy Committee was laid on the table and received.
In the absence of the Convener (Rev Martin de Pyle) Rev Andrew Robinson moved the deliverance:

That the Assembly:

1. Urge ministers, home missionaries and lay preachers to keep praying for military chaplains as they minister in the name of Christ to ADF personnel in Australia and overseas.
2. Express thanks to Very Rev Prof Allan Harman for the faithful leadership he provides to the Religious Advisory Committee to the Services.
3. Encourage ministers to consider and apply for ministry as Defence Force chaplains, both full-time and as reservists.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The Moderator led the Assembly in prayer for chaplains.

69. Communication 1 – from Rev Robert Duncanson, Convener, and Stuart Bonnington, Superintendent, of the Presbyterian Inland Mission, re: Work of the mission

Communication 1 – from Rev Robert Duncanson, Convener, and Stuart Bonnington, Superintendent, of the Presbyterian Inland Mission, re: work of the mission was laid on the table and received.

Rev Mark Smith moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Note the appointment by PIM of the Rev Keith Bell as the Church Planter for the Alice Springs Presbyterian Mission Church.
2. Encourage all congregations to partner with Rev Keith and Mrs Jenny Bell through prayer and where possible through practical means as Keith and Jenny make the transition to their new appointment.
3. Refer the matter of Presbytery supervision of the new church plant at Alice Springs, and other associated matters, for decision at the Commission of Assembly May 2013.

Rev John Decker sought leave to move to amend clause 3 by leaving out the word 'decision' in order to insert in its place the word 'consideration'.

The Moderator ruled that the proposed amendment was not competent.

Rev John Decker moved that the Assembly depart from the Moderator's ruling.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

The Moderator commended Rev Keith and Mrs Jenny Bell on their taking up the challenge of the new PIM work in Alice Springs, and led the Assembly in prayer for them and the new work.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Rev Rob Duncanson moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Give thanks to Almighty God for the life and Christian witness of Rev Dr John Flynn, a son of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, in this the centenary year of the foundation of the Australian Inland Mission.
2. Encourage all congregations and Presbyteries to support the work of the Presbyterian Inland Mission by prayer, by going and giving so that the Lord Jesus Christ will be proclaimed by word and deeds 'beyond the furthest fences'.

The motion was seconded and approved.

70. Christian Education and Nurture Committee

The report of the Christian Education and Nurture Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Rev Scott Kroeger, moved the deliverance.

The motion was seconded.

The Convener introduced to the Assembly:

Miss Joy Venning, Convener, PYV, who addressed the Assembly about the work of PYV and how it might help local congregations in their youth ministries.

Rev Brian Harvey, who addressed the Assembly about his ministry and youth work generally.

Mrs Anne Harvey, who addressed the Assembly about women's ministries in the Church.

The deliverance was put:

That the Assembly:

1. Give thanks to God for the harmonious working relationships evident within the Committee.
2. Appoint an ad hoc committee consisting of the Moderator, the Law Agent (or other legal advisor), the Clerk of Assembly, a member of the Trusts Corporation/BIF, and a member of the Code Committee, to revise the document '*Breaking The Silence*' to ensure it is up to date and meets all the requirements of state and federal regulations and statutes.
3. Urge all committees to supply any information, forms, or resource materials for public dissemination to the webmaster to put up onto denominational websites and made freely available to our churches, presbyteries and general public as appropriate.
4. Urge congregations and presbyteries to make use of the Fuelled Training Days and specifically encourage ministers and elders to seek delegates from their congregation to attend these excellent training days.
5. Commend to churches and presbyteries the work of the developing Women's Ministry initiatives and urge women to be involved and participate in local church discipleship, regional and national training events and fellowship.

The motion was approved.

71. Petition 4 – from Presbytery of Maroondah re: Rev Brian Harvey

The petitioners were brought to the bar.

The petition was taken as read and received.

The petitioners stated the petition.

Questions were asked.

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Grant the prayer of the petition.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Grant Rev Brian Harvey a seat on the presbytery in which he resides as long as his appointment as Youth Ministry Director lasts in accord with the provision of rule 4:3(g).

The motion was seconded and approved.

The Moderator informed the petitioners of the Assembly's decision.

The petitioners were removed from the bar.

72. Petition 7 – from Presbytery of Kilnoorat re: Sale of Garvoc property

The petitioners were brought to the bar.

The petition was taken as read and received.

The petitioners stated the petition.
Questions were asked.

The Clerk moved:
That the Assembly:
Grant the prayer of the petition.
The motion was seconded and approved.

The Clerk moved:
That the Assembly:
1. Give permission to the Presbytery of Kilnoorat (in accord with BIF regulation 10(c) and rule 4:105) to sell the property at Garvoc.
2. In the matter of proceeds of sale, draw the attention of Presbytery to BIF regulation 10 (c) and (d).
The motion was seconded and approved.
The Moderator informed the petitioners of the Assembly's decision.
The petitioners were removed from the bar.

73. Communication 2 – from Mavis Thomson, Professional Standards Network of Victoria re: Representation of the Denomination on the Network

Communication 2 from Mavis Thomson, Professional Standards Network of Victoria, re: Representation of the denomination on the Network, was laid on the table and received.

74. Communication 3 – from Rev Dr Paul Logan, Clerk of the GAA re: Appointment of Commissioners to the 2013 GAA

Communication 3 from Rev Dr Paul Logan, Clerk of the GAA, re: Appointment of Commissioners to the 2013 GAA, was laid on the table and received.

75. Communication 4 – from Rev Dr Paul Logan, Clerk of the GAA re: Appointment of Moderator-General Nominate, 2013 GAA

Communication 3 from Rev Dr Paul Logan, Clerk of the GAA, re: Advising that Rev David Andrew Cook is Moderator-General Nominate for the 2013 General Assembly of the GAA, was laid on the table and received.

The Clerk sought leave to move a motion of congratulation to Rev David Cook.
Leave was granted.

The Clerk moved:
The Assembly:
Congratulate Rev David Cook on his elevation to the high office of Moderator-General for the 2013 General Assembly of the GAA.
The motion was seconded and approved.

76. Communication 5 – from Rev Tony Parle, Clerk of the Presbytery of Melbourne North, re: Five Yearly Visitations

Communication 2 from Rev Tony Parle, Clerk of the Presbytery of Melbourne North, re: Advising of the Presbytery's decision to suspend its regular practice of Presbyterian five-yearly visitations for 2012-2013 (inclusive), was laid on the table and received.

77. Communication 6 – from Mr David Gibb, Secretary, Social Services Committee, re: Federal Government Aged Care Funding Reform

Communication 6 – from Mr David Gibb, Secretary, Social Services Committee, re: Federal Government Aged Care Funding Reform, was laid on the table and received.

78. Communication 7 – from Mr Noddy Sharma, OM Australia, re: Ministry of OM Australia

Communication 7 – from Mr Noddy Sharma, OM Australia, re: ministry of OM Australia, was laid on the table and received.

79. Adjournment

The Assembly adjourned to meet at 7.00pm on Wednesday 10 October 2012, which having been duly intimated, the Moderator closed the sederunt with the benediction.

Clerks:
J P Wilson
P W Phillips

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
of the
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA
5th Sederunt: Wednesday 10 October (pm)**

At Melbourne, and in the Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall,
Wednesday 10 October 2012 at 7.00pm.

80. Constitution:

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria met pursuant to adjournment. Moderator's Chaplain Rev Daniel Combridge led the Assembly in worship and constituted the Assembly with prayer.

81. Apologies

The Clerk noted the following apologies for this sederunt:

Ministers: Keith Allen, John Cromarty, Phil Daffy, Alan Every, Wally Gear, Allan Harman, Bill Medley, Andrew Robinson.

Elders: John Angelico, Brian Bayston.

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the apologies.

The motion was seconded and approved.

82. Business Committee

The Business Convener laid on the table a proposed agenda and moved that it be approved.

The motion was seconded and approved.

83. Minutes of the Previous Sederunt

The Deputy Clerk laid on the table minutes of the 4th sederunt.

84. Overture 2 – from the Board of Investment and Finance re: Proposed Clerkship Committee

The overture was laid on the table and received.

The overture was stated by Rev Andrew Slater and Elder Edward de Zilwa.

Questions were asked of the overturists.

Rev Andrew Slater moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the overture.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Rev Andrew Slater moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Establish a Clerkship Committee to replace the Clerkship Review Committee
2. Enact the following regulations for the Clerkship Committee:

Clerkship Committee

Title

1. There shall be a committee of the General Assembly to be called the Clerkship Committee ('the Committee') consisting of the Moderator (convener), the Law Agent, the convener of the Business committee, the convener of the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee, the chairman of the Board of Investment and Finance and the two immediate past moderators.

Purpose

2. The purpose of the committee is to provide pastoral and other support for the Clerk and to administer the Clerk's terms of settlement.

Function

3. The functions of the Committee shall be to:
 - a. Provide counsel, pastoral care and support to the Clerk;
 - b. Provide a body from whom the Clerk can seek advice between meetings of the Assembly;
 - c. Receive annual reports from the Clerk on the performance of duties as determined by the Assembly and specified in the 'Statement of Duties' as published by the Assembly from time to time;
 - d. Recommend to the Assembly, in consultation with the Board of Investment and Finance, the remuneration to be paid to the Clerk;
 - e. Receive and determine any requests for leave made by the Clerk;
 - f. Appoint an Acting Clerk whenever the Clerk is on leave, ill or otherwise unable to perform the duties of his office;
 - g. Perform the role of the Clerkship Review Committee as specified in the Terms of Settlement for the Clerk of Assembly.

Frequency of Meeting

4. The Committee shall only meet as and when required but shall meet at least once during the year prior to the meeting of the Assembly for that year.

Definitions

5. In these regulations:
The Assembly means the General Assembly of Victoria
The Clerk means the person elected to that office by the Assembly pursuant to provisions contained in the Code and shall also mean, where appropriate, the Deputy Clerk.

The motion was seconded and approved.

85. Theological Education Committee

The report of the Theological Education Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Rev Neil Chambers, moved the deliverance.

The motion was seconded.

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause.

Clauses 1-4, 6-7 and 14 were approved.

Clause 5 was approved by acclamation.

Clauses 8-10 and 11 were approved.

Clause 12 was approved.

Clause 13 was approved.

The deliverance as a whole was moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Give thanks to God for the work of Alicia Noble and Sophia Urbano in the College Office, Mrs Mignon Goswell in PTC Media, and Mrs Heather Rickard in the library.
2. Give thanks to God for Principal Peter Hastie and the Faculty, and pray for His continuing sustaining of them in all their labours, and particularly for continued faithfulness in life and teaching.
3. Give thanks to God for the continuing work of the training officer Rev Nello Barbieri and pray for his continued strength and enthusiasm in that role.
4. Give thanks to God for the service of Prof Douglas Milne in filling in as Acting Principal while Principal Hastie was on Long Service Leave and for his continuing lecturing, and pray that his health would be sustained.
5. Give thanks to God for the 11 years' service given to the PTC by Rev Dr Greg and Mrs Mignon Goswell, and pray for continuing fruitfulness in his teaching ministry as he commences work with the PTC NSW, noting that Dr Goswell has:
 - a. has inspired many with a love of the Old Testament,
 - b. been active in the student administration of the College,
 - c. supervised several post graduate students in OT whilst at the PTC,
 - d. facilitated the College's interaction with the ACT through his active service on their Academic Board.
6. Thank Graham Nixon for his nine years' service on the TEC and for his outstanding work as property manager over that time, and continue to approve the granting of an honorarium as set out in the TEC budget each year, in acknowledgement of his services.
7. Thank, on the occasion of their retirement from the Committee, Len Webster, John Stasse, and Chris Duke for their service on the TEC and the contribution they have made to the continued operation of the PTC.
8. Urge all members of the Assembly to continue in diligent prayer asking the Lord Jesus to continue to provide us with those he has gifted to be pastors and teachers, and encourage all members of the Assembly to draw the attention of suitably gifted men to the need of the Lord's people for pastors and teachers.
9. Adopt the Lecturer in Old Testament Studies Job Description as the Job Description of the Lecturer in Old Testament Studies at the PTC, as follows:

Lecturer in Old Testament Studies, Theological College

1. Position Summary

The Presbyterian Theological College (PTC), the ministry training college of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, is seeking a lecturer in Old Testament Studies. The PTC is a reformed and evangelical institution which has a vital role in developing, disseminating and

supporting faithful gospel ministry in Melbourne, regional Victoria and beyond. The Assembly, through the Theological Education Committee (TEC), the body entrusted with the oversight of the College by the Victorian Assembly, is looking for a faithful Christian, academically able in the disciplines of Hebrew and Old Testament studies and with experience in pastoral ministry, who can help students understand the Old Testament in its context, locate its teaching in the flow of biblical theology to fulfilment in Christ, and preach it today as God's Word. A lecturer at the PTC will also have a role as a theological resource to his brothers in parish ministry.

2. Responsibilities

The lecturer in Old Testament will be responsible, under the Principal of the PTC, for delivery of lectures in the area of Old Testament studies and Hebrew language, teaching principally the Old Testament courses of the Australian College of Theology.

A lecturer must

- Set an example in life and ministry to the students.
- Contribute to the well-being of the college community.
- Be involved in and represent the College's interests in the life of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.
- Undertake administrative tasks delegated by the Principal.
- Stay abreast of educational developments and be willing to be innovative in the delivery of his courses and in their assessment.

These tasks will involve attendance at faculty meetings, participation in Australian College of Theology meetings in his area, and participation in Presbytery and Assembly.

3. Attributes

- Able to meet the qualifications of an elder as described in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1, i.e. demonstrating a mature Christian character.
- Prayerful.
- Fully committed to the Bible as the Word of God.
- A capacity to communicate clearly.
- Ability to relate to people of diverse cultural backgrounds.

4. Qualifications

Essential

- Qualified in Old Testament at Research Masters level or above.
- A minister in full standing with the Presbyterian church of Australia or willing to satisfy the requirements of the rules of the General Assembly of Australia relative to the reception of ministers from other churches.
- Pastoral experience.
- A wholehearted commitment to the Westminster Confession of Faith as a systematic exposition of the teaching of Scripture.

Achievements and Capabilities

- Demonstrated ability to teach in his discipline, ideally with some experience in curriculum design and assessment.
- Educational experience with an awareness of different modes of delivery of courses.
- Understanding of the Australian Higher Educational context, especially of the expectations of the Australian College of Theology.
- Involvement in discipling and training others in ministry skills.
- Demonstrated capacity to work in a team.
- Experience in the activities of Presbytery and Assembly.
- Administrative experience with an ability to share in the administrative work of a tertiary institution.

10. Declare the Lecturer in Old Testament Studies remuneration package, as follows:
 - a. 1.05 times the minister's minimum remuneration package as defined in the annual MMC deliverance to the Assembly.
 - b. manse provided or benefit as set by the Theological Education Committee.
 - c. telephone rent plus all calls.
 - d. superannuation at the ministerial rate.
 - e. Six month's paid study leave during each fourth and each seventh year of appointment.
 - f. removal costs paid by the Theological Education Committee within Australia but a negotiated figure if from overseas.
 - g. Annual leave equivalent to ministerial annual leave as defined in the annual MMC deliverance to the Assembly, currently five weeks.
 - h. Workcover.
 - i. Payment of manse energy bills up to \$2,000 per annum as a non cash benefit.
 - j. Any other provision the Assembly may determine.
11. Support the BIF in exploring with the TEC ways of funding future capital works at the PTC, and in particular funding for an initial architectural survey as a step to the development of a master plan for the campus.
12. Approve the funding of the TEC Bursary Fund from GMP, the amount being given each year to consist of 20% of the total cost of candidates' fees for the preceding financial year and whatever the reduction in the capital of the fund has been in the previous financial year, this arrangement to be reviewed in five years' time.
13. Communicate to the GAA Code Committee its support for the proposed changes to the composition of the GAA College Committee.
14. Thank Mrs Rosslyn Grant, Mrs Sharee Barnett, Mr John Vandenberg, and General Manager Mr Michael Ellison for the invaluable help, support and advice that the Church Office gives to the committee.

The motion was seconded and approved.

86. Ad Hoc Committee re: Sites Reserve Fund

The report of the Ad Hoc Committee re: Sites Reserve Fund was laid on the table and received.

87. Selection Committee

The report of the Selection Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Rev Bruce Riding, moved the deliverance.

The motion was seconded.

The Deputy Clerk sought leave to move to insert a new clause 4 thanking retiring conveners of committees, with the existing clause 4 to be renumbered 5.

Leave was granted.

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

4. Thank retiring conveners of committees as follows: Elder John Angelico (Maintenance of the Ministry Committee), Rev Bruce Riding (Selection Committee).

The motion was seconded and approved.

It was agreed to adjourn the debate (min. 96).

88. Adjournment

The Assembly adjourned to meet at 9.30am on Thursday 11 October 2012, which having been duly intimated, the Moderator closed the sederunt with the benediction.

CLERKS:
J P Wilson
P W Phillips

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
of the
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA
6th Sederunt: Thursday 11 October (am)**

At Melbourne, and in the Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall, Thursday 11 October 2012 at 9.30am.

89. Constitution:

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria met pursuant to adjournment. The Moderator, Rt Rev David Palmer, constituted the Assembly with prayer.

90. Assembly Expositor

The Assembly Expositor, Rev Dr John Wilson, led the Assembly in the third of this Assembly Expositions, "Union in Christ – anticipating its fulfilment in glory", based on Romans 8:18-30.

The Moderator thanked Mr Wilson on behalf of the Assembly for his expositions.

91. Thanks to Assembly Expositor

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Thank God for the grace given to its Clerk, Rev Dr John Wilson, to enable him to fulfil both his responsibilities as Clerk and to minister God's word in the Assembly Communion Service and in the Assembly Expositions. He preached the Word of God with memorable clarity, power and relevance, to touch the hearts, consciences and wills of all who were privileged to hear him.

The motion was seconded and approved by acclamation.

92. Apologies

The Deputy Clerk noted the following apologies for this sederunt:

Ministers: David Brown, John Cho, Wally Gear, Andrew Robinson, Chris Siriweera, Mark Tonkin, Graeme Weber.

Elders: John Angelico, Kevin Childs.

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the apologies.

The motion was seconded and approved.

93. Business Committee

The Business Convener laid on the table a proposed agenda and moved that it be approved.

The motion was seconded and approved.

94. Minutes of the Previous Sederunt

The Deputy Clerk laid on the table minutes of the 5th sederunt.

95. Church Planting Committee (min. 67)

It was agreed to resume the business.

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause.

Clauses 1-7 were approved.

The Deputy Clerk asked the Moderator to rule that clause 8 was incompetent.

The Moderator ruled that clause 8 was incompetent.

The Deputy Clerk sought leave to move an alternative clause 8.

Leave was granted.

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

8. Refer the matter of the proposed sale of part of the property in Tivendale Road, Officer, to the May 2013 Commission of Assembly for further consideration and decision as may be appropriate in the light of further legal advice and the opinion of the Presbytery of Maroondah.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Clauses 9-11 were approved.

The deliverance as a whole as amended was moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Give thanks for the progress of Valley Presbyterian Church and pray that the many hours of door knocking and community involvement would be used by God to bear much fruit for the kingdom of God.
2. Give thanks for the appointment of Aaron Boyd to the Thornbury area to plant a new congregation and pray that the Lord has already prepared the hearts of many to respond to the good news of Jesus.
3. Commend Bundoora Presbyterian Church for their part in sending a number of their own people to be part of the Thornbury planting team and commend those who are going for their vision and enthusiasm for gospel work.
4. Give thanks for and prayerfully support Peter Owen as he leaves Brimbank Presbyterian Church to take up the full-time position of a church planter at Point Cook.
5. Commend the Brimbank Presbyterian Church for being prepared to allow Peter Owen to take up the work at Point Cook and for welcoming the appointment of Adam Humphries as their new pastor.
6. Give thanks for and prayerfully support Russ Ginter and his team as they establish a new congregation in south east Bendigo.
7. Commend St Johns, Bendigo, for their Gospel minded boldness in seeking to establish and support the South East Bendigo Presbyterian Church and pray that their love and commitment to the Gospel will result in their own Gospel growth.
8. Refer the matter of the proposed sale of part of the property in Tivendale Road, Officer, to the May 2013 Commission of Assembly for further consideration and decision as may be appropriate in the light of further legal advice and the opinion of the Presbytery of Maroondah.
9. Authorise the Board of Investment and Finance on behalf of the Assembly to approve the purchase of land in the Doreen area provided a suitable property is available and the proposed purchase is approved by the Presbytery of Melbourne North.
10. Authorise the Trusts Corporation in consultation with the Law Agent and Church Planting Committee to document the terms of the trust on which any property is to be purchased and held.
11. Thank Lindsay Fraser for his time and contribution to the committee in its inaugural years.

The motion was seconded and approved.

96. Selection Committee (min. 87)

It was agreed to resume the business.

The deliverance as a whole as amended was moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Give thanks to Almighty God for the operations of the Assembly's Committees, Boards and Councils in the 2011-2012 Assembly year.
2. Confirm the appointment of those members appointed by the Selection Committee to fill casual vacancies on committees since the 2011 Assembly.
3. Appoint all those nominated to committees, boards, councils and other bodies and positions as in the Selection Committee's report.
4. Thank retiring conveners of committees as follows: Elder John Angelico (Maintenance of the Ministry Committee), Rev Bruce Riding (Selection Committee).
5. Appoint GAV representatives to GAA as follows
 - a. Ministers: Andrew Bray, Robert Carner, Jared Hood, David Palmer, Peter Phillips, John Wilson.
Alternate ministers: Douglas Robertson, Philip Burns, Grant Lawry.
 - b. Elders: Brian Bayston, Philip Betts, Doug Fraser, Neil Gilmour, Bert Stasse, Edward de Zilwa.
Alternate elders: David Hayward, Norm Sharp.

The motion was seconded and approved.

97. Conciliation Committee

The report of the Conciliation Committee was laid on the table and received.

98. METRO Committee

The report of the METRO Committee was laid on the table and received.

99. Exit Student Committee

The report of the Exit Student Committee was laid on the table and received.

100. Records Committee

The report of the Records Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Rev Graham Nicholson, moved the deliverance.

That the Assembly:

1. Note that the Committee has examined the minutes of the Presbyteries of Geelong, Maroondah, Gippsland, Kilnoorat, Melbourne East, Melbourne North and Melbourne East.
2. Remind all Presbytery Clerks to seek procedural advice from the Assembly Clerk before commencing to deal with any matter that might appear to warrant the use of a "record apart".
3. Remind Presbytery Clerks to take special care in the preservation of all minutes and other material and other material held in a "record apart."

The motion was seconded and approved.

101. Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union (PWMU)

The report of the PWMU was laid on the table and received.

The Moderator welcomed the President of the PWMU, Mrs Eileen Blythe, to the Assembly, and invited her to speak.

Mrs Blythe addressed the Assembly on the work of the PWMU over the past year.

The Moderator thanked Mrs Blythe for her report and led in prayer.

102. Letter of Encouragement – Rev Tony Parle

Rev Robert White sought leave to move that the Assembly send a letter of encouragement to Rev Tony Parle.

Leave was granted.

Rev Robert White moved:

That the Assembly:

Send the following letter of encouragement to Rev Tony Parle.

Dear Tony

Greetings from your brothers and sisters in the General Assembly of Victoria.

We are saddened that your illness has prevented your being with us this year. Both you and Joyce are greatly loved by us all and we have missed your presence among us.

Our hearts' desire for you at this difficult time is that you and the members of your family will be deeply conscious of God's love and provision.

May God continue to bless you in the days ahead as he has in days gone by.

Yours in Christ

The motion was seconded and approved.

103. Petition 8 – from Elder Reg Butcher, re: Procedure followed by the Presbytery of Melbourne North in the allocation of the proceeds of sale of the Pascoe Vale church site.

The petitioner was brought to the bar.

The Clerk advised the Assembly that he had recused himself from participation in this matter because he was a member of the presbytery and pastor to the petitioner.

The Deputy Clerk moved that the petition be taken as read and received.

The motion was seconded.

The Moderator was asked to rule on the competency of the petition.

The Moderator asked the Assembly's Special Judicial Committee to advise the Assembly.

The Deputy Clerk brought the Committee's advice to the Assembly.

The Moderator ruled that the petition was competent.

It was moved that the Assembly depart from the Moderator's ruling.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

The motion that the petition be taken as read and received was approved.

Dissent:

Rev Keith Bell recorded his dissent.

It was agreed to sit in private.

The petitioner stated the petition.

Questions were asked.

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Grant the prayer of the petition.

The Moderator was asked to rule on a question of privilege in that the members of the Presbytery had not had sufficient notice under rule 6:39. The Moderator ruled that there was no question of privilege. It was moved that the Moderator's ruling be departed from. The motion was seconded and disapproved.

Dissent:

Rev Don Elliott recorded his dissent.

The motion to grant the prayer of the petition was seconded and approved.

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Refer the petition to the Code Committee, directing it to report to the 2013 General Assembly

1. On the procedure followed by the Presbytery in dealing with the applications from congregations, with special regard to whether or not
 - a. the presbytery took due care that substantial justice was done to all interests concerned as required by rule 4:27;
 - b. members of the presbytery in voting on the distribution of the funds infringed rule 5:34.
2. Recommending any changes that the Committee considers may be desirable in the light of the matters raised in the petition and its report to the Assembly.

The motion was seconded.

Very Rev Dr Allan Harman proposed an alternative motion.

The Deputy Clerk sought leave to withdraw his motion.

Leave was granted and the motion was withdrawn.

Very Rev Dr Allan Harman moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Refer the petition to the Code Committee, directing it to report to the 2013 General Assembly on
 - a. the procedure to be followed by presbyteries in dealing with applications from congregations for allocation of funds from the sale of property of dissolved congregations, with particular reference to the application of rule 4:27, and
 - b. the application of rule 5:34 for presbyteries in voting on the distribution of funds in which the members of presbytery might have an interest.
 - c. any recommended changes to the Code that the committee considers desirable.
2. Declare this an urgent matter not subject to the moratorium (min. 28.3).

The motion was seconded and approved.

It was agreed to meet in open court.

104. Rev David and Mrs Christine Palmer

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Express its best wishes to its Moderator and his wife, for God's blessing on them both for the coming year.

The motion was seconded and approved.

105. Commission to Confirm Minutes

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Appoint the Moderator and the Clerks of Assembly a Special Commission to scrutinise the minutes of this Assembly with the power to make any necessary corrections and to confirm them, and that a copy thereof be sent to members of the Assembly.

The motion was seconded and approved.

106. Appointment of Commission of Assembly

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Appoint a Commission of the General Assembly consisting of the members of this Assembly, with a quorum of sixteen (eight of whom must be ministers), representing at least four Presbyteries.
2. Empower this Commission of Assembly to consider and determine every matter referred to it by any decision or order of the General Assembly, and instruct the Commission to be careful to follow all instructions given to it by the General Assembly. With the exception of urgent matters, as permitted in clause three below, the Commission is not entitled to take up any matter that has not been referred to it.
3. Empower this Commission of Assembly to consider and determine all matters that have emerged since the last meeting of the Assembly that are considered urgent and in need of executive or judicial action. In taking up these emergent matters the Commission is to consider the best interests of the church on every occasion.
4. Charge this Commission of Assembly in all its actings and decisions to proceed according to the rules and constitution of this church. For all its actings and decisions, this Commission is accountable to and censurable by the next General Assembly.
5. Charge this Commission of Assembly that it must not enact, amend or repeal any rules or regulations of the General Assembly nor enter into the consideration of any overture or motion proposing legislation.
6. Direct the Commission of Assembly to submit its minutes duly confirmed, and relevant papers, to the next General Assembly through the Clerk.
7. Instruct the Commission to meet and convene in the Werner Brodbeck Hall, within the Assembly Hall, 156 Collins Street, Melbourne, Tuesday 7 May, 2013, at 10:30am, or at such other times and places as the Moderator of the General Assembly shall determine.

The motion was seconded and approved.

107. Appointment of Next Assembly

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Appoint the next General Assembly to convene within The Scots' Church, Melbourne, on Monday, 7 October, 2013, at 7:30pm for the opening sederunt, and thereafter for business in Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall.

The motion was seconded and approved.

108. Ballot Committee Discharged

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Thank and discharge the Ballot Committee.

The motion was seconded and approved.

109. Dissolution

The business of the Assembly now being concluded, the Moderator intimated that the next General Assembly would meet on Monday 7 October 2013, at 7.30pm for the opening sederunt within The Scots' Church, Melbourne.

After a brief address and the singing of a hymn, the Moderator dissolved the Assembly with prayer.

CLERKS:
J P Wilson
P W Phillips

Certificate

I certify that the minutes of 8, 9, 10 and 11 of October 2012, having been carefully scrutinised, are hereby confirmed in terms of minute 105 thereof.

Rt Rev David Palmer
Moderator

ROLL OF ASSEMBLY 2012

Charges and Home Mission Stations

Ministers

Elders

PRESBYTERY OF BALLARAT

Ararat	Grant Vayne	Jeff Hardy
Ballarat North		Robert Taylor
Ballarat South		Gordon Barry
Ballarat West	Ian Hutton	Norm Sharp
Carisbrook-Castlemaine		Shirley Turpin
Daylesford	Mark Crabb	Doug Balharrie
Horsham-Marnoo	Willem Vandenberg	Ian McDonald
Kaniva-Nhill		Bruce Meyer
Skipton-Lismore	Hui Lim	Stewart McKerrow
Retired Ministers	Keith Allen	
	John Woodward	

PRESBYTERY OF BENALLA

Benalla	Ken Martin	Stan Roberts
Broadford-Kilmore	James Playfoot	
Numurkah		Harold Evans
Seymour-Nagambie-Yea		Bill Sangster
Shepparton-Stanhope- Kyabram	Kyung Ee	Phil Betts
Tatura	Kevin Maxwell	James Finster
Wangaratta- Yarrowonga-M'ford	Paul Seiler	Malcolm Browning
Wodonga		
Retired Minister	Neil Harvey	Parity: Ralph Kop

**Charges and Home
Mission Stations**

Ministers

Elders

Aspendale
Brighton
Cardinia-Koo-Wee-Rup
Cheltenham
Clarinda
Clayton
Assistant
Cranbourne
Dandenong
Dromana-Mornington
Frankston
Mordialloc
Somerville
Sorrento-Rye
South East Samoan

PRESBYTERY OF FLINDERS

John Dekker
Graeme Weber

David Brown

Michael Jensen
Choul Yat

John Rickard
Michael Wishart
Bill Medley
Michael Wharton
Ken Brown
John Brennan
Kainano Opeteia

Kevin Savage
Elizabeth Cutler (Mrs)
Rees Dikkenberg
Roger Symons
Andrew Forrester
Gary Wentworth

Retired Ministers

Peter Barclay
Dallas Clarnette
Steven Giles
David Palmer
Frank Savage
Wally Zurrer

Parity:

Edward de Zilwa

Defence Force Chaplain

Andrew Robinson

Colac
Geelong North
Assistant
Geelong St Georges
Geelong West Scots
Moorabool
The Leigh

PRESBYTERY OF GEELONG

Marvin Hagans
Darren Middleton
Daniel Combridge

Arnold Rowntree
Bert Stasse

Robert White
Jeremy Dover

Drew Chittenden
Colin Baker
Alan Helyar

Retired Ministers

Andrew Bray
John Cromarty
Graham Hamill
Allan Harman
Peter Orchard

Parity:

Mr Jim Venters
Allan Kerr
Ian Warner

**Charges and Home
Mission Stations**

Bairnsdale
Drouin
Assistant
Moe-Yarram
Morwell

Retired Ministers

Camperdown-Terang
Hamilton
Heywood-Portland
Koroit-Port Fairy
Noorat
Warrnambool
Associate

Retired Minister

Ministers

PRESBYTERY OF GIPPSLAND

Gary Stephens
Mark Smith
Heath Easton
Stephen Deroon
Cameron Garrett

Robert Boan
Peter Swinn

PRESBYTERY OF KILNOORAT

Peter Phillips
David Schulz
Ian Johnstone
Ian Leach
Miles Fagan
Ben Johnson
Toby McIntosh

Neil Benfell

Elders

Bruce Downes
Karl Hood

Maitland Vertigan
John Lagerwey

Tom Fleming
Trevor Handreck
Alex Croft
Alec McRae
David Selman
David Hayward

Parity: Robert Prout

**Charges and Home
Mission Stations**

Ministers

Elders

PRESBYTERY OF MAROONDAH

Belgrave Heights
Blackburn
Croydon Hills
Donvale
Assistant
Heathmont
Kilsyth-Kirkbrae
Mt Evelyn
Warburton
Woori Yallock

Mark Tonkin

Matthew James
Gerald Vanderwert
Clinton Le Page
Andrew Venn
Wally Gear

Paul Humphreys
Peter Prendergast
Gerry Drew
Doug Fraser

Julian Dunn
Albert Meeuwissen
Walter Lawrence

Retired Ministers

Ivan Barker
Martin Hanse
Peter Locke
Andrew Slater
Arthur Stamp
Alex Stevens
Cor Vanderhorn

Parity:

Brendan Alter

Theological College
Lecturer
Lecturer

Tony Bird
Jared Hood

Ministry Development
Director

Robert Carner

**Charges and Home
Mission Stations**

Ministers

Elders

PRESBYTERY OF MELBOURNE EAST

Arabic	Botros Botrosdief	Zaher Saad
Ashburton		John Angelico
Auburn	Trevor Cox	
Burwood Community	John Elnatan	Paul Wong
Camberwell	Philip Mercer	Philip Barton
Canterbury	Grant Lawry	Kevin Childs
Caulfield-Elwood	Phillip Chang	Bob Belcher
Assistant	Ignatius Seta	
Deaf	Tony Salisbury	
Gardenvale East	Andrew Satchell	Bill Thompson
Hawthorn	Graham Nicholson	John Singleton
Korean	Stephen Kim	W Kim
Malvern	Philip Daffy	Pat Gooley (Mrs)
St Kilda/Balaclava	Bob Thomas	Brian Mills
South Yarra	John Stasse	Ben Nelson
Surrey Hills	Chris Siriweera	Noel Johnston
Retired Ministers	Robert Betts	Parity: Jim Hare
	Girgis Girgis	
	Douglas Milne	
Chaplain		
Scotch College	Graham Bradbeer	
Scotch College	David Assender	
PLC	Charles Green	
Naval Chaplain	Barry Porter	
Theological College		
Lecturer	Felix Chung	
Lecturer	Greg Goswell	

**Charges and Home
Mission Stations**

Ministers

Elders

PRESBYTERY OF MELBOURNE NORTH

Bundoora	Neil Chambers	Andrew May
Eltham	Don Elliott	Robert Herweynen
Epping	Tony Parle	Peter Haberfield
Heidelberg	Alan Every	
Hume	Scott Kroeger	
Kangaroo Ground		Robert Baldock
Reservoir		Reg Butcher
Samoa	Simalu Cowley	
Valley		
Whittlesea-Mernda	Evan Prentice	
Retired Minister	Theo Fishwick	Parity:
Health and Community Committee Chaplain	Keith Bell	
Clerk of Assembly	John Wilson	
Army Chaplain	Martin de Pyle	
Theological College Principal	Peter Hastie	
Training Officer	Nello Barbieri	

PRESBYTERY OF MELBOURNE WEST

Brimbank	Peter Owen	Paul Ridgewell
Clifton Hill/Essendon		Victor Drobis
Melbourne Scots/ Flemington	Douglas Robertson	Neil Gilmour
Assistant	Philip Court	
Melton	Richard O'Brien	Dennis Wright
Sunshine	Philip Simmonds	Gilbert Bell
Williamstown	John Cho	Jennifer Homewood (Mrs)
Wyndham	Bruce Riding	Peter Stanton
Retired Minister	Len Pearce	Parity:
Law Agent	Brian Bayston	
PIM/Darwin	Robert Duncanson	
Social Services Convener	Robert Lowe	

**Charges and Home
Mission Stations**

Ministers

Elders

PRESBYTERY OF NORTH WESTERN VICTORIA

Bendigo	Philip Burns	Andrew Kerr
Eaglehawk		Steven Arbuckle
Kerang/Pyramid Hill		Steve Dyer
Rochester		Doug Butcher
Sunraysia		Anton Zirngast
Swan Hill		
Retired Ministers	Ian Brown	
	John Sutherland	

REPORTS

BUSINESS COMMITTEE (Min. 14)

You wanted harm for me, but God meant it for good, in order to make things as they are today, in order that many people may live. (Genesis 50:20)

The Business Committee has received all papers of a non-judicial nature currently proposed to be submitted to the Assembly. It has resolved to transmit to the Assembly in the form of this 'White Book' those papers which seem competent and respectful.

Assembly expositor

The Committee is pleased to report that the clerk, Rev Dr John Wilson, has agreed to be the Assembly expositor for 2012. He will preach at the Tuesday morning communion service, and at the opening of the Wednesday morning and Thursday sederunts.

Lunches (including the Mission lunch)

The Tuesday lunch for Assembly members will be held in the Robert White hall. A \$5 donation is requested.

The Wednesday lunch is the Mission lunch, held in the Robert White Hall, during the usual lunchtime slot (12:30–2:00pm). Paul Denness (MAF) will provide a presentation on behalf of the Denness family. Booking is required.

Thanks

The Committee takes this opportunity to thank:

- the Minister, Session and members of the Scots' Church, Melbourne, for the use of its facilities, and especially for hosting the opening and communion services and organizing the supper after the opening service;
- the Assembly Office staff members for their work in assisting in the smooth running of the Assembly;
- Miss Gwen Hotton with the women's group that provides lunch on Tuesday;
- APWM for organizing the Mission Lunch, and the various speakers at the lunch;
- the PWMU Council for refreshments during the Assembly; and
- Bruce Riding and any others who are assisting with data projection.
- David Schulz and others who assist with music.

Guest speakers and fixed orders of the day

In recent years, committees have increasingly supplemented their reports by inviting guest speakers, who have been warmly received. However, to secure the presence of the guests, fixed orders of the day for committee reports have multiplied. This can make the flow of business stilted, interrupting other committee reports.

Committee conveners are reminded that reports are 'taken as read unless the Assembly desire otherwise' (Standing Order 17). The focus is on deliverances (in which committees seek the instructions they need for the year ahead). Conveners are encouraged to think of guest speakers as an occasional pleasure rather than an annual necessity.

Commission and next Assembly

The Committee recommends that:

- the ordinary Commission of Assembly meet on Tuesday, 7 May, 2013, at 10:30am in Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall; and
- the 2013 General Assembly convene in the Scots' Church, Melbourne, at 7:30pm on Monday, 7 October, for worship and the induction of the Moderator, and thereafter in Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall for business.

The clerk will move motions to this end at the close of the Assembly.

Outline of business

The Business Committee will present an agenda at the start of each sederunt (other than the first). As a guide, the Committee will seek to arrange business according to the following outline.

FIRST SEDERUNT

Monday, 8 October, 2012, at 7:30pm in the Scots' Church, Melbourne
Service of worship and the induction of the Moderator

SECOND SEDERUNT

Tuesday, 9 October, 2012, 9:30am—5:30pm

Assembly Communion Service (constitution)

11:00am Roll

Apologies

Associations

Welcomes

Business Committee

Minutes of previous sederunt

Minutes of the 2012 Commission of Assembly

New members

Ministerial and Elders' Jubilees

Ministerial and Elders' deaths – Prayer

Royal address and Loyal addresses

Past Moderator

Moderator's Committee

Board of Investment and Finance

[12:30pm—2:00pm Lunch]

Trusts Corporation

Church and Nation Committee

Code and General Administration Committee

Overture 3: Five members—Federal Vision

Church Planting Committee

Commission for Church Institutions

[3:30pm—3:50pm Refreshments]

State News Committee

Belgrave Heights Christian School

St Andrews Christian College

Scotch College

Appeals, Overtures, Communications, References, Petitions

Business Committee

THIRD SEDERUNT

Tuesday, 9 October, 2012, 7:00pm—9:00pm

Constitution

Apologies

Business Committee

Minutes of previous sederunt

Maintenance of the Ministry Committee

Social Services Committee

General Mission Program Committee

Petition 1: Presbytery of Kilnoorat—North Warrnambool dissolution

Petition 2: Presbytery of North Western Victoria—Bendigo manse property

Petition 3: Presbytery of Flinders—Seaford manse use

Overture 1: Five members—Strategy Committee Proposal

Assessors Committee

Building and Property (Architectural) Committee

Unfinished business from previous sederunt

Business Committee

FOURTH SEDERUNT

Wednesday, 10 October, 2012, 9:30am—5:30pm

Constitution

Assembly expositor

Apologies

Business Committee

Minutes of previous sederunt

ACCESS Ministries (CCES)

Mr Justin Simpson (Director of CRE)

The Bible Society in Australia (Victoria)

Ministry Development Committee

Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee

FOD 11:20am Archive

FOD 11:30am Australian Presbyterian World Mission (Vic)

Presentation of missionaries

FOD 12:15pm Ballot (if required)

[12:30pm—2:00pm Mission Lunch]

FOD 2:05pm Presbyterian Ladies' College

Mrs Elaine Collin, Principal, Presbyterian Ladies' College

FOD 2:15pm Home Mission Workers' Association

Petition 5: Presbytery of Benalla—Tallangatta dissolution

Petition 6: Presbytery of Benalla—Tallangatta property

[3:30pm—3:50pm Refreshments]

FOD 3:50pm Defence Force Chaplaincy Committee

FOD 4:00pm Communication 1: Presbyterian Inland Mission

FOD 4:10pm Christian Education and Nurture Committee

Rev Brian Harvey, Youth Ministries Director

Miss Joy Venning, Convener, Presbyterian Youth of Victoria

Mrs Anne Harvey

Unfinished business from previous sederunts

Business Committee

FIFTH SEDERUNT

Wednesday, 10 October, 2012, 7:00pm—9:00pm

Constitution

Apologies

Business Committee

Minutes of previous sederunt

Petition 4: Presbytery of Maroondah—Rev Brian Harvey

Petition 7: Presbytery of Kilnoorat—Sale of Garvoc property

Overture 2: BIF—The Clerks of the Assembly

Ad Hoc Committee re Sites Reserve Fund

Selection Committee

Conciliation Committee

Unfinished business from previous sederunts

Business Committee

SIXTH SEDERUNT

Thursday, 11 October, 2012, 9:30am to the finish of business

Constitution

Assembly expositor

Apologies

Business Committee

Minutes of previous sederunt

Theological Education Committee

Exit Student Committee

METRO Committee

Records Committee

FOD 11:45am Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union

[12:30pm—2:00pm Lunch]

Communication 2: Mavis Thompson—Professional Standards Network of Victoria

Communication 3: GAA Clerk—Appointment of 2013 Commissioners

Communication 4: GAA Clerk—2013 Moderator-General Nominate

Communication 5: Clerk, Presbytery of Melbourne North—Five-yearly Visitation

Communication 6: Social Services Committee—Aged Care Funding Reform

Communication 7: Operation Mobilisation Australia—Thank you

[3:30pm—3:50pm Refreshments]

Closing formalities

Commendation

Commission to confirm minutes

Appointment of Commission of Assembly

Appointment of next Assembly

Ballot Committee discharged

Dissolution

Jared C Hood
CONVENER

ACCESS MINISTRIES (Min. 55)

The past year has been a difficult one, at times, for the work of ACCESS Ministries, but also an encouraging one as the importance of its work in both Christian Religious Education (CRE) and Chaplaincy has been confirmed and given increased support.

Undoubtedly the year 2011 saw an escalation in debate concerning the role of religion in State schools. Of course, in our increasingly secular society this comes as no surprise but it has helped ACCESS Ministries focus on the valuable and vital importance of what is being done through its CRE and Chaplaincy ministries. In addition, the challenges to the work, especially of CRE, has seen a renewed urgency and commitment to pray for CRE classes and teachers and the work of ACCESS generally on the part of both churches and individual Christians.

ACCESS Ministries was reviewed in 2011 by both the State and Federal Governments and exonerated of any charges of proselytizing or inappropriate practices. It has had support from both the Federal Minister of Education, Peter Garrett, and the State Education Minister, Martin Dixon. It has been commended for its policies and procedures.

A ruling was finally delivered on 20 June 2012 by the High Court in the action brought by an individual in Queensland against Scripture Union (Qld), which is the main provider of chaplains in Queensland, asserting that the Federal Government is in breach of the Constitution for legislating in respect of religion by providing funds for Chaplaincy. The High Court ruled that the Federal Government's direct funding model was not valid. The Court left the option for the Government to continue funding either under new legislation or by other means, such as a grant of funds to the States or Territories. The High Court ruled that there is no issue of church-state separation in relation to the employment of chaplains. The Federal Government with the support of the Opposition rushed new legislation through the Parliament prior to 30 June to ensure that funding for the National Schools Chaplaincy Program (NSCP) was in place for the second semester of 2012. In addition to existing chaplaincies, ACCESS Ministries has secured more than 100 new chaplaincy funding arrangements with the Federal Government under the new round of funding under the NSCP, providing over 100 new chaplaincy programs in primary and secondary schools. This will push ACCESS Ministries' chaplaincy numbers up around the 300 mark.

2012 has seen the decision by the ACCESS Board to introduce a CRE Partnership Strategy to help to cover the current costs of running the CRE Program, which has been operating at a loss in recent years. This involves friends from the teacher's local church and local community becoming partners with the CRE teacher to provide \$360 annually (\$30 per month), along with personal encouragement and prayer support. One of the aims of this strategy is to ensure that CRE teachers are properly supported by their local churches. Financial support for the work of ACCESS Ministries by the 12 Supporting Church Members is minimal. The PCV is one of the greatest supporters with \$24,110 being allocated in our GMP Budget approved at the May Commission of Assembly. Support from individual churches is, in general, poor. CRE teachers need to be seen as representatives of their local churches taking the Christian message of hope, peace and life in Jesus Christ to the children in our State primary schools. The CRE Partnership Strategy provides an opportunity for each congregation with CRE teachers to provide financial support as well as prayer for their teachers who are partners with them in the work of the gospel in State primary

schools. If your congregation has no CRE teachers, why not pray that the Lord will raise people up from within the congregation for the work or take an active interest in the CRE program at your local State school and support the CRE teachers there? Of the 3,133 CRE teachers in Victoria in 2011, 151 or almost 5% were from PCV congregations.

In order to ensure sustainability of the vital and valuable CRE work in Victoria, the publishing department of ACCESS Ministries continues to seek to develop new markets for our CRE material and curricula. Other markets already exist in some other States and New Zealand. The highlight of 2011 was the work done to develop new markets in China and Hong Kong. The initial meeting with potential partners occurred in May when it was decided to work with Christian Communication Limited to conduct a trial run of the ACCESS curriculum in China. The latter part of 2011 saw the contextualisation of a sample of the CRE material into Simplified Chinese and the plan to trial this material across 6 provinces in 40 churches in China. The process began early in 2012 and the initial report was that the key indicators were an above average positive response in terms of usability of the product, engagement of the children and the willingness to pay for the products.

Finally, please pray for Rev Canon Dr Evonne Paddison, CEO of ACCESS Ministries, and Bishop Stephen Hale, Chairman of the Board and other Board members as they provide leadership at this crucial time.

Grant Lawry and Alison Thomas
Presbyterian Representatives on
the ACCESS Ministries Council

AD HOC COMMITTEE RE SITES RESERVE FUND (Min. 86)

The Committee reports that it has met, with this matter under active consideration and will report its findings and recommendations to a subsequent Assembly.

Andrew Bray
CONVENER

ARCHIVE – PCV (Min. 59)

The archive location

The PCV Archive Office is centrally located and close to the CBD at South Yarra Presbyterian Church, 621 Punt Road. It is now in its 4th year of using these premises. Sharing space, though few people are there at the church in business hours, the Archive is in operation Monday, Tuesday and sometimes Wednesday. The site is easily accessible by researchers and staff by train, tram, bus and car, with car park spaces straight off Punt Road.

We are very grateful to the minister, session and board of South Yarra Presbyterian for continued use of the premises. This is a great service to the wider church.

The SYPC phone number is 03 9867 4637, with answer phone, the email address is pvcarchive@pvc.org.au and the postal address is PO Box 9044, South Yarra VIC 3141.

The collection contains material covering the last 150 years of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

Within the church building, in two dedicated rooms, the Archive shares the vestry where the phone, computer, 6 bays of shelving filled with archive boxes, locked cupboard, filing cabinet, tables for sorting, etc. are located.

In the other dedicated room of similar size, at the front and opposite side of the church building to the vestry, 2 volunteer helpers work at tables on Tuesdays, sorting incoming records, and preparing them for adding to the Archive data base. They have 1 metal lockable cupboard in that room. The room is used for Bible Study during the week at night and Sunday School on Sundays.

In addition, in the adjacent hall at the back, and through which the archive staff, couriers and researchers enter, there are 2 metal lockable cupboards and sturdy collapsible tables for research, and for receiving and sending boxes to our off-site storage at Altona, managed by Fort Knox, a commercial document storage firm. While Fort Knox holds approximately 1800 boxes, at SYPC there are about 300 boxes, which includes a skeleton collection for answering the most common questions, those ordered to answer questions, and those ordered to maintain both the manual system and the database system.

The PCV Archive holds a collection of mainly UK Scottish tokens originally presented to the Victorian Church in 1951. The tokens are housed in a wooden cupboard/case containing 13 glass covered display drawers. Each drawer contains about 100 tokens. Drawer 13 holds Australian tokens.

Users of the Archive

As well as our own Presbyterian folk, many inquiries come from outside of the PCV, so it is a service for the 'common good' and of course promotes public consciousness of the PCV. Earlier in 2012 a researcher from the National Library of Scotland came to Melbourne, especially to visit the PCV Archive. Her topic of inquiry was 'Early dissemination of Scottish music'.

Last Assembly in October, 2011, we provided two guided tours of the Portrait Gallery in the stairwell of Assembly Hall, which were well attended.

Staffing

As archivist, Chris Palmer has been employed for 16 years and now works 4 days per fortnight. Her services to the church are a significant blessing. She is very skilled in her profession.

Three volunteers assist our Archivist on a Tuesday. Val Kentler has created and manages the database within Access and does data entry. Irene Blaikie and Marilyn Weber sort, order and box records. These three committed people have helped the archive immeasurably. There is still a great deal of material to be properly sorted, listed and consolidated. Records are given a preliminary sort as they are received, so as to make them reasonably accessible. Val and Irene have been with Chris for most of the 15 years.

Digitisation

A proposal to digitise the 'PCV Proceedings' (minutes of Assembly – Blue Books) for the last 150 years was approved and referred to the BIF for a funding proposal. After careful inquiry it was suggested that the proposal could be carried out by ourselves as a church rather than through an outside professional company and that this could be achieved for approximately \$3,000 instead of the expected figure of \$25,000. We are grateful for the results of this inquiry and look forward to the job being completed.

Paton Portrait

Courtesy of the thoughtfulness of his great grand daughters, a framed photographic image on glass of Rev Dr John G Paton has been presented to the PCV and I have taken possession of it for the purposes of restoration. It has been in the Paton family for over 110 years. We have had it checked by an art restoration professional who says it is 'quite valuable' and a very good representation of art work of the 1890s.

Given that the PCV sadly 'lost' the unimaginably valuable Tom Roberts portrait of Paton to the Uniting Church, this photo image must be maintained by PCV at the wishes of the family. Dr Paton is to be remembered as the pioneer Scottish/Australian Presbyterian missionary to the New Hebrides, and a former Moderator our General Assembly of the PCV.

Recognising and remembering our forbears in Christian service is important.

John P Wilson
(CLERK)

AUSTRALIAN PRESBYTERIAN WORLD MISSION (VIC) COMMITTEE

(Min. 58)

1. APWM (Vic) Committee

The Committee has met most months. FOD prayer times for our missionaries continue to be an important part of all our meetings.

The Committee also met with and interviewed twelve missionary units on home assignment, considering serving overseas or working in Australia.

We have also met with the present Assembly Moderator Robert Carner, and the Moderator Elect David Palmer, in an advisory capacity assisting the Moderators with planning their overseas missions trips focused upon visiting and encouraging our PCV missionaries in the field.

The Committee now has the following autonomous portfolios operating;

- Convener (Phil Simmonds)
- Secretary/Admin (Dean Carroll)
- Motor Vehicles (Douglas Bennett)
- New Missionary Inquiries (Elspeth Slater).
- Coins for Mission – Missions Poster (Len Pearce)
- Assembly Missions Lunch (Kyung Ee)
- Missionary Prayer Support (Michael Jensen)

Pastoral care to our missionaries, especially those on home assignments, continues to be a high priority, closely working with the Federal Committee and mission organisations when possible.

Committee prayer meetings for our missionaries have continued. We continue to seek new venues for these very important meetings, and would like to hear from any minister and/or presbytery that would be able to assist in this vital ministry.

2. Federal APWM

We continue to enjoy a close working relationship with the Federal Committee, now known as Australian Presbyterian World Mission. Douglas Bennett and the Convener will be attending an executive planning meeting 30th August 2012, to review and/or discuss future direction of APWM and the needs of our missionaries.

APWM (Vic) has two members (Convener and Rev Peter Orchard) on the Federal Committee which meets annually in Sydney – AGM February 2012. The Convener is also a member of the Federal Executive which meets an additional 3 times per year, Dean Carroll and/or Douglas Bennett have been appointed to accompany and/or represent the Convener at these meetings.

3. Missionary poster

A new PCV Missionary Poster is in the final stages of a rigorous review and update, and will, God willing, be available for distribution prior to the 2012 Assembly. We believe the Poster continues to play an important part in promoting/keeping our missionary faces before our congregations.

4. Finances

2011/2012 saw the usual steady flow of missionaries home on furlough, and, due to God's wonderful provision through the Victoria Assembly Simon Fraser Trust funds (\$45,000), the Committee has been able to continue to provide funding for rental assistance up to \$5000 per missionary unit.

The Committee was again blessed with a 2011/12 surplus, resolving to again provide 'one off' donations toward our (PCV) Missionaries Superannuation Funds (with the voluntary exception of the Pearce and Ellis families) - \$1000.00 per couple and \$500.00 per single.

Trust Funds continue to provide support for our Vanuatu Partner Church missionaries plus Scholarship assistance for Talua MTC and PTS Dehradun students.

The Aboriginal Trust Funds are nearly exhausted, but we still have sufficient funds to provide the Mantons with a further year's full support, and when exhausted, the Committee resolved to provide reduced support from the general funds.

The Committee greatly appreciates the continued prayer/financial support of the Victorian Assembly.

5. Mission Lunch

The Mission Lunch will be held on Wednesday 10th October 2012, in the Robert White Hall – 1st floor 156 Collins Street, Melbourne. The Committee is pleased to advise that the mission guest speaker this year will be Paul Denness (MAF), who will provide a presentation on behalf of the Denness family.

The catering format will be similar to 2011 – \$15.00 per person. Please refer to the Mission Lunch flyer for more information.

6. Coins for Mission

The Committee is pleased to advise Assembly that, although starting slowly (April 2012 – consequent upon the Pearces' return from the Middle East), 10 Churches have enthusiastically 'signed up' for Coins for Mission, donating \$5,182.00 to date.

We are excited that, God willing, the September 2012 Committee meeting will see the allocation of the 'first fruits' to PCV missionaries in most need of financial support/assistance.

7. Cars for missionaries on Home Assignment

The demand for our small fleet of 3 cars has been constant, which has subsequently resulted in having to retire two of our vehicles. Praise God we have been provided with a gift of an additional vehicle.

A new and challenging development for the Committee's consideration is that, as our missionaries' children grow up, we are receiving increasing requests for the provision for 'people' mover vehicles.

Consequently, we seek Assembly's prayers in this matter.

8. APWM (Vic) Website

The Committee's new website, as of 22nd August 2012, is now online: apwmvic.org.au

Consequently, the Committee has implemented email addresses:

- convenor@apwmvic.org.au
- secretary@apwmvic.org.au
- finance@apwmvic.org.au
- cars@apwmvic.org.au
- prayer@apwmvic.org.au
- coins@apwmvic.org.au
- personnel@apwmvic.org.au

9. Overseas Mission Relationship

The Committee continues, in conjunction with APWM Federal, to be actively involved in constructive dialogue and gospel ministry with the African Presbyterian Church Partnerships, Presbyterian Theological Seminary (PTS) Dehradun India, and PYV short term mission.

10. Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union

The Committee values the PWMU State Council's continued encouragement as we work together toward providing for the physical and spiritual needs and our missionaries throughout the world.

We thank them for their support and generosity, interest in and love for our missionaries while on the field and at home.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

ORBUS ministry PCV Trustee's report to the church

The General Secretary, CCAP Blantyre Synod, and the Clerk of Assembly, PCV, are trustees of the project – and each are to report annually to their church bodies.

Brief history

Acknowledging Colin M'bawa's original vision for vulnerable children, and with thanks to Australian businessmen who have backed it, and with particular thanks to Craig and Jayni Manners' (Sth Yarra PC) devoted years of service, Orbus is a mission project of substantial value in the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is becoming widely acknowledged and acclaimed within the CCAP. Of late, Rob Boyle (Eltham PC) has been instrumental in developing the landscape of the whole property and the effectiveness of the farm, and other Aussie visitors from Tasmania and Frankston PC have also provided valuable assistance. Vin Lopes' (Sth Yarra PC) continued support in so many areas has helped the growth of the Orbus facilities.

Handover

In an historic agreement, signed by all parties in September 2010, we formalised the handover of all Orbus assets to CCAP Blantyre Synod, on condition that the objectives as set out (ministry to orphans, glory of God etc) were maintained. In this agreement it was specified that the management of Orbus shall be the responsibility of the Synod's Commission, BSHDC.

Most recent work

Following the sacrificial work of the Manners' family, John and Sue Steendam (Eltham PC) have devoted the last five months to this mission for vulnerable children. Theirs was the delicate task of handing over the management of this ministry to the CCAP, or in particular, to the Blantyre Synod Health & Development Commission (BSHDC). John and Sue have particularly given their time to smooth the transition from Australian management of the day to day affairs of Orbus to Malawian management. There's no textbook written for this. It's a path strewn with obstacles to climb over! But prayerfully, and with much wisdom, the process continues.

Current status

The Orbus team (both Malawian and Australian) have just seen the re-commencement of a school this new year (September) in brand new purpose-built class rooms. A very experienced head teacher has been employed and he has the assistance of two women teachers. As well as the preschool class there will be Grades 1, 2 and 3 operating as of this month.

The first building built on site has now been converted and refitted for staff accommodation, including the installation of solar power.

There has been the development of a new chicken shed, the building of a kitchen/dining room, solar power for security lighting and an irrigation system to provide water to a very much extended vegetable garden so that the project can become self-sustaining.

BSHDC management

Quoting from the BSHDC Newsletter, April-June 2012

'BSHDC has taken on board Orbus under its OVC programme. Orbus aims to care for orphaned children through assisting with the provision of education opportunities, skills development initiatives and improved healthy living conditions – facilities such as clean water and improved sanitation.

Meanwhile the centre has embarked on a number of agricultural activities like pig and goat farming and cultivation of other crops that they intend to sell as a means of generating income.'

The director of BSHDC, Mrs Lonnie Ncozana, showed me round Orbus, and was so enthusiastic in her tour and proud of the mission.

Tensions

Parenting is difficult and has some gut-wrenching moments! Naturally, when you've raised a child from birth and been with him continually at each stage of growth, it's difficult to let go when he wants to leave home before we think he's ready to. That's just an analogy, but it helps understand how we Aussies feel about handing over management of 'our' project to others.

One of the issues raised has been: 'Can we trust BSHDC to manage such a complex mission?' In a full and frank interview I asked the Director this question. In response, she gave full disclosure to me of all their projects (and there are many). I made my own inquiries too:

- I note that the Dutch 'Friends of Africa' trusts BSHDC. They have a number of health clinics managed by BSHDC. Likewise the Canadian

Presbyterians provide 100s of thousands of dollars each year for BSHDC projects and are satisfied with their management of these funds.

- I note further that the Commission has recently taken on board the huge responsibility of running the Naming'hazi Farm Project. This mission of the church was 'dead' three years ago – the Synod office could not do it and let the farm run down. But after three years' careful stewardship the farm project has been nurtured back to life and is now running efficiently under BSHDC management.
- OXFAM donates funds to Livelihoods programs through BSHDC – programs that witnesses to improved nutrition, better food security and overall health for thousands of families.
- BSHDC runs 33 Community based Child Care Centres, ministering faithfully to about 3,500 children between the ages of 2-5.

Yes, I believe that they have the ability and the 'runs are on the board' in this connection.

Another question raised is over the matter of honesty of workers and, connected with this, security of the assets, included farm produce.

- On the basic question of honesty of workers we are right to raise questions and plea for Christian ethical standards. Obedience to God's Laws of honesty and righteousness is essential in any Christian organisation. We need to be vigilant and to encourage vigilance. But when it comes to management of this problem and issuing of discipline, I think it is better to leave it as a Malawian management issue.
- In the matter of security from pilfering from the outside, after providing for security in terms of watchmen and lighting etc, we then must allow Malawian rule to work. I am told that Malawian culture begins to rectify this problem in its own way. A project that is run by Malawians and for Malawians will be protected by village lore and custom. Locals caught pilfering from a Malawian project which is feeding their own orphans are severely dealt with.

Another question raised that I'm aware of is that of choice of farm projects: 'the question of goats vs pigs vs chickens'. Again, this is a management issue. BSHDC, with all its experience and trained personnel, is better placed to understand local market conditions and I believe they should decide which livestock to run with at Orbus and when to sell or buy livestock. BSHDC staff are well trained in local agriculture.

Lonnie pointed out to me the numerous signs around the property regarding 'Orbus' and commented that on each one there is no clear indication that this is a ministry of the CCAP Blantyre Synod. The Director's opinion is that while the signage remains as it is, the whole project has the appearance of a Western NGO and people make assumptions and attribute all sorts of concepts to that 'fact': i.e. that 'It's funded by the whites and therefore won't need our investment and involvement.'

Prospects

One glance at Orbus property, even from the main road between Blantyre and Lilongwe, tells you immediately that this is **a visionary, well cared for and purposeful project**. It is, in fact, an APWM approved mission **work of the highest order**. I invite both the Moderator-General of the GAA and the Moderator of the GAV

to include a visit to the site in their itineraries if they can. It is a sweet haven of protection and Christian love for the most vulnerable people on earth. It ministers the love of Christ for them. It deserves our ongoing commitment.

CCAP Blantyre Synod

The Church Synod loves this project and they are genuinely grateful for the support they get from Australia for the orphans and for the other vulnerable children of Malawi. The reputation of Orbus and the Australian Presbyterian support is widespread and growing.

Need

Is there a need? Yes, obviously so ... for all the reasons stated above. Workers for Orbus can always fit within the STAMP concept. But they each need the approval of BSHDC, which, normally, would be a formality if they were approved by APWM. Nevertheless there are certain protocols we must observe as stated in the Memorandum of Understanding which we signed.

There's a great opportunity at Orbus for Australian volunteers to help with Bible studies and craft for the women. Sue Steendam has led these activities twice weekly for the past five months and I think that the ministry should be continued.

The project deserves strong and faithful support from Australian Presbyterian churches, and continued giving to the Orbus Australia Management Group (OAMG) will see funds directed across the Indian Ocean to Malawi for this strategic gospel purpose.

John P Wilson (Trustee)

Phil Simmonds
CONVENER

BELGRAVE HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL (Min. 33)

When the apostle Paul appointed Timothy to be a leader and teacher of the flock he urged him to 'set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity'. If this is what is vital for ministry to believers, how important must such an example be for those who serve as teachers and leaders of the many students and families in our school who have not yet embraced the faith. We have a great privilege in our school of ministering to those who are in this position. Our constant prayer must be that the Lord will enable us to be living witnesses to his character. Surely one of the means by which he enables us is through the provision of colleagues who are able to stimulate one another's faith.

The past twelve months have continued the pattern of lively Christian witness within the school's day to day activities. God has continued to demonstrate his love and his providential care through the provision of a continuing high level of enrolment, a testimony also to the witness of current school families. He has also blessed us with further funding and subsequent new facilities. The opening of the Multi-Purpose Hall was a highlight of the year, seen by many to be one of the best celebrations that have been held in the school's life. The attendance of a number of Principals of other Christian schools and of politicians representing local electorates was very encouraging. The opening of another very successful project, the Discovery Centre/Kindergarten complex was a more intimate but equally encouraging event. The promise of further funding for the proposed Trade Training Centre and the decision to move towards the construction of a new Middle School facility provide us with yet more blessing and anticipation.

The latter project, which would bring in a third stream in year 7 from 2013, raising the school numbers from approximately 480 to 615, is an outcome of the extraordinary level of interest in parents wishing to find a place for their children at Belgrave Heights Christian School. The Board responded very positively to the Principal's desire to see families, who are currently unable to enrol their children because of the pressure on places, given the opportunity to share in what the school has to offer. The Board was convinced that the proposed extension to the Middle School is in accordance with the vision for the school.

Throughout 2012 the policy of making and maintaining links with other schools in the region was pursued through, for example, a visit of the staff to St Andrews Christian College and a visit from the Principal of St Andrews to BHCS.

The Association is very appreciative of the work that has been done by the Principal and the administrative staff throughout the year in areas such the development of a new ICT policy, the purchase of a new bus, and the monitoring of the school's performance on Naplan and the VCE results. The school community also continues to be amazed at the extraordinary efforts of the teaching staff and their willingness to go well beyond the call of duty, as evidenced by the tremendous success of the school musical 'Seussical'. As always there was a great sense of joy and fun alongside a very professional performance.

The further development of one of the school's distinctives, its environmental program, has been observed with thankfulness to those who have worked hard over a long period of time to see it flourish.

Once again, we give thanks to God for his great mercy and faithfulness.

Warwick Davidson
CHAIRMAN

BIBLE SOCIETY AUSTRALIA (Min. 56)

Introduction

This report, following on from the requests made by the General Assembly last year, will be quite different from those in recent years. They have consisted, almost entirely, of informational and promotional material provided by a representative of the Bible Society itself. The change in the constitution of the Bible Society to a truly national body requires the Assembly to find another way in which it can meaningfully relate to this body. The requests made to me by last year's Assembly was an attempt to find such a way.

Difficulties

The Assembly asked me to consult with three bodies in relation to this matter: the State and Federal Mission committees and the Bible Society itself. Both mission committees have indicated that they do not see a relationship with the Bible Society as being within their particular responsibilities.

Contact with the Bible Society Australia has proved to be such that I have not been able to receive any definitive statement as to how, or even if, the Bible Society wishes to relate to a denominational body such as the Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

It is clear to me both from previous experience and a quite intimate knowledge of constitutional change in the Bible Society (Victoria) and from material sent to me as someone who supports the Bible Society as an individual, that the primary points of contact of the Bible Society Australia are individuals and individual congregations and not denominations. It would appear that long gone are the days when denominational representatives played any active part in the actual running of the Bible Society.

At this point it might be helpful to the Assembly for me to make some brief quotes from the *Annual Review 2011* of Bible Society Australia concerning its new constitution and ethos. I quote from the article "Becoming One" and on page 6 of that document.

"In 2010, the former state-based Bible Societies amalgamated to become one entity, Bible Society Australia. There was no substantial change in the objectives of the organisation: rather, the nationalisation reflects the desire of all states to pursue our business of translating, publishing, and distributing the Bible, helping people engage with it, and advocating for its value to individuals and society overall."

And on page 7 the following headings are highlighted:

"We still operate offices and maintain staff and programmes right across Australia."

"We have one database, one centralised payroll system, and are developing one finance system saving us a great deal of expense at the 'back end'."

"We have a portfolio-based management structure, not a regional structural." (I would make here the comment that there is no portfolio that relates directly to denominations.)

“We have pulled together our various fundraising appeals and publications so that they are common across the country.”

“We have one brand, with all our activities taking place beneath the wings of ‘Bible Society Australia’.”

Answers to clauses of request of G.A. 2011

It should be noted that in relation to these I have consulted with the State and Federal APWM committees but not Bible Society Australia (see previous section of report).

Request a. *the most appropriate and effective way for Bible Society Australia matters to be represented in this Assembly*

To this I have no clear answer. It would appear that I have information no more and no less than any other supporter of Bible Society Australia. If the Assembly continues to appoint me (or anyone else) as the Bible Society representative the material brought to the Assembly will already have been available to at least some of the members of this house.

Request b. *the ways in which Bible Society Australia would wish to be related to this denomination*

To this I have no answer at all.

Request c. *the relationship of these matters to Mission Partners, i.e. the federal committee*

The answer to this question would appear to be, none.

Request d. *the policy of the Bible Society regarding translating, printing and circulating of those writings commonly called the Apocrypha*

As I have indicated clearly above I have received no *official* information from Bible Society Australia on the General Assembly’s requests, including this one. I am therefore assuming that their policy remains the same as before. The Bible Societies world wide deal with this particular question on a case by case basis. Where a particular church group sees the translation, printing and circulating of the Apocrypha as essential to its church life the Bible Society involved cooperates with this project. My understanding is that the initiation of such a project comes from outside the Bible Society involved itself.

The next step

If the Assembly wishes to pursue these matters further with Bible Society Australia then it needs to do so on an *official* basis through its clerk. I have indicated above the continuing role of the Bible Society representative if there is no change.

Keith Allen
BIBLE SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVE

BOARD OF INVESTMENT AND FINANCE (Min. 25)

General

The Board of Investment and Finance is elected by the General Assembly. Its regulations are approved by the General Assembly as for any other of the Committees. The Board consists of ten members, each of whom is required to retire after 5 years from date of appointment but is eligible for re-election for a second 5 year term. Members of the Board form the membership of the Trusts Corporation.

The duties of the Board are to:

- Administer the financial affairs and act as Treasurer of the General Assembly
- Maintain the office of the General Assembly including engaging staff for this purpose
- Co-operate with other committees of the Assembly in the appointment of office or other staff and determine the salary conditions and employment of such staff
- Present to the Commission of the Assembly a recommended Budget for approval
- Manage the property of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria for which responsibility is not vested in another committee.
- Take steps to prevent committees from incurring expenditure beyond their means or in unauthorised ways
- Approve urgent applications for the sale, mortgage or lease of property
- Hold the proceeds of sale of property in the Sites Reserve account and approve applications for the use of interest and (in conjunction with presbyteries) the capital.
- Administer the Capital Fund including the approval of loans from the fund.

Membership of the Board of Investment and Finance (and Trusts Corporation)

Membership and committee responsibilities in the past year were as follows:

Rev Andrew Slater	Chairman, Audit Committee
Mr Tony Arnold	Investment Committee
Rev Neil Benfell	(resigned April 2012)
Mr Iain Bramley	Investment Committee (Convener)
Mr David Brown	Vice-Chairman, Audit Committee (Convener)
Mr Edward de Zilwa	Vice-Chairman, Audit Committee
Mr Andrew Letcher	Audit Committee
Mr Colin Morrow	(resigned March 2012)
Rev Andrew Venn	Investment Committee
Mr Dennis Wright	Investment Committee, Secretary

Rev Neil Benfell and Mr Colin Morrow resigned from the Board for personal reasons. Each had made a significant contribution to the work of the Board and we thank them for that.

Rev Stephen Deroon and Rev Mark Smith have been nominated to fill the vacancies arising and we are confident that each of them will be worthy replacements:

Rev Stephen Deroon BAppSc(Hons), BTh, BMin is the minister of the Moe-Yarram Charge. Prior to studying for the ministry Stephen worked as a consultant to many large corporate firms and banks with a focus on strategy

and technology. He also has experience working as a communications engineer and bank manager.

Rev Mark Smith BAppSc, BMin(Hons) is the minister of the Drouin Charge. Prior to studying for the ministry Mark worked as an analyst programmer and project manager for more than 10 years during which time he worked on a number of significant projects.

Rev Andrew Slater and Mr Iain Bramley are at the end of their current 5 year terms and are re-nominated for 1 and 5 years respectively.

Church Office

The Board continues to be grateful to God as well as to the persons involved for the efficient and cheerful operation of the Office of the General Assembly under the leadership of Mr Michael Ellison, General Manager. The work of all, including Mr John Vandenberg, Accountant, Mrs Ros Grant, Administrative Assistant and Mrs Sharee Barnett, part-time book-keeper, is much appreciated.

Administrative Services

In addition to the service offered to congregations to process payments of ministers' stipend and non-cash benefits, the office has been providing book keeping services for the congregation at Kirkbrae and the Deaf congregation.

In response to a short term need, the office has recently provided book-keeping services for another congregation as an interim measure. This is providing an opportunity to consider whether it may be viable for the office to offer book-keeping services to a wider number of congregations in the future.

Honoraria

The Board recommends that honoraria paid to the Deputy Clerk and Business Convener be revised in accordance with the normal practice of adjusting for cost of living increases to give the following amounts -

Deputy Clerk	\$2,575
Business Convener	\$790

The Board in accordance with the Code 5.16c has revised the Law Agent's retainer by 3% in line with the CPI to bring it to \$26,650.

Sites Reserve Accounts

Following is a summary of movements in the accounts for the year:

	2011/12	2010/11
	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July	18,326,147	18,977,100
Plus		
Deposits from Sale of Property	907,122	789,718
Interest & Other Income	1,247,022	1,380,059
Capital Gain/(Loss) on Separate Investments	(826,515)	301,190
Less		
Capital purchases / works as per BIF Reg 10 b i	(2,416,963)	(2,620,766)
Any other purpose as per BIF 10 b ii	(5,000)	(17,000)
Interest paid to congregations BIF Reg 10 a	(712,609)	(484,154)
Balance at 30 June	16,519,205	18,326,147

Capital Fund

The interest rate charged on Capital Fund loans is 5.5% per annum. A subsidy of 1.0% was applied for the year to all outstanding loans, thus reducing the effective rate to 4.5%. The date when interest is charged to the loan was adjusted from November to June in order to simplify the reporting and bring the accounting into a more regular cycle. The summary accounts in relation to the Capital Fund are as follows:

	2011/12	2010/11
	\$	\$
Receipts		
Interest on loans to congregations	135,462	137,622
Interest from Common Fund	175,582	167,949
Other Investment Income	5,823	5,197
Total Income	<u>316,868</u>	<u>310,768</u>
Payments		
Interest paid on loans from Common Fund	239,123	237,985
Interest paid on depositors funds	2,237	2,127
Grant to Property Development Fund	75,507	0
Total Expenditure	<u>316,867</u>	<u>240,112</u>
Surplus	<u>0</u>	<u>70,665</u>
Balance of Capital Fund Reserve	1,497,643	1,439,861
Deposits held for congregations, PWMU, etc	90,668	118,710
Loans to Congregations and Schools	2,989,245	3,097,187

The Capital Fund continues to have considerable spare capacity to lend to congregations, and would welcome applications for appropriate projects.

Assembly Rate

The Board recommends that a zero rate be set for the 2013-14 year.

Property matters

Approval was given under BIF Reg. 9 (a) for the following urgent property transactions

- Sale of Geelong West manse site
- Sale of vacant land at Swan Hill
- Sale of Hazelwood North church site
- Sale of Warrnambool cottage and bowling green and halls sites
- Sale of Daylesford church site
- Lease of manses at Boort, Ballarat, Gisborne, Belgrave Heights and Ashburton
- Lease of vacant land at Koroit
- Lease of 11 Wilson Street, Brighton
- Lease of part of 70-80 Hanmer Street, Williamstown

Ministers' Retirement Housing

The BIF has written a discussion paper on housing affordability and ministers remuneration which has been forwarded to the Maintenance of the Ministry

committee for further joint discussion. A copy of the paper is available on request to those interested. The issue of housing affordability is current not just within the church but in the broader community. The BIF is of the view that the present arrangements in relation to ministers retirement housing are appropriate, especially in the light of the purpose of this trust.

Overseas Visitors Fund

The proposed review of the regulations of the fund has been delayed to allow time for the principal of the PTC to settle in to his role. It is expected that this can proceed within the coming months.

Ministers' Holiday Housing

We again commend Mr Ben Palmer's administration of this scheme that is evidently much appreciated by serving ministers who benefit from it for a week each year.

GAA Finances

With regard to the resolutions of the Commission of Assembly in May 2012 to support the Moderator General's Church Planting Task force (Min.12.5-8), there is no progress to report with respect to South Australia. The Board therefore recommends that the Board be asked to report to the 2013 Commission of Assembly regarding this matter.

Additional Expenditure

During the last 12 months the Board approved the following amendments to committee budgets in accordance with BIF regulation 5(g)(ii):

BIF Minute	Committee	Amount \$	Purpose
345/11	Church Planting	5,200	Travel and conference expenses
346/11	METRO	19,000	Trainee grants
447/11	PYV	800	Video recorder

Andrew Slater
CHAIRMAN

BUILDING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE (Min. 48)

The Committee has continued to deal with a steady stream of applications from churches for approval of plans for both alterations and for new buildings, with every effort being made to process applications in a timely and helpful manner, hopefully with some success.

The Committee is greatly helped in this by doing most of its work by email and phone, and by the excellent work of the Church Architect, Mr Les Oliver, whose wise counsel and assistance is invaluable to both the Committee and to congregations who have sought his advice.

The present Minimum Manse Standards were approved by the General Assembly in 1986, and the Committee believes that it is time that these were reviewed. It plans to carry out such a review with the intention of reporting on this matter to the 2013 General Assembly. Before reporting to the Assembly, the Committee may seek input or comment on any proposed changes from presbyteries, but in any case it would welcome comment on or suggestions for the improvement of the present Minimum Manse Standards.

Peter Phillips
CONVENER

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND NURTURE COMMITTEE (Min. 70)

Change is something that this committee has to constantly deal with. The ministries that we are entrusted with by the Assembly are often not static or stable, but are quite fluid and change with the circumstances of the day. It takes good people who have a grasp of the overarching purpose and mission of our committee to be able to respond to these changing environments and give leadership where it is needed most. I am so proud of the members of this committee who sacrifice their time and talents for the cause of Christ in the ministry of the CENC.

We have had two of our members leave us this year. As signalled in our report last year and with thanksgiving we said goodbye to Rev Andrew Venn in October 2011. Earlier this year, we had to say goodbye to Rev Brian Harvey, only to employ him as the Youth Ministries Director for which we rejoice and again give thanks. Brian is settling into the position and is developing a number of things in both PYV and youth ministry across the state of Victoria. We are tremendously blessed with Brian's experience and competency and look forward to a long-term relationship.

However, we are now somewhat short of members and some of our older members are due to retire soon due to the 9-year rule. So we are in the process of seeking new members. We are looking for members who have a passion in one or more of our portfolios and who have some experience or expertise that will further the work of this committee. We are in need of ministers, elders, and skilled men and women church members. If members of the Assembly know of potential additions to our committee, please give us their details and we will contact them. We need people in the following portfolios:

An IT person who can assist Mike Wharton in app building, web uploads and building.

Fuelled portfolio

Music portfolio

PYV portfolio

18-30 Camp portfolio

SFY Primary portfolio

Prompted by advice from the BIF and the General Manager, the CENC is seeking to update several parts of its Rules & Regulations. We have made several changes and the Code Committee is in the process of reviewing them. Hopefully they can be presented at the 2013 General Assembly for approval.

Our Committee was approached by the PYV with concerns surrounding the *Breaking The Silence* document, as the result of queries at a Fuelled Training Day by people working in the industry. Observations by those on the ground and committee members found that our present documents for child protection are now rather dated and possibly out of accord with present state of Victoria legislation. Some of our members have extensive experience in this area, and we determined to refer the matter to the Clerk of Assembly who has informed us that he is taking legal advice. Since that time the convener has been in contact with other qualified professionals and members of Victorian churches expressing similar views quite apart from this incident. We would urge the Assembly strongly to expedite a review and deployment of an updated version of the *Breaking Of The Silence*.

Portfolio – See For Yourself (SFY)

Those at Assembly last year will remember the presentation by Mrs Joan Milne of her 'See For Yourself' team at the completion of this amazing series based on our Confession. We continue to owe a debt of gratitude to the tireless work of this group over the seven-year period of this project.

Jonathan Watson, the editor of Banner of Truth, has followed with interest the development of SFY over much of this time branding it an 'excellent series'. On its completion he presented the SFY series to the Banner of Truth Trustees in an effort to have them publish it under the Trust's name. Following extensive market research, Banner of Truth have elected not to publish SFY at this time, however they have pledged to advertise SFY through their magazine, in articles and on their website.

The CENC is exploring this opportunity as a means of making this valuable teaching course more widely known and used and to that end is investigating the possibility of marketing SFY on a CD Rom to lower the purchase price and hopefully widen its acceptance and use.

Finally, the CENC is presently investigating the possibility of further developing the SFY material to suit a younger age group; namely primary school children. We are currently looking for someone to head up this project and pick a team of writers for the curriculum. Because of the inroads made by SFY in terms of production, we hope the SFY Primary project will be able to use similar processes in getting the job done.

Michael Wishart

Portfolio – PYV

PYV has had a great year in terms of meeting some of its own long-term goals. They have effectively abolished what was once termed 'Winter Camp' and replaced it with three regional camps that are more intimate, more cost effective and which to date have been quite successful. This was largely due to an idea that was germinated from the former youth worker Rev Andrew Vines. The former Operations Manager, Mr Brad Haughey did much to organize this transition and bring about the coordination needed to make them successful.

The CENC approved of changes to the present PYV constitution to allow PYV Council members to run for two-year terms as members with half of the Council being up for reelection each year. This was necessary in order to avoid a loss of experience and continuity concerning Council matters and governance. Additionally, Council officers are now elected from within each newly appointed and confirmed Council.

PYV has lost the position of an Operations Manager, but gained a Youth Ministries Director to assist in the leadership development and ministry goals. They have also hired a part-time office worker in Fiona Nicholson.

A more detailed report from the PYV Council Convener follows.

Scott Kroeger

Presbyterian Youth Of Victoria Highlights from 2012

2012 has been a wonderful year of new and exciting opportunities. The PYV Council has been especially excited about the launch of our Regional Camps. We began the year with West Camp in April, and by September, we will have had North Camp and

East Camp. One of the most encouraging things for me, has been seeing the Regional Camps being accessed strategically by churches as an opportunity for their young people to build connections around the state, be challenged to grow in their love for Christ, and to have an opportunity to be trained for ministry back in their churches. I pray that these camps may continue to be a blessing to churches all around the state.

One of the highlights of the year was the Mission Team sent to Dehradun, India, for three weeks in February. It was such an encouragement to be part of that group, and to see young people grow in their understanding, appreciation and support of the important work of global mission. We were really blessed to be able to contribute to the work in Dehradun, and we have begun the process to send a 'follow-up' team, subject to finding appropriate leadership.

I would like to express my thanks to a faithful and committed council, who have sacrificed time, money and energy into serving on behalf of the church. I would also like to thank our staff, both Rev Brian Harvey and Fiona Nicholson, who have generously committed themselves to the ministry of PYV. We have been very blessed to have had Brad Haughey working with us for the majority of the year, and his hard work has borne much fruit in the ministry.

We have been so blessed by the encouragement and support of the wider Church in creative and strategic ways. We appreciate the continuing oversight and guidance we receive from the CENC. We thank our state committees and individuals who have particularly supported us financially, and with resources and wisdom, especially the PWMU, the Social Services Committee, the PTC, the APWM, Michael Ellison, and the support of local congregations.

Looking to 2013

We look forward to the opportunities we will have next year, in building on the Regional Camps. We encourage you to consider how your church can use the regional camps to continue to build up your local youth ministry.

We are also looking forward to the statewide Youth Leaders Training Conference on Australia Day Weekend of January 2013. The conference will be focusing on equipping those in youth ministry to better understand and teach the Bible. We have a real priority on seeing those in leadership taught and equipped to handle the Word of God. The exegetical framework we will be teaching will be modelled to the delegates through the preaching, and will be taught by trained leaders. We hope to provide churches with an opportunity to send their youth ministry teams to this conference in order to serve better in their local church. They also have an opportunity to meet other youth leaders around the state and be encouraged in God's Word and in fellowship in the gospel. We would encourage every church to consider the benefits this opportunity could have in your local church, and to encourage and financially support those who will attend. More information will come out in the next few weeks, so please promote it in your churches.

We thank God for his many blessings to us, and we look to him to continue to build his church here in Victoria.

Joy Venning—PYV Council Convener

Portfolio – Youth Ministries Director (YMD)

I want to thank the CENC and the Assembly for giving me the opportunity of sharing my skills and experience as I work for the churches of Victoria. I am both humbled and excited to serve Jesus and the PCV in this way.

In the first few months in the role, I have been delighted to visit some of our youth leaders and hear from them what is happening in their respective ministries. We should all be delighted to know that there is great Christian growth happening in the PCV amongst the youth of our churches. Praise God for this!

Youth Leadership

The main aim of PYV, and therefore something which I see to be vitally important in my own work, is 'the development and nurture of youth for the service of Jesus Christ.' Clearly it is impossible for a single person to deeply connect with all the teenagers we have in our churches. One thing I can do is to seek to support those who have the responsibility of leading youth within the local church. I hope I have been able to do this already in meeting with some of these leaders and hearing what is happening in their own groups.

I am pleased to know that the youth leaders are not interested in just entertaining youth. Many of us have seen the folly of this. Instead, they are keen to build strong relationships within the youth group, and to know that these teenagers are learning to read the Scriptures and to live a life that glorifies Jesus.

I am also beginning to work with churches to develop a youth leadership team. This is a process that should help to ensure the ministry to youth has a solid foundation and will grow in a positive connection with the whole church.

The first Youth Leadership Conference in January 2013 will provide a wonderful opportunity for the present and future youth leaders in your church to receive some excellent training. We hope that you will make the investment and support some members of your church to attend.

We praise God for the group of people who consistently serve God in their local church; many of whom do so week after week.

Youth Groups

Within our youth groups, there are teenagers who are receiving good Bible teaching from ministers, elders and youth leaders. They are also seeing what it means to live as a Christian in this world. Strong relationships are being formed within these groups, and through the work of PYV camps and events, we hope to see strong relationships form across the youth groups of the PCV also.

Thank you again for your support of ministry to youth in your church. Please continue to pray for the teenagers that meet in your place of worship, and if you do not have teenagers there, please pray for those who will come, and continue to pray for the impact of the gospel amongst teenagers. Please support your youth leaders with encouragement and prayer.

Brian Harvey

Portfolio – Catechism Exam

This tested method of teaching our young people the truth of God's word continues to grow in popularity with twenty parishes participating this year with an average of about 8 students per parish requesting a self-test booklet. At the time of writing this report, the annual Catechism exam is just about to be marked, so we are unable to list the prize winners in the White Book.

CENC continues to encourage pastors and elders to promote this exam in their parishes as a simple and effective means of teaching foundational biblical truths to the children under their pastoral care. Every year the students (school years 6 to 10) put many mature believers to shame with their diligence to learn and keenness to sit this voluntary examination; the least we can do is offer them the opportunity and encourage their efforts.

As reported last year, we still intend to place the self-test booklets on the CENC website with links from the PYV and PCV sites.

Michael Wishart

Portfolio – Fuelled Training Days

This year we have planned for 3 Fuelled Days:

Hamilton (17.3.12)

We had a very successful Fuelled Day at Hamilton, and everything went well. A total of 22 attended and another 10 came for West Camp Training. We had 3 speakers and 2 helpers (my wife and I).

We started with a short introduction on Fuelled, and followed by a short Bible reading from Psalm 19. We were blessed to have Rev David Schulz leading us singing 'In Christ Alone', and another hymn followed by prayer. Mr Michael Enderby did well to play the piano on short notice. We are thankful for his ministry.

Our Training Officer, Rev Nello Barbieri gave the keynote speech on '*Our New Identity & Purpose in Christ*'. Then, Nello spoke on two different seminars on '*Intergenerational Church*' and '*Developing a Prayer Life*' after lunch.

Rev Brian Harvey spoke on '*Youth Ministry*' in Seminar 1 and 2.

Pastor Ron Williamson spoke on '*Ministry to the Sick and Elderly*' in Seminar 1 and 2.

I received good feedback from people about the speakers and topics. All in all, it was a good day, and we praised God for it. Special thanks to David and Isabelle Schulz, and members of Hamilton Parish for their warm and friendly hospitality.

Scots' Church in Melbourne (16.6.12)

On 16 June 2012, we had a lovely time at Scots' Church in Melbourne. We were blessed to use the Robert White Hall and thankful for Scots' Church for their hospitality. We had a total of 18 participants, 4 speakers and myself.

It was great having Rev Nello Barbieri, Training Officer for the Presbyterian Church of Victoria giving us an inspiring message on '*Our New Identity and Purpose in Christ*'. Then, Nello spoke on '*One to One Discipleship*' in Seminar 1 & 2.

Our next speaker was Rev Brian Harvey, our Youth Ministries Director for the Presbyterian Church of Victoria. Brian spoke on '*Breaking the Silence*' in Seminar 1, and '*Youth Ministry*' in Seminar 2.

Mr Reg Butcher, a member of the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee spoke on '*Serving as a Treasurer and MM Form*'. He ran his seminar twice.

Mrs Deb Letcher one of the writers of '*See For Yourself*' spoke on the '*What and how to of See for yourself*'.

Despite small numbers of participants, we had a lovely time together. And once again, I had good feedback about the speakers and topics. We tried to cut down cost by doing self-catering and Mrs Glenys Wright (Clerk of Melbourne West Presbytery) kindly took it on and did a most wonderful job. We are thankful for the warm support from the Presbytery of Melbourne West and their partnership in organising this Fuelled Training Day with us.

Donvale Presbyterian Church, Donvale (17.11.12)

This is shaping up to be a really exciting Fuelled Training Day as we have engaged the Church and Nation Committee to take the entire program and feature the issues that their committee is working on developing responses to. The Convener and other committee members and the Research Officer will speak and encourage discussion on topics including:

The need for Christian political and ethical engagement

Western Civilisation and Multiculturalism

Freedom of Speech

Anti-discrimination laws

Fuelled Training Days are provided to congregations and presbyteries for the purposes of be trained in practical things at a location that is convenient to get to. Annually the CENC provides one regional and two metropolitan Fuelled Training Days. We urge pastors and sessions to target needs in their church and send delegates to our training days. The cost is around \$20-25 dollars and includes lunch. Pastors and elders are encouraged to come along, and bring those developing as leaders and workers in their churches.

Hui Lim

Portfolio – Websites

PCV pcvic.org.au

CENC cenc.org.au

It has been a year filled with family illness for our State Church Webmaster, so not a lot has been happening with the websites. During the year hackers caused serious problems which led to a full rebuild of the PCV website. During the next 12 months the PCV and the CENC website will undergo a full update to a later more secure CMS framework.

The Committee continues to encourage Assembly committees and churches to utilize the denominational website. Some committees have made use of the website to provide access to forms and other material for the members of the PCV. We would love to see more of our committees doing the same. Not all committees are listed in the PCV Website menu. The reason for this is that we can only add material if it is supplied. We have requested this information, but sadly to date this has not been supplied. We urge Assembly committees to supply downloadable information or forms to the Webmaster to put up onto the denominational website. If pastors or committees have resource materials for public dissemination, they can be uploaded to the CENC website where people may download them for free. Just send them to me.

Michael Wharton

Webmaster - mwharton@pcvic.org.au

Portfolio - Finances

The net surplus for the year in General Operations after depreciation was \$22,521. We had budgeted for a deficit of (\$198), but our expected wages costs were reduced by staff resignations. Committee funds available for General Operations at the end of the financial year was \$431,568 which continues to provide a solid base for the committee to maintain the existing programs and our employees.

The net surplus for the year on the Allan Bequest was \$54,433. We had budgeted for a surplus of \$21,900 this year, but our budgetary planning had assumed the employment of a full time Youth Worker over 12 months; the Youth Worker position was not filled until much later in the year. The Allan Trust common fund remains in a very healthy state, with a balance at the end of the financial year of \$508,830.

Matt James

Portfolio - Women's Ministries

While progress with the Victorian website has been slower than anticipated, we hope to see it up and running as soon as possible. I attended the Flourish Conference in July 2012 and found it inspiring. It has allowed me to have great contacts with local Victorians working in Women's Ministries in their own churches, and the opportunity to hear Professor Douglas Milne speak on the importance of women in the church. We are currently working on gathering a committee with the help of the Victorian representative, Mrs Mairi Girgis, on the Presbyterian Church of Australia's Womens' Ministries (PCAWM) committee. Our desire is to have both the website and the committee well in place by the end of this year and hope to begin 2013 in an active role of education, nurture and encouragement to women. Our intention is to support women's ministries of local Presbyterian churches and their surrounding communities.

Mrs Anne Harvey

Portfolio – 18-30 Retreat

The other big development for the Committee is the taking over of the 18-30 year old Retreat, which was started by the PYV. PYV has had a couple of successful weekend retreats for this age group in recent years due to popular demand. However, it was determined by the Committee to not be within PYV's vision and purpose statements. The obvious interest in and need for dealing with this age group has caused the Committee to take on full responsibilities for the running of any future events for this age group. We have made it a specific portfolio and are in the process of planning another 18-30 Retreat for 2013.

This age group within our denomination contains young professionals, couples and students who are emerging leaders. Many of them have come through church youth groups and PYV and now are looking for opportunities to serve their local church. The CENC will be seeking to provide some key training in this area through an annual gathering for such purposes.

Portfolios for which there is either nothing to report, or are presently inactive but still of interest and development:

Heathmont House

Reforming Arts

Music Development

Scott Kroeger
CONVENER

CHURCH AND NATION COMMITTEE (Min. 27)

The Committee has had another busy year.

1. Submissions on Federal Government Legislation

A Submission to the *Consolidation of Anti-Discrimination Laws Discussion Paper* - January 2012.

The Church and Nation Committee put together a 29-page paper outlining our objections to a proposal seeking to consolidate all anti-discrimination laws into one 'package.' The discussion paper flagged the introduction of 'gender orientation' and 'gender identity' as 'protected attributes', effectively preventing them from being used as a basis for discrimination by employers. In our submission, we argued that the proposed laws would impinge heavily on the ability of religious organisations to employ suitable staff. We argued that there is room for various groups in society to legitimately and respectfully discriminate, for example, against those whose attributes or behaviours are at odds with the group's beliefs or practices. We highlighted the fact that such laws would greatly diminish, if not completely eradicate, what is left of our religious protections under the law.

We were pleased to hear that the current exceptions and exemptions for religious bodies were upheld at the close of the consultation period. We expect the release of draft legislation for public consultation/comment sometime in 2012.

B Submission to the Senate Committee on the *Marriage Equality Amendment Bill 2010* – April 2012

In response to proposed changes to the *Marriage Act* to allow same-sex marriage, the committee submitted a paper to the Senate committee entitled, *Fictitious Families: Why the government of Australia needs to resist changes to the Marriage Act*. We decided to focus our attention on the importance of the fundamental unit of the family consisting of one man, one woman and ordinarily any children born to them. In particular, we outlined the range of detrimental impacts on society, and especially children, should the biblical and traditional notion of family be redefined. We expressly opposed the idea of constructing 'fictitious families', where biological links between parent and child were deliberately severed by the state. We highlighted the fact of the overwhelming evidence that children do best on every measure in an intact, biological family.

Church and Nation Committee also promoted and hosted the Australian Christian Lobby's marriage webcast at PTC in May this year. We are thankful to the PTC for their support.

2. Serving the Denomination effectively

A Updated Website – www.yourCaN.org.au

The Church and Nation Committee has updated its website with the assistance of Mike Wharton and various Committee members. We also have a new URL address www.yourCaN.org and www.yourCaN.org.au to reflect our responsibility to serve you as **your Church and Nation (CaN) Committee**.

We hope to see the website widely used as a resource for local congregations.

B. PCV Email List

The PCV email list is used frequently to inform those on the list of important issues or

matters that require prayer or congregational action. However, it is our belief that there is a certain ministerial fatigue that occurs when a constant stream of emails arrive from various committees.

With this in mind, we will be circumspect with our use of the PCV email list for pressing and important matters only. However, we will look to establish direct links with your congregation that will enable someone with an interest in Church and Nation issues to become the conduit for such information and action (see below).

C. Congregational Contact

All congregations should have received a letter from yourCaN asking for contact details of a nominated member of your congregation who has an interest in matters ethical and political etc. Our intention is to send updates and bite-sized information via email to these contacts that they might use them in your newsletters or by way of updating the congregation for prayer and/or action.

3. Religion In The Public square Colloquium Update

We last reported to the Assembly that Dr Albert Mohler would be our main speaker but he has since informed us that he is not able to fulfil that commitment. This was unfortunate and caused long delays to the planning of the Colloquium.

However, CaN is pleased to inform the Assembly that we have now settled on the date of August 15-17 at Scots' Church Melbourne with two keynote speakers secured. Rev Dr Mark Durie is the minister at St Mary's Anglican Church, Caulfield, and an internationally-renowned scholar of Islam. Our second keynote speaker, John Anderson, is the former deputy Prime Minister and recently appeared on the ACL webcast on marriage that was promoted by CaN. Please pencil these dates into your diary now.

4. Freedom of Speech/Religion

CaN is becoming increasingly concerned about the attacks on Christians and others who seek to voice their opinions in the public square on moral issues, as was seen clearly in the recent debate about marriage. CaN is monitoring the rise of a more aggressive atheism, or 'anti-theism' (to quote John Lennox), which is starting to demand that all those who speak from a religious viewpoint be excluded from public debate. CaN will continue to monitor the situation, but assesses that Christians need to be prepared to encounter increasing resistance to their viewpoints in the current climate.

A group called 'Freedom 4 Faith' (F4F) was set up in late 2011 with a membership that includes (among others) Jim Wallace from ACL, Prof Patrick Parkinson (Law, Sydney University), Dr John Mclean (PTC Sydney) and our own PCV Moderator Rev David Palmer that will be working to highlight some of our many concerns in this increasingly important issue.

5. Persecuted Christians

The committee continues to be concerned about the plight of Christians in other nations who are undergoing persecution; particularly in those nations in North Africa and the Middle East who are attempting to overthrow their authoritarian rulers. In places such as Egypt, the oppression of Christians has increased as a new set of Islamist rulers fills the vacuum of government following the revolution.

The committee is continuing to look at ways in which we as Presbyterians can assist those overseas who are suffering for their faith. Once our new 'congregational contact' is in place, we hope to keep congregations better informed of ways in which they can pray for and act to positively impact our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world.

To this end, CaN also recommends 'Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin' published by Elizabeth Kendal. It is arguably the most up to date and comprehensive coverage of matters of persecution of the church on the web.
rlprayerbulletin.blogspot.com.au/

6. Committee Finances

During the 2011/12 fiscal year CaN produced a surplus and at this early stage of the financial year this continues to be the case, largely due to the delay in the appointment of our Research Assistant. We have sought to keep our expenses to a minimum where possible, conscious that during the fiscal year of the Colloquium (2013/14), we expect to run a deficit.

However, given our fiscal restraint in the non-Colloquium years this should not be a concern for the Assembly.

7. Research Assistant

The Committee would also like to inform the Assembly that Mrs Fleur Letcher has now been 12 months in her appointment as Research Assistant to the Church and Nation Committee. At the Commission of Assembly, a capital grant of \$250,000 was approved allowing the interest to fund a permanent position to assist CaN in its work. We are pleased to report that Mrs Letcher has exceeded our expectations for this role. Her good research continues to assist us in our work of interfacing with State and Federal governments and the church and we look forward to her valued contribution to the work of CaN on behalf the PCV.

8. Membership of the Committee

Mrs Jayni Manners had hoped to return to the Committee after a short-term mission stay in Malawi, however her plans have since changed and as such tended her resignation. All other members have been regular in their attendance. While there are some vacancies on the Committee it is anticipated that through the congregational contacts initiative, interested members of congregations will fill them.

9. Equality Statement

Arising out of one of our submissions, Peter Barclay led a stimulating discussion among members of CaN to put together what we believe concerning equality. We include it in our report hoping that it may be helpful to articulate a Christian position on this matter.

We believe:

1. That God has created human beings so that each person is unique with a personality and gifts different to that of any other person.
2. That although human beings are unequal in such qualities as giftedness and intelligence, God nevertheless loves everyone and treats them justly; as the Scripture says, he 'shows no partiality' (Acts 10:34) and he 'judges impartially according to each one's deeds' (1 Peter 1:17b).

3. That because the content of the moral law ultimately originates in God, it remains the same and cannot be altered by the passage of time, by a majority vote of citizens, by legislation introduced by governments, by concessions granted to special interest groups or by any other means.
4. That although there is only one moral law, people have different views about what constitutes ethical behaviour and therefore tolerance, that is, the ability to live in peace with people whose views may be considered objectionable, is essential.
5. That therefore freedom of religion, speech and conscience are essential if people with diverse views are to be free to find life's purpose.
6. That therefore the state should not adopt, incorporate into legislation or impose on all its citizens any laws that undermine or take precedence over these fundamental human rights of freedom of religion, speech and conscience.
7. That although it is necessary for the state to prevent citizens from doing physical harm to each other, it should not pass laws that enable litigation over hurt feelings, except in so far as it is possible under the laws of libel.

Darren Middleton
CONVENER

CHURCH PLANTING COMMITTEE (Min. 31)

Church Planting

Valley Presbyterian Church: VPC continues to grow at a healthy rate. As of writing this report they have 70-80 people in attendance, half of whom are children. The relationship with Plenty Valley Christian College continues to be a good one and the congregation now meets in their new hall with the Sunday School using various class rooms. We are greatly encouraged by the leadership of Richard Wilson and commend him and his team to you for your prayers. In particular, pray that they can build on the good contacts they have developed within the community.

Melbourne West Church Plants Melbourne West has approved of a new work in the Thornbury area. Aaron Boyd has been appointed to that work by the Exit Student Committee. Aaron Boyd has been preparing for this for over a year in conjunction with the committee. He has gathered a team of over 20 people from the Bundoora congregation and is ready to start in January 2013. We would like to thank the Bundoora congregation for getting behind this project.

A work has already started at Point Cook in the chapel of the Air Force Base. Currently it is just a preaching place with an evening service but we are looking to fund a full time ministry there by the start of 2013.

Conferences

In the Shute Forty four men and women made use of the Church Planting Committee's fee assistance offer to attend the Geneva Push National *In the Shute Conference* held at 156 Collins Street last November.

Someone said, 'This crowd makes me feel old!' One of the reasons we wanted members of the PCV to be there was to see this new wave of young people keen to get out into gospel ministry and win people for Jesus. It is our prayer that the PCV might also catch this new wave of gospel enthusiasm. It is easy to get too inward and fail to see that there is good gospel work happening in other parts of the church and that the gospel is still changing the lives of previously unchurched people.

We received reports on new church plants from Presbyterians, Anglicans, Reformed Church and independents. We were introduced to the ups and downs of church planting and the joys of God's unexpected work in people's lives. While all these plants shared the same basic theological convictions there was a creative variety in the way most of these plants started and were operating.

In 2013 the National Conference will be in NSW and the keynote speaker will be Don Carson. We have budgeted to send a smaller group of interested people to this event.

Full Tilt In April we ran our own one day conference with John Nicholls from the *London City Mission* as the keynote speaker. David Jones took one of the sessions to fill us in on his Tasmanian church planting experience. Thirty people attended this event.

John Nicholls focussed on setting the basic foundations. At the core of what he said related to what it means to be a church and how the approach to church planting flows from that. We were also reminded that established congregations have often

forgotten to be 'mission shaped' and have fallen back into the Old Testament geographic-centred way of thinking that treats their church like the Temple and expects people to come to it. We need to be mixing with all levels of society and taking the gospel with us as we mix. The apostles changed the world by going out into the world with the good news.

Property

The committee has decided to pursue purchasing a block of land in Doreen. It is a large block of land suitable for a substantial complex with ample parking.

Due to the lack of funds in the Property Development Fund we are looking to sell off half of the property in Officer. This would still leave us with five acres in Officer which is clearly sufficient for a potential church plant. We are grateful for the vision and foresight shown by the General Assembly in purchasing this land and are especially grateful to those who worked hard to make it happen. It was a great investment in the future.

Web Site

The committee is in the process of creating a website to promote the work of church planting. It will provide news on our church plants and be a place where you can go for various church planting resources.

Funding Issues

Buying land and establishing buildings is a very expensive process. The Property Development Fund clearly could do with substantial funds as we consider the rapid growth around Melbourne and other places like Armstrong Creek, Geelong. Buying land early as possible in these places would be the most effective way forward if we had the funds. The more we plant churches the more property will become an issue.

Funds for starting church plants are now limited. If we have three plants in operation next year we will have to be careful about when we start the fourth one. Our prayer is that the existing plants become self funding in five years or less, thus freeing up funds for new works. The other alternative is to develop a system of self funding which would make new works less reliant on the committee's funds.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

The way forward for Point Cook has been resolved with Peter Owen stepping down from his appointment at Brimbank and taking up the role of church planter at Point Cook. Adam Humphries is to exit from the College and take up the appointment at Brimbank. We are grateful for all involved in this process, particularly the Brimbank congregation.

We have also been able to restructure our budgets and cash flows for the next five years to accommodate a church plant in south east Bendigo initiated by St Johns. Russ Grinter will lead an enthusiastic team in this new venture under the guidance and authority of the St Johns session.

We were hoping to present a concrete proposal on the purchase of land in Doreen but due to a variety of issues we will have to proceed slower than expected or even have to consider different options. It is still expedient that we sell a part of the

property at Officer as soon as possible as it will put us in a far better position when it comes to negotiating a contract.

Our conversations with the Trusts Corporation have also raised an area of uncertainty in relation to the trust on which any property is to be purchased and held by the Church Planting Committee as it utilises moneys from the Property Development Fund. We would like to see this resolved soon to remove anomalies or irregularities.

Don Elliott
CONVENER

CODE AND GENERAL ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (Min. 28)

Since the 2011 meeting of the General Assembly, the committee has met twice to consider matters referred to it. The meetings were well attended and contributions were made by each member. The Committee dealt with letters of inquiry from members and courts of the church throughout this process.

1. Remit from the 2011 General Assembly

Arising from the last General Assembly (min 106) a remit was sent to presbyteries under the Barrier Act procedure, for approval or otherwise. The returns are as follows:

	PCV Law Agent rule 5.17 – GAV 2011 min 106	
	approve	disapprove
Ballarat	✓	
Benalla	✓	
Flinders	✓	
Geelong	✓	
Gippsland	✓	
Kilnoorat	✓	
Maroondah	✓	
Melb East	✓	
Melb North	✓	
Melb West	✓	
NW Victoria	✓	

On the basis of the returns, the Committee proposes to move that the rule change regarding rule 5.17 be enacted. See clause 1 of the deliverance.

2. Review process under way – the work of the church as a whole

Part of the core business of the Committee is to ‘discuss and report to the Assembly upon matters which concern the organisation and work of the church as a whole’ (reg 3(a)(ii)), and we have made this a deliberate item on the Committee’s agenda.

As one part of the ‘work of the church as a whole’ the Committee addressed the matter of succession planning for the chief administration officer of the General Assembly (the Clerk). Even if the present Clerk is able and willing to work for another decade, or more, the question is still before us: ‘Where is the next generation aspiring to the clerkship?’

We suggest it takes some time and patience in acquiring skills necessary for this role. Both the Clerk and the Deputy Clerk are among the most senior ministers in the PCV. Questions raised in the Committee included: ‘Do we just continue until the Clerk steps down, or is not re-appointed, and then take steps to secure a replacement?’ ‘Or is it better to take some action now in sounding out whether anyone else has aptitude or a yearning for this role?’ Discussion continues.

We also support the overture from the Board of Investment and Finance regarding establishing a Clerkship Committee – which would put into place a committee to provide ongoing oversight for the clerks.

3. Review process under way—increased efficiency of and cooperation between committees

A further part of core Committee business is to ‘suggest to the Assembly ways in which a greater measure of co-ordination and co-operation in the work of the church may be secured, and increased efficiency promoted in the work of the Assembly and its committees’ (reg 3(a)(iii)), and we have made this also a specified item on the Committee’s agenda.

We have surveyed each committee of the General Assembly asking for their views on this and seeking response. At the time of writing (17 August) only 4 of the General Assembly’s 27 committees had responded.

Clause 2 of the deliverance seeks to strengthen the Committee’s work in this area.

4. Review process under way—keeping the Code in line with changing policy of the church

One further part of core Committee business is to ‘take necessary action to keep the Code in line with the changing policy of the church’ (reg 3(b)(i)), and we have made this also a specified item on the Committee’s agenda.

We are hearing of changes being considered throughout the church.

There are several suggested needs under deliberation and each at various stages in the process of change, such as:

- defining more clearly the place of a ‘Church Plant’;
- clarifying the role of and the duties of adherents;
- bringing certain prescriptions currently ‘hidden’ in committee regulations more prominently into the Rules of the church, eg the process of accepting candidates for the ministry;
- clarifying definitions of congregational rolls (rather than ‘parish’ rolls);
- clarifying the role of presbytery assessors;
- reading of edicts prior to ordination/induction.

Then there is the ever present desire to update and revise committee regulations.

It is the Committee’s conclusion that none of these proposed changes are ready for advancing to the General Assembly. We believe it is time to place ‘on hold’ changes to the Code that are presently under consideration and continue this wider review process whereby we might consider a raft of changes that bring the Code into line with changing policy of the church.

The Committee believes we need a moratorium on all but urgent changes, even if this process takes two or three years to consider. Clause 3 seeks endorsement of this proposal.

5. Selection Committee

Each year the Code and General Administration Committee is responsible for bringing names to the General Assembly for positions on the Selection Committee. Following consultation, these names are advanced in clause 4 of the deliverance.

John P Wilson
CONVENER

COMMISSION FOR CHURCH INSTITUTIONS (Min. 32)

The Commission made the following appointments for the year 2012/2013:

1. Presbyterian Ladies' College Council

Group A appoint:

Mr Brian Bayston
Rev Andrew Bray
Mrs Catherine O'Leary
Mrs Fiona Pearce
Mr Russell Walley

Group B appoint:

Ms Mui-Chun Chew
Mrs Carolyn Elvins
Mr Justice Greg Garde
Mrs Christine Hopper
Dr Andrew McDonald

Group C approve & appoint:

Prof Greg Barton
Mr Graeme Boyles
Rev Mark Chew
Dr Christopher Morgan
Mrs Janice Smith
Mrs Gail Thannhauser
Dr Jillian Webster

2. Scotch College Council

Group A appoint:

Rev Ivan Barker
Mr Brian Bayston
Mr John Ireson
Mr Duncan McGregor
Rev John Wilson

Group B appoint:

Mr David Crawford
Hon Dr David Kemp
Mr John Simpson
Mr Alex Sloan
Mr David Tyrrell

Group C approve & appoint:

Mrs Sarah Bernard
Mr Frederick Davidson
Mr Craig Drummond
Mr Michael Happell
Mrs Susan Hughes
Mr Cam Johnston
Mr Michael Sim

3. St Andrews Christian College Board

a) Nominator, the Presbytery of the bounds:

vacancy, term concludes 2013

Mr James Bligh, term concludes 2014

Mrs Anne Elliott, term concludes 2015

Rev Brian Harvey, term concludes 2015

b) Nominator, retiring members of the Board:

Mr Jerry Tharapos, term concludes 2013

Mr Geoffrey Hui, term concludes 2014

Mr Wes Cassidy, term concludes 2014

and (subject to confirmation by SACC Board)

Mr Peter Lewis, term concludes 2015

c) Nominator, the Company in General Meeting (Parent Group):

Mr Bassim Girgis, term concludes 2013

Mrs Rebecca Tay, term concludes 2013

Mrs Sharon Rowland, term concludes 2014

Mr Alan MacGavin, term concludes 2015

4. Belgrave Heights Christian School Association (Council)

a) General Assembly – Presbyterian nominees (6):

Mr Ian Birchall

Mr Iain Chaney

Mr Nicholas Crawley

Rev Warwick Davidson

Mr Dirk Jackson

Mr Micah Powell

c) BHCS Association (Parents Association) nominees (4):

Mr Ian Byles

Mr Stephen Dunn

Mrs Naomi Eagar

Mrs Melissa Pors

John P Wilson
CLERK OF ASSEMBLY

CONCILIATION COMMITTEE (Min. 97)

The Committee met to deal with an Appeal from the Rev Michael Jensen against a decision of the Presbytery of Flinders. The Committee assisted the parties whereby agreement was achieved and the Appeal subsequently withdrawn.

The Committee received a Petition from Elder Reg Butcher against decisions of the Presbytery of Melbourne North. Because of the time constraints to adequately deal with the Petition prior to the meeting of the General Assembly 2012, the Committee invited Mr Butcher to meet in the lead up to the Commission May 2013. Mr Butcher declined.

Andrew Bray
CONVENER

DEFENCE FORCE CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE (Min. 68)

The committee met together once this year in the Defence Force School of Signals Officers Mess, Simpson Barracks.

The Presbyterian Church of Victoria continues to be well represented in Defence Force Chaplaincy. It remains a vital part of the ministry of the Christian churches to the men and women of the Australian Defence Force. The work of our Presbyterian chaplains is greatly appreciated by those in command.

Full time ADF chaplains posted to Victoria have appreciated the numerous offers from a number of congregations to come and speak about the work of military chaplaincy. If other congregations would like to know more then please contact the convener.

The Committee was pleased to welcome Chaplain Andrew Robinson who, at the beginning of this year, commenced a three year posting to Defence Force School of Signals. Andrew posted in from Kapooka where he had been working in the Recruit Training School.

Chaplain Robinson writes 'I am very thankful to God for this opportunity. At Kapooka, I was privileged to speak to many of the recruits about the Lord Jesus. A number of them have also been posted to Watsonia. My prayer is that I will be able to come alongside and encourage them as they "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour" (2 Peter 3:18)'.

There are many unique ministry opportunities afforded to chaplains working in the Defence environment. There are still vacancies for ordained ministers of our church to serve as chaplains in our Defence Force in either a part or full time capacity. If anyone would like to know more about this unique ministry please speak to any of the chaplains listed below.

Allan Harman continues in his GAA appointment as member of the RACS committee and his leadership and pastoral support is greatly appreciated by the Defence Force Chaplains throughout Australia.

Chaplains currently posted in Victoria are:

Navy

Chaplain Barry Porter	RAN	On Overseas Deployment
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Army

Chaplain Martin de Pyle	ARA	DCSTC
Chaplain Andrew Robinson	ARA	DFSS
Chaplain Trevor Cox	ARES	4CER

RAAF

Chaplain Peter Phillips	RAAFSR	21 SQN RAAF Williams
Chaplain Peter Owen	RAAFSR	21 SQN RAAF Williams

Martin de Pyle
CONVENER

EXIT STUDENT COMMITTEE (Min. 99)

The Exit Student Committee (ESC) met with the exiting students on a number of occasions and has been able to make the following appointments for 2013:-

Aaron Boyd (Gabby) to Thornbury (church plant) in the Presbytery of Melbourne West.

Adam Humphries (Tracey) to Brimbank Presbyterian Church in the Presbytery of Melbourne West.

Jared Keath (Jasmine) to Frankston Presbyterian Church in the Presbytery of Flinders.

Peter Roberts (Gail) to Cranbourne Presbyterian Church in the Presbytery of Flinders.

Stuart Withers (Adele) to Rochester Presbyterian Church in the Presbytery of North Western Victoria.

At the time of writing this report one appointment is still outstanding. The committee through the help of the Ministry Development Committee is working to find a suitable placement.

The ESC seeks prayerfully, having access to all relevant information from the parishes and the students, to find placements that will best achieve long term and fruitful ministries to the glory of God and the blessing of the church of Jesus Christ.

We express grateful thanks to Mr Ben Palmer for secretarial help given throughout the year.

Tony Bird
CONVENER

GENERAL MISSION PROGRAM COMMITTEE (Min. 43)

1. General Mission Program receipts – 2011/12

The total of the General Mission Program for 2011/12, as fixed by the 2011 Commission of the General Assembly, was \$209,042. As at 30th June 2012, the subscriptions against the allocations for 2011/12 have amounted to \$196,097 or approximately 94% of the total General Mission Program allocated to presbyteries. This includes over subscriptions of \$1,602. Of the allocated sums, \$14,157 was not received. In addition to the sums received for 2011/12, a further \$6,612 was received in relation to the prior year bringing the total received to \$202,709 or 97% of the allocation for 2011/12. The Committee commends the great majority of congregations which have responded so well to this program of the church in Victoria. The Committee strongly commends those presbyteries and parishes which have subscribed their allocations in full, and especially commends those congregations which have subscribed in excess of its allocation, and encourages this practice.

As instructed by the General Assembly, the attached schedule shows for each parish, the amount allocated by presbytery, the amount subscribed against the allocation, any payments above allocation, and any balance remaining as at 30 June 2012.

2. Promotion of General Mission Program

The General Mission Program is an important program for our church and is a way in which all members of the denomination can be involved in the wider work of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria. Of the 2012-13 GMP allocation of \$210,765, 47 per cent of the funds raised are used to pay for the employment of the *Training Officer*; 22 per cent is provided to *Australian Presbyterian World Mission (Victoria)*; 11 per cent goes to *ACCESS Ministries*; 9 per cent to the Property Development Fund, with the balance of the funds raised through the GMP split between *the State News Committee*, *Australian Christian Lobby*, *the Council for Chaplains in Tertiary Institutions*, *Bill Muehlenberg*, *Presbyterian Inland Mission*, *Victorian Council of Churches* and *Saltshakers*.

The Committee believes it is imperative that this very important mission program of our church is brought to the notice of the boards of management and members of congregations so that an enhanced understanding of its purpose and importance is more widely held. The Committee trusts that ministers and sessions will promote the program in their congregations so that even stronger support for the GMP may be achieved.

Norm Sharp
CONVENER

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE (Min. 64)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say rejoice! Let your forbearing spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all comprehensions, shall guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:4-7 NASB)

Brothers and sisters in the Lord, it is with great pleasure that the Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee (HCCC) bring this annual report to your attention. The words from Philippians have directed the actions of HCCC. During this year, we have had many opportunities to be anxious, panic and lose focus of what our mission is – to support the chaplains and pastoral carers of the PCV in the field. While those opportunities existed, we are thankful to God in each case they have passed without needing to panic because of God's grace and sovereignty.

The Lord has strengthened the chaplains and pastoral carers of the PCV to minimise panic and maximise his purpose. He has guarded the hearts and minds of our HCCC members and chaplaincy workers because of the promise made that when we pray, God answers.

This was witnessed when HCCC was putting together our Budget for 2012/13. Due to the Victorian Government's own severe Budget cutbacks, funding to HealthCare Chaplaincy Council Victoria Incorporated (HCCVI) was substantially reduced, from which HCCC draws a significant part of our budget each year. Earlier this year, the HCCC was advised that available government funds could be reduced by as much as 50% and that consequently we may not have been able to sustain the current levels of support for all areas of HCCC chaplaincy; from Hospital visiting to AFES and our own HCCC salaried staff. It was with great relief that news was received before our June 2012 meeting that ultimately a lesser decrease in funding from HCCVI was sustained. This meant that most of our support was reset to 2011/12 levels - a real answer to prayer and an opportunity passed over to panic.

The chaplains of the PCV are with those who often travel uncertain paths and face challenging decisions. The places and situations vary, from hospital to a gaol, from a university to the local police station, from the local school to the sporting club. The people vary and the circumstances can be radically different, but opportunities to panic are prevalent.

HCCC thanks the many people who keep the chaplains before them in prayer and we remind the Assembly of those PCV funded chaplains and pastoral care workers during 2011/2012 below:

- Rev Keith Bell – Paediatric chaplaincy funded by the Hughes Trust (1.0 EFT)
- Rev Wally Gear – Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes funded jointly with the Social Services Committee (1.0 EFT)
- Ms Janine Motyer – Pastoral Care Intern at Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes funded jointly with Social Services Committee and St Andrew's Foundation (0.5 EFT)
- Ms Elspeth Slater – Pastoral Support worker to Ministry Wives (0.6 EFT)
- Rev Tony and Ms Anne Salisbury – Ministry to the Deaf Community funded jointly with the Ministry Development Committee and the Deaf Presbyterian Church (1.0 EFT)

- Mrs Kathy James – HCCC Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care Coordinator (0.4 EFT)

As part of our ongoing performance review and to ensure that our chaplains are pastoring well, reports are regularly received and reviewed by HCCC. These reports are amazing. We hear of tremendous opportunities to minister in difficult circumstances and of how, with God's help, opportunities to panic disappear. The Lord has indeed been gracious and has strengthened the hand of our PCV chaplains and pastoral carers.

We will report on several areas and urge the Assembly to continue to pray for this amazing work so we can again miss opportunities to panic.

Hughes Trust / Paediatric Chaplaincy

Rev Keith Bell continues to flourish in his ministry at the Northern and Western Hospitals. The Pastoral Care co-ordinators at both hospitals are very supportive of Keith and the extent of his ministry. Keith has been confronted with several opportunities to panic in recent years – but by God's grace they have passed. He has also had many opportunities to come along side children and youth facing difficult times as their futures are in turmoil and has been of great help and blessing to them in this important role.

During 2012, the HCCC in conjunction with HCCVI has attempted to develop pastoral care work in a regional worksite at Goulburn Valley Health in Shepparton. While the local Hospital and Minister's Fraternal are keen to see this work flourish, time and budgetary constraints on HCCVI have stalled the establishment of this work at present. This has been a frustrating delay for the HCCC and for Keith, but we continue to pursue this potential sphere of work and will report to that GAV in the year ahead.

Currently, the possibility of a Senior Paediatric Pastoral Care training Internship remains open. We continue to pray and seek God's guidance for this exciting future development opportunity. Please see more in the training portfolio.

HCCC Good Friday Appeal 2011/Chaplaincy awareness month

Many of our chaplains were engaged in visiting PCV congregations to speak about their work during March and April this year, culminating in our annual HCCC Good Friday Appeal in early April. The committee was appreciative of the generous response of the participating congregations to this year's appeal an amount of \$15,468 being raised in support of our denomination's chaplaincy work. Praise God for his wonderful provision and the partnership many of our PCV congregations.

Congregations who wish to have a chaplain come and speak at a meeting / service are most welcome to contact one of the chaplains directly or through Mrs Kathy James (chaplaincy@pcvic.org.au).

Tertiary Chaplaincy Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students (AFES)

The HCCC devotes a significant block of funding each year to the work of tertiary chaplains through its semi-annual grants to Presbyterian AFES workers across several Victorian campuses. During 2011/12 this funding was shared with the Ministry Development Committee (MDC), allowing us to continue funding to this vital work. The HCCC gives thanks to God for this joint committee provision, reflecting the value of AFES ministry at several points of impact across the denomination - notably

the provision of evangelical pastoral care to university students, for evangelism and in the training and development of future gospel workers. This has had a direct and vital impact on providing ministry candidates for the PCV in recent years and we give thanks to God that we have been able to join with MDC in the continued support of this important work. The names of the AFES workers, along with their field of mission and field of service in the PCV are as follows:

- Latrobe - Bundoora – Peter Leslie (at Valley PC), Aaron Boyd (Bundoora PC) & Helen Bell - International students (at Bundoora PC)
- Latrobe – Bendigo – Rus Grinter (at Bendigo PC)
- Deakin - Geelong – David Martin (at Geelong West PC)
- Deakin – Burwood – Pete Sorrenson (at Surrey Hills PC)
- RMIT Melb – Alan Green (at Bundoora) & Steve Denness (at Donvale)
- Monash - Clayton – Ken Lim - International students (at Donvale)

The HCCC encourages the Assembly to continue to grasp the vision of AFES and its vital gospel work amongst the universities of Victoria.

Healthcare Chaplaincy Council of Victoria (HCCVI)

The PCV retains one seat on the HCCVI (currently held by Mrs Kathy James). Kathy also recently became an inaugural member of the Board of HCCVI which became an incorporated association in late 2011. Participation on the Council of HCCVI allows the PCV to participate in the setting of policy and direction for the provision of chaplaincy services in Victoria and provides access to government funding to member churches for the provision of pastoral care services.

As listed in the introduction, budget cuts have been a major discussion point this year between HCCVI and its member groups. The council has undergone much discussion and consultation in order to determine and confirm priorities in a climate of potentially severe financial limitation. Again, the HCCC wishes to stress that there were many opportunities to panic, but the Lord guarded our hearts and minds as we engaged in prayer. In what has been a difficult time and process, we are thankful to God for his gracious help and engagement to provide for the needs of the HCCC for another year.

It is likely that future access to Victorian Government funding for chaplaincy and pastoral care work will now be negotiated through HCCVI on an annual, rather than 3 year term basis. It is also likely that funding priorities of the HCCVI will in future be directed towards training and infrastructure development for its members, rather than distributed for direct service provision. This may result in changes to both our annual income stream and its potential uses from HCCVI. We will inform the house more of these developments as they are worked through in the months ahead.

Training, recruitment and development

The HCCC continues to encourage those with an interest in chaplaincy ministries to undergo professional training which will allow them to gain accreditation and work in the highly regulated public sphere in years to come. Several members of the PCV have undergone training in Clinical Pastoral Education for hospital based ministries this year or have undertaken chaplaincy training units for schools, sports and other forms of Chaplaincy.

It has been a pleasure to see Ms Janine Motyer flourish in her role as a chaplaincy intern at Kirkbrae. She has been warmly received by all staff and patients in the

nursing home. Janine has a background in nursing and together with her passion for aged care, she brings a beautiful harmony of these two skills as she continues to learn and practice pastoral care to the aged.

Future opportunities to develop Paediatric training Internship positions remain open and will be subject to discussion by the HCCC. One such future opportunity may be within the Royal Children's Hospital. There are encouraging signs at the RCH Pastoral Care department after it has gone through a radical overhaul over the past year. We remain cautiously optimistic about the future there and are considering several strategies from lessons learnt over the past two years.

Rev Tony and Anne Salisbury (Deaf Community Church based at Surrey Hills) have developed further links with Access Ministries with whom Tony is an accredited school chaplain. The HCCC has recently been advised of the success of a grant application to the St Andrews Foundation in support of Rev Salisbury's Chaplaincy work. This grant is likely to be channelled through ACCESS Ministries, as principal chaplaincy provider with Designated Gift Recipient Tax Status (DGR)

We hope to continue to engage with the Presbyterian Theological College in developing pathways for training of chaplain and pastoral care workers within existing degree structures and look forward to an ongoing collaboration with the PTC in the future development of these important streams of ministry training.

HCCC venues of operation

As is the case of many committees of the Assembly, manse studies / offices often become the hub of the operation of the Committee. For several years, our Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Co-ordinator Mrs Kathy James has operated from her home but with a growing workload, this became increasingly difficult. An invitation was made from Heathmont House to potentially have a workspace made available for Kathy. HCCC was sufficiently convinced that this would be in everyone's best interests. While this has added a further burden to the budget, we can see the benefit for Kathy's work and in the capacity to have private meetings with chaplains / pastoral carers together with improved storage of files.

Whilst there have been some teething issues with commencing our shared tenancy, again opportunities to panic have been minimized. HCCC is grateful for the support of Heathmont House and the Board of Management of the Heathmont Presbyterian Church for the provision of these excellent facilities at very reasonable rental rates.

HCCC is also very thankful to Scots Church who regularly make available one of their rooms to hold our bi-monthly committee meetings. All of the facilities are well maintained and arranged to cater for our meetings. HCCC would find it otherwise difficult to hold our meetings as several travel from the country to attend.

To both Heathmont and Scots, we are thankful under God as they enable HCCC and our workers to function well for the provision of chaplaincy across the PCV.

Emergency Ministries

Several PCV emergency trained chaplains were again called to assist in floods during the early part of 2012. We commend them for their efforts and seek Assembly's prayer support for their ministry. Again, there are many opportunities to panic, but in many by God's grace situations those opportunities passed.

Sports Chaplaincy

We praise God for the amazing doors being opened in sports chaplaincy in Victoria with many sporting organizations requesting chaplains. The opportunities to engage with the local community through the hub of sport are endless. The question we need to ask ourselves is where and when can I make myself available or encourage others in the congregation to do so. Congratulations to Rev Ben Johnson (surf lifesaving), Toby McIntosh (AFL) and Elder Brian Woodman (clay target shooting) on their appointment as sports chaplains.

Training is one area where Sports Chaplaincy Australia is investing heavily into. Rev Jeremy Dover is the Victorian Co-ordinator of SCA and takes a lead role in the delivery of these courses. One aspect of these training courses is to take them into regional Victoria. In May 2012, a course was run at Warrnambool which created great interest in the South West. Opportunities to hold training in other regional areas should not be passed by.

Further enquiries regarding sports chaplaincy can be directed to Rev Jeremy Dover (Jeremy.Dover@sportschaplaincy.com.au)

Pastoral Care of Ministry Families

The HCCC continued to support a three-pronged approach to the pastoral care of Ministry families during 2011/2012 through the annual Ministry Family Camp, the ongoing employment of Miss Elspeth Slater as Pastoral Support Worker to Ministry Wives, and the support of trainers and facilitators for the Pastors' Renewal Retreats program (now incorporating more than 40 PCV ministers).

We also wish to highlight and acknowledge God's wonderful provision of joint committee funding in relation to the annual Ministry Family Camp. Significant contributions from both the CENC (PYV camp costs) and PWMU (missionary families) have enabled the ongoing security of the family camp and this important annual ministry of pastoral care to PCV ministry families. In relation to the camp we again acknowledge with thanksgiving the work of Mrs Anne Elliott in her role as Camp Co-ordinator, whose efficient administration and tireless efforts are of vital importance to the effective functioning of the camp each year.

The timing of the Minister's Family Camp has been an issue with its close proximity to Assembly, AFL Grand Final and families with VCE students. Unfortunately, Philip Island Adventure Resort is not available in the July holidays and there are no other realistic camp sites available that fit all the camp in on one location in accommodation that is suitable for all ages and families.

HCCC is privileged to again support the delivery of the Pastor's Renewal Retreat Group Program. While the name of 'retreat' sounds a bit strange to some, the value of the retreats are seen in the fruit of Pastors renewed for their next stage of pastoral ministry, of going home and re-connecting with family and engaging with their congregations in meaningful ways. They are not gossip sessions, but biblically based formats for uncovering our feeble mannered ways and rebuilding / adjusting our ministries and lives on biblical structures.

The HCCC encourages presbyteries, if they do not already have one, to consider forming a committee of Pastoral Care for the Ministers and Elders of its jurisdiction. This is not to replace the oversight role that all presbytery has but to

further enhance the care of its members. There is at least one presbytery that does this and its care and wisdom is valued.

The operation of the committee is not prescriptive but some of the activities could include prayer days, making regular contact other than presbytery meetings, and a sub-committee of pastorally sensitive people to support and pray for minister / elders in pastoral situations that may require an early intervention.

Committee Membership and Structure

The committee's membership remained stable at 8 members (including the Convener) during the year. The Committee consists of Mrs Toni Orchard, Mrs Anne Elliott, Ms Barbara Brown, Mrs Alison Robertson, Rev Jeremy Dover, Rev Clinton Le Page, Rev Evan Prentice and Rev Miles Fagan (Convener).

Words of Jesus

In everything we do, we seek to remember the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:36, 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me' and Paul's words in Galatians 6:10, 'Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers'.

Miles Fagan
CONVENER

HOME MISSION WORKERS ASSOCIATION (Min. 63)

We give thanks to our Lord for the blessings which enabled HMWA Executive to continue through the year to give support to the Home Mission Stations and theological students.

The 2011 Thanksgiving and Dedication Service was held in Scots' Church Melbourne on Thursday 19th November. We were honoured with the participation of our Moderator, Rt Rev Robert Carner. We thank him for his attendance.

Guest Preacher Rev Jeremy Dover of Moorabool is also Chaplain to Sports at Geelong, an interesting and demanding role. We were reminded that God is for everyone. We thank him for his interesting and inspiring address. We wish him well in this versatile role.

Our thanks to Mr John Meyer who accompanied us at the organ. Thanks also to Scots' Church Minister and Session for allowing us to hold our Service in their beautiful Church.

The Annual General Meeting (2011) was held on Tuesday, 27th March 2012 in the Robert White Hall for which we also thank Scots' Church. Guest speaker, theological student Adam Humphries grew up in a Christian family. His commitment to the Ministry became evident during his University studies and contact with other Christian students. We were most impressed with his visual presentation of his journey through Israel renewing the Gospel's records of Jesus' journeys. We thank Adam for his sincere and inspiring presentation.

Rev John Rickard gave a report on Home Mission Stations and chaired the formal Annual Meeting. The Annual Report and Financial Statements were presented. The Executive was elected – President/Treasurer Miss Rion Jennings, Hon. Secretary Miss Barbara Firth; Committee Mrs Helen Bayston, Mrs Patsy Law, Mrs Kathy Gilmore, Mrs Carolyn Wentworth, Mrs Eileen Blythe, and a new member was welcomed – Mrs Janette Chapman.

Allocations: Christmas gifts to home missionaries, theological students, re-location to exit students, mid-year grants to home missionaries, resource grants to students.

It was with sadness we learned of the death of Mrs Alice Goode, a long term member of HMWA Executive and Link for Drouin Church. She will be greatly missed at Drouin.

Information letters were sent to Links and Friends in September 2011 and January 2012. Emails are being sent to churches advising dates of Church Service in November and March Annual Meeting. The Executive thanks all those who continue to support HMWA.

Rion Jennings
PRESIDENT

MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE (Min. 41)

The Committee reports the following matters to the Assembly 2012.

1. Membership of the Committee

The committee membership is still short of our full complement with the retirement of Elder Willem Roodenburg plus myself as Convener. Earlier this year, the Selection Committee nominated Rev John Woodward to fill one of the casual vacancies, and to assume the role of Convener following this Assembly.

However, we are still seeking a Secretary. Since the departure of Rev Michael Willsmore, this work has fallen to me, and has regrettably been one of the shortfalls of the Committee's work. We are also in need of a Registrar, to fill the position now vacated by Elder Willem Roodenburg.

I am disappointed that I cannot at this stage hand over to John a 'well-oiled and smoothly functioning machine' because important members are missing. Unless this deficiency can be repaired, I foresee unnecessary difficulties for John as he takes up his new role. However, I am confident that he will bring his customary skills, energy and church background to the task, so as to enable the Committee to fulfill its role.

The Committee has met on three occasions during the financial year to 30th June, as well as holding a number of 'executive' meetings, email exchanges and telephone discussions to deal with urgent business. With fewer members, the Committee has on occasions had difficulty mustering a quorum.

As in previous reports, we encourage all parishes to complete budgets ahead of the start of the financial year, so that they have the base data for their APR Forms readily available, and we further encourage presbyteries to establish standing committees to assess parish finances on a consistent basis.

2. Minister's Remuneration

As reported last year, the Committee has been in discussions with the TC/BIF regarding retirement benefits for our ministers, and the broader consideration of whether minister's remuneration overall was fair and reasonable vis-a-vis outside callings. Analysis to date has been encouraging but, given the variety of circumstances, some aspects of remuneration are not readily amenable to broad concepts of fairness, nor should we be simplistically comparing ministry with outside callings.

3. Vehicle Running Costs

From Commission of Assembly to the time of writing in early August, the Singapore market cost of crude oil has varied within the range \$US100-130 per barrel equivalent, with a dip in July but a recovery in August. Thus bowser prices seemed to have peaked in April-May, but have come back more recently to levels seen earlier in the year, and the Committee recommends holding the reimbursement rate for church travel at the current figure of 46c/km.

4. Sustentation Grants

Twelve applications for sustentation were received and approved for the 2011-2012 financial year. This is quite a jump from the seven approved in the previous year, and the Committee therefore will need to be much more restrained in dealing with grant

applications for the new year. For parishes receiving continuing support, this means that grants will be scaled down in accordance with the regulations, and our first meeting in July began by applying reductions of 25% to amounts sought.

As a consequence of the decline in investment yields and the fallout from the so-called second financial crisis, we see more parishes drawing down on their investments and consuming their reserves. We remind parish boards that such actions can only last for a short time, and every reduction in reserves also reduces future investment income.

5. Special Needs Grants

One application was received and approved for a minister in special need.

6. Travel Assistance Grants

Three grants were approved for the financial year.

7. Long Service Leave

A total of seven ministers requested long service leave in the past year and all requests were granted. In addition, one balance of accrued leave was transferred interstate, and one was received from interstate.

The Committee is greatly indebted to Mr Michael Ellison and the PCV Office staff for their diligent and efficient record-keeping on our behalf, particularly in respect of Long Service Leave entitlements.

Presbyteries were again encouraged to urge ministers with large accumulations of leave to take some or all of what was available to them. We are pleased to see that this has been done in quite a number of instances, and we again encourage ministers to take the leave that is due to them.

8. Interest Free Component of Minister's Car Loans

The Minister's Car Loans scheme is operated by the TC/BIF, but the Interest Rate Subsidy aspect is in the care of this Committee. The subsidy holds the rate payable to a maximum of 5% on the first portion of the loan.

In all, \$14,464 was used to subsidise loans under this scheme during the past year. 4 new loans were made, and there were 21 loans totaling \$187,248 outstanding as at June 30th.

9. Annual Parish Reports

The Committee is most grateful for the ongoing work of Elder Reg Butcher in preparing and testing an electronic version of the APR, using an Excel spreadsheet. A number of parishes have used the draft document successfully, and it is now available for wider testing. Any parish treasurer wishing to make use of the electronic version is encouraged to contact the Committee.

10. Individual Parish assistance

As Convener I have visited two parishes to assist treasurers in understanding their roles, maintaining their essential records, and completing the APR. These meetings seem all-too brief, but the results are most satisfying to the Committee as well as to the parish treasurers. On other occasions Committee members have spoken at Fuelled Training Day sessions and assisted presbytery members.

11. Other Matters

I am again happy to remind presbyteries that Report Forms can be properly considered by our Committee outside our cycle of regular meetings. The committee members are firmly focused upon the task of supporting parish ministry, and I therefore enthusiastically commend their work on your behalf.

John M Angelico
CONVENER

METRO COMMITTEE (Min. 98)

METRO is a two-year, partly funded, full-time traineeship designed to give people a taste of local church ministry and theological study to determine if that is where God is calling them to serve.

METRO's function then is to identify and train faithful and competent gospel workers. METRO recognises that developing evangelistic ministries is not the primary task of theological colleges. These skills need to be developed at the local church level and prior to college. Therefore METRO is pre-theological training that aims to engender a theology of evangelistic ministry within a potential ministry candidate. Indeed many of the practical components of the METRO traineeship are best learnt through one-to-one training.

METRO is not an alternative to formal theological education but rather prepares and complements it. For the METRO trainees the METRO experience becomes a filter through which theological study is viewed. The trainee understands theology within the proper context of evangelism and church.

For any of this training to occur we need trainers. Indeed trainers are essential to the success of METRO. Trainers are usually those in full time ministry who have an ability and willingness to impart ministry skills and a desire to share their lives with METRO trainees. It requires a commitment of about six hours per week to mentor one METRO trainee plus ongoing training to hone their ministry and training skills.

youthMETRO, a new venture for the METRO committee, continues to be exciting and profitable. youthMETRO is a one year traineeship focussed on preparing and growing youth leaders in local churches. Like METRO, youthMETRO aims to prepare trainees to be, think and serve like Jesus, with a specific focus on doing this within youth ministries.

Whether a trainee is involved in METRO or youthMETRO the same three basic strands are covered:

- 1. Being like Jesus - Personal Godliness** The main focus in this strand is daily personal bible reading, prayer and personal evangelism. Trainees and trainers will spend time in their catchups discussing issues arising from this crucial daily time with God and documenting prayer points.
- 2. Thinking like Jesus - Theological Reflection** To be able to teach the Bible, first trainees must understand the Bible, its history and content. This is the main focus of this strand.
- 3. Serving like Jesus - Ministry Skills** In this strand the trainees will develop their ministry skills. Fundamental to the progress made, will be the transition of the trainee into a trainer role. A basic pattern in each ministry skill is for the trainee to pass on what they have learnt with another person - learning through teaching others.

For more information about METRO, youthMETRO and your involvement please visit www.metrotraineeship.org.au or Nello Barbieri 0403569946.

Nello Barbieri
CONVENER

MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (Min. 57)

A Personnel

1. Composition of the Team

The Committee, as constituted by last year's Assembly, consists of a Convener and 6 Committee members. The members are Rev Dr Tony Bird (Convener), Mrs Michelle Brennan, Mr John Dalstead, Rev Grant Lawry, Rev John Rickard, and Rev Gerald Vanderwert. Our Ministry Development Director, Rev Dr Robert Carner, attends committee meetings, along with our Secretary, Mr Ben Palmer.

2. Core business of the Ministry Development Committee

'The Ministry Development Committee shall be responsible to the General Assembly for the work of building, revitalising and promoting healthy churches in the state of Victoria. Such work is to be in conjunction with the presbytery which has the primary responsibility for the health of congregations within its bounds...' from the MDC's Regulations

The Ministry Development Committee has a wide-ranging brief to use its resources for ministry development through training, encouragement, general consultancy and funding. Ministry Development Committee services and support are available to all churches; Sanctioned Charges, Appointment Parishes, and Home Mission Stations. In the case of Home Mission Stations we seek, as always, to work in cooperation with the session and presbytery of jurisdiction.

Confidential congregational assessment is available with the primary tool being the MINISTRY TOOL BOX. We will be seeking to actively promote the use of this self-assessment tool in 2013. The authors of Ministry Tool Box state: 'Ministry Planning is the result of mobilizing believers (People) who effectively and efficiently relate to and engage their ministry environment (Perspective), to meet the objectives of their church's mandate (Philosophy) using the most appropriate action plans (Projects), in the pursuit of fulfilling the Great Commission.'

'Ministry is not complicated but it is complex.' Each part is relatively easy to manage on its own but the church world becomes very complex when you take people and programs that are used to 'doing their own thing' and attempt to integrate them together to gain maximum impact. That integration is what the Tool Box attempts to achieve.

The absence of Robert Carner due to moderator's commitments such as the overseas mission trip, visits to Australian states, the churches of two designated presbyteries, official functions and so on has left other congregational visits and seminars undone. With moderatorial duties, we estimate some 25% of time was taken from MDC commitments. We are very grateful to our secretary Ben Palmer who was willing and able to cover for in secretarial and other duties.

3. Home Mission Stations, Home Missionaries and their current appointments.

	Home Missionary	Moderator
Blackburn	(vacant)	Rev M James
Cardinia-Koo-Wee-Rup	(supply)	Rev K Opetai
Cranbourne-Lyndhurst	Peter Roberts	Rev B Medley
Carisbrook-Caslemaine	John Gething	Rev Dr J Woodward
Clarinda	(supply)	Rev G Weber
Eaglehawk	Steven Arbuckle	Rev P Burns

Gisborne	(vacant)	Rev D Robertson
Kaniva-Nhill	Ian Smith	Rev W Vandenberg
Kerang-Pyramid Hill	(vacant)	Rev Dr J Woodward
Leongatha	(vacant)	Rev M Smith
SE Samoan (Lyndhurst)	Rev Kainano Opeteia	Rev K Opeteia
Sale	(vacant)	Rev G Stephens
Sunraysia	(vacant)	Rev I Stewart
Templestowe	Adrian Kebbe	Rev K Bell
West Footscray	Richard Jeganathan	Rev J Cho

In addition, Home Missionary Kamran Nazir serves as a cross-cultural pastor in the Dandenong parish.

4. Home Missionaries

It still remains our goal (along with Queensland and NSW) to standardise the qualifications for a Home Missionary sufficiently to recognize them between the states without having to go through the process of re-qualifying. This may help alleviate the shortage of Home Missionaries and will enable men who sense a call to serve as a Home Missionary in different parts of the country.

Despite regular advertising through regular outlets, such as the Australian Presbyterian, New Life and The Briefing, the number of applicants for Home Mission work has declined over the past five years. We have therefore increasingly relied on personal invitation and approaching presbyteries to identify potential candidates. We are interested in recruiting suitable men to serve in a variety of contexts whether as 'classic' Home Missionaries in Home Mission Stations, or as locums when regular ministers are on holiday or ill, or as second-workers.

B. Key Challenges

1. Staffing/Recruitment

The PCV currently has 97 employed ministers and home missionaries. This does not include private appointments or retired ministers who do part time locums.

In assessing future personnel needs we need to factor in the time period to recruit and prepare a man for training as a parish minister. The whole process could take between four and six years. Some of the men who put their hands up for training in 2013 may not be ready to exit/serve until 2019 or beyond.

The PCV office (for superannuation purposes) calculates that we may potentially lose 34 men to retirement by 2020 (8 years from now). This parallels the MDC calculations whereby in the next 5 to 7 years we may have to replace up to 31 ministers. These are only predictions with the understanding that some men will retire at 65, some will have to work up to 67 and others will choose to serve significantly longer; and yes, we may lose some to death.

Age Range	No. of Mins/HMs	Comments
70 and over	5	<i>In total, we have 19 ministers 64 or older, who could retire any time soon</i>
67 –69	3	
64 – 66	11	
60-63	13	<i>Planning must be put in place for their retirement</i>
58-59	6	<i>Candidates entering the PTC today may be the ones replacing these ministers</i>
51-57	28	
43-50	15	
34-42	16	

There are currently a total of 15 candidates training for ministry at our Theological College. Six of these will exit the College into PCV ministry at the end of 2012. On average the PTC exits between 3 and 4 candidates per year. In addition there are ministerial candidates entering through the Reception of Ministers committee, as well as PCA ministers coming inter-state.

PCV Churches

98 parishes, some with multiple churches or preaching places.

Presbytery	Number of parishes	total number of churches
Ballarat	9	18
Benalla	8	12
Flinders	14	18
Geelong	6	10
Gippsland	6	7
Kilnoorat	6	11
Maroondah	8	8 (plus Kirkbrae)
Melbourne East	15	17
Melbourne North	11	11
Melbourne West	9	10 (plus Darwin)
North Western Victoria	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
Totals	98	129

(note that an amalgamation of Pyramid Hill and Kerang has taken place)

To maintain the 'status quo' we estimate that we may need up to 35 candidates for the ministry between now and 2017. This does not include workers for church planting work. These figures have not changed much over the past 3 years. The numbers still lag behind the intake of candidates at the Presbyterian Theological College. In order to meet anticipated needs an annual output of up to 7 candidates for the next 5 years would be required. This would be an increase on the current average throughput. Recruitment from interstate or overseas is therefore a likely prospect.

2. Financial Viability of Churches

We are thankful to the General Assembly Office and the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee for their help as we have tried to identify the number of parishes that are dependent on sources of funds other than regular parish income to maintain ministry.

Churches using Sites Reserves Funds and Investments in 2011-12

3 churches used Sites Reserve funds to pay their minister.

7 churches used Sites Reserve to pay Manse Allowances.

35 churches withdrew funds from their investment accounts for a variety of reasons. 15 used Sites Reserve funds for 'general purposes', some of which may have included repairs and maintenance (these figures do not include withdrawals for capital works).

Churches receiving Ministry Development Committee Subsidies in 2011-2012

10 churches are dependent upon MDC subsidies to sustain ministry. This figure represents churches dependent on MDC funds to retain a minister or home missionary.

Churches receiving Maintenance of Ministry (Sustentation) 2011-2012

12 Churches received full MOM sustentation or equivalent support. (\$9426pa).

1 received a special equivalent to sustentation grant.

(Three churches receive both MDC and MOM grants).

Churches receiving Superannuation and Travel Subsidies from MOM

5 churches received 25% of Superannuation Subsidy, 2 received 25% of Superannuation and a Travel Subsidy, and 1 received a special travel grant only.

Conclusion

One may conclude from the above figures that there may be up to 31 churches experiencing financial stress.

3. NCLS 2011 Church Life Survey Summary

The NCLS is an internally assessed but externally produced evaluation of the present state of our churches. 14 Presbyterian churches participated in the 2011 NCLS (852 survey forms) which is sufficient to be statistically significant.

The MDC is the coordinating agency between the PCV and the NCLS organisation. The MDC also subsidised the expense of participating in the survey. The purpose of NCLS is not to 'pat ourselves on the back' for our strengths, but to try to discover both perceived strengths and weaknesses and seek to use the results as one form of self-assessment.

The Summary Church Life Survey of 2011 below identifies the Presbyterian Church of Victoria strengths and weaknesses.

Strengths

The greatest strength of the PCV is the Preaching or Bible Teaching – the Bible teaching was most valued by 62%.

Response to the question, 'Are **your services** nurturing worship?': 42% responded that preaching was always helpful, 46% reported that is usually helpful, and 12% report it is sometimes helpful.

Self assessment of congregational relationships revealed that 58% listen deeply to others, 45% have built good relationships within the congregation, and 80% of attenders agree that they found it easy to make friends.

The capacity for congregational members to grow spiritually was recognised as a strength of the PCV by 57% of the respondents.

The majority of respondents reported some degree of 'growth in faith' during the past year, only 7% said there was no growth.

51% of the respondents reported to having prayer (devotions) either every day or most days.

56% of the respondents reported that their sense of belonging to the congregation was growing, while 24% said it was strong and stable.

A high percentage, 69 %, said that their leadership inspired them to action. An amazing 82% of the respondents reported that their leaders always communicate with them clearly and openly.

Weaknesses

Only 14% identified 'reaching those who do not attend church' as something that they most valued, the use of traditional worship and music beat it by 11%!

Only 28% reported that they participated regularly in outreach or evangelistic opportunity. Does this mean that evangelistic activity is sometimes done out of duty rather than from the heart?

Weakness & Opportunity: only 68% of the respondents said that, 'God is the most important reality in my life'; 26% said, 'God is more important to me than almost anything else'; and 6% said, 'God is fairly important, but many other things are more important'.

Only 41% stated that they are aware of and strongly committed to the vision of the church. What then of the other 59%? (see the rest of the statistics. below in section number 4).

Only 18% of the respondents report that their leaders encourage them to a great extent to find and use their gifts and skills; 35% report that their leaders do it to some extent, 39% report to a small extent or not at all. Only 9% report that their congregation strongly agrees to want to try something new (change) but 42% agree that the congregation is open to change; 49% are unsure or disagree.

Only 13% are certain that people drifting away from the church will be followed up, with 23% saying that it is very likely and 31% likely; 34% said it was unlikely.

Opportunities for growth

38% report that they have a strong sense of belonging to the denomination
24% have a sense of belonging. (i.e. only 38+24=62% feel they belong. What about the other 38%?)

29% of the respondents want more direction in spiritual growth over the next 12 months

26% want greater attention to worship services that nurture their faith

20% want a clearer vision of the churches future given over the next 12 months

32% want more encouragement of the members to discover/use their gifts

31% want greater attention toward ensuring new people are included well into church life

Only 25% of the respondents state that the leaders are strongly focused on future direction (50% agree, but 25% are unsure or disagree).

Only 19% feel at ease talking about their faith and look for opportunities,

49% report that they feel mostly at ease talking about their faith;

32% do not like to talk about their faith or do not have faith.

MDC can provide help to address many of the above challenges (and they come at no cost to the church).

For example, we offer one-on-one coaching and seminars including: Evangelism (using Xee over two weekends), Spiritual Gifts assessment and teaching; Mission and Vision = Strategic Planning; Coaching on greeting and follow-up and integration

of visitors; 'How and Why' do we encourage others; Conflict Resolution; coaching on church revitalisation (using Embers to a Flame).

NCLS STATISTICAL REPORT SUMMARY

A What You Hope for and Value

- 29% Spiritual growth (e.g. spiritual direction, prayer groups)
- 26% Worship services that are nurturing to people's faith
- 31% Building a strong sense of community within the congregation
- 20% Creating a clear vision for the congregation's future
- 32% Encouraging the people here to discover/use their gifts here
- 11% Encouraging new approaches to ministry and mission
- 8% Supporting social action and aid to people in need
- 27% Encouraging the people here to share their faith or invite others
- 36% Ensuring new people are included well in church life
- 19% Ministry to children and youth
- 18% Growing into a larger congregation
- 7% Starting a new church or mission venture

B Aspects of Church Most Valued by Adult Attenders

- 7% Wider community care or social justice emphasis
- 14% Reaching those who do not attend church
- 25% Traditional style of worship or music
- 12% Contemporary style of worship or music
- 24% Sharing in Holy Communion/the Eucharist/Lord's Supper
- 10% Social activities or meeting new people
- 62% Sermons, preaching or Bible teaching
- 28% Small prayer, discussion or Bible study groups
- 20% Ministry to children or youth
- 29% Praying for one another
- 26% Practical care for one another in times of need
- 7% Openness to social or cultural diversity
- 6% Presence of a church school or pre-school

C Leadership Strengths of Church Attenders (not the official leadership team)

Your church attenders were asked: 'We all have different strengths to contribute at work or in daily life. Which of the following do you do well?'

- 58% Listen deeply to others
- 45% Build good relationships with others
- 7% Help people discover direction
- 10% Help people creatively explore fresh ideas
- 9% Inspire commitment from others to new possibilities
- 12% Help others to make their contributions
- 11% Create clear, positive systems
- 24% Generate clear reliable communication
- 25% Build optimism and hope, even in challenging times
- 13% Know the right moment to move to action
- 37% To stay on course when things get difficult
- 57% The ability to learn and grow from experiences

1. Faith

Growth in faith

Attendees' growth in faith in the past year

- 34% Much growth through this congregation
- 6% Much growth through other churches
- 10% Much growth through private activity
- 43% Some growth
- 7% No growth

Private devotional activity

Time spent in private prayer, Bible reading, meditation

- 51% Every day/most days
- 26% A few times a week
- 5% Once a week
- 14% Occasionally
- 4% Hardly ever
- 1% Never

Identification with approaches to matters of faith

Attendees chose up to 2 out of 11 options (e.g. Catholic, Charismatic, Evangelical, Liberal, Moderate, Pentecostal, Progressive, Reformed, Traditionalist). The 3 most common here were: Reformed, Evangelical & I do not identify with such descriptions.

Our respondents typically did not identify with any of these three. It begs the question, 'how many understand what a Reformed or evangelical position is?'

Importance of God in your life

- 68% God is the most important reality in my life
- 26% God is more important to me than almost anything else
- 6% Fairly important, but many other things are more important

2. Worship, Vital and Nurturing

During church services, attendees;

- 26% Always experience inspiration
- 47% Usually experience inspiration
- 28% Always experience joy
- 41% Usually experience joy
- 1% Always experience boredom
- 4% Usually experience boredom
- 37% Always experience a sense of God's presence
- 39% Usually experience a sense of God's presence
- 35% Always experience growth in understanding of God
- 49% Usually experience growth in understanding of God
- 24% Always experience being challenged to take action
- 43% Usually experience being challenged to take action

The preaching at church is very helpful to my life

- 42% Always
- 46% Usually
- 12% Sometimes
- 0% Rarely/never

Music and singing is an important part of church worship for me

- 56% Strongly agree
- 38% Agree
- 4% Neutral/unsure
- 1% Disagree
- 0% Strongly disagree

3. Belonging

Sense of belonging to the congregation

- 56% Strong and growing
- 24% Strong and stable
- 8% Strong but weakening
- 3% No, but I am new here
- 2% No, and I wish I did by now
- 4% No, but I am happy as I am
- 2% Do not know/not applicable

Sense of belonging to the denomination

- 38% Attenders strongly agree they have a strong sense of belonging to the denomination
- 40% Attenders agree they have a strong sense of belonging to the denomination

Regular participation in this church's activities

- 48% Small prayer, discussion or Bible study groups
- 39% Fellowship, clubs or other social groups
- 28% Evangelistic or outreach activities
- 22% Community service, social justice or welfare activities

Length of time attending this church's services or activities

- 9% Less than 1 year
- 27% 1-5 years
- 13% 6-10 years
- 50% More than 10 years
- 2% Visitor

4. Vision

Awareness of vision, goals and directions of the church

- 41% Attenders are aware and strongly committed
- 27% Attenders are aware and partly committed
- 6% Attenders are aware and not committed
- 17% Attenders are aware of ideas not of any clear vision, goals or directions
- 9% Attenders are unaware of any clear vision, goals or directions

Confidence that the congregation can achieve the vision, goals or directions it has set for itself

- 40% Fully confident the vision can be achieved
- 37% Partly confident the vision can be achieved
- 2% Not confident the vision can be achieved
- 12% Vision, goals or directions are not clear enough to be able to evaluate this
- 9% Do not know

Leaders are strongly focused on future directions

25% Strongly agree
50% Agree
21% Neutral/unsure
3% Disagree
1% Strongly disagree

5. Leadership

How leaders are perceived by attenders.

Attenders say this congregation's leaders encouraged them to find and use their gifts and skills here

18% To a great extent
35% To some extent
25% To a small extent
14% Not at all

Attenders say that this congregation's leaders take into account the ideas of the people here

34% To a great extent
38% To some extent

Attenders agree that leaders here

69% Inspire us to action
74% Keep us strongly focussed on connecting with the wider community
82% Always communicate clearly and openly
64% Encourage innovation and creative thinking
75% Are strongly focused on directions for the future
71% Help our congregation identify and build on its strengths

Congregational systems

77% Attenders agree that the congregation has good and clear systems
60% Attenders who perform a leadership or ministry role

6. Innovation

Willingness of this congregation to try new things

The congregation is always ready to try something new

9% Strongly agree
42% Agree
36% Neutral or unsure
11% Disagree
2% Strongly disagree

Leaders encourage innovation

Leaders here encourage innovation and creative thinking

18% Strongly agree
46% Agree
30% Neutral/unsure
5% Disagree
1% Strongly disagree

Leaders here are strongly focused on future directions

75% Strongly agree/agree

Openness to change of worship style

If innovative change was proposed to the worship service they attend (e.g. style of music, seating layout etc), attenders would tend to

- 15% Strongly support such changes
- 45% Support such changes
- 33% Be neutral or unsure
- 5% Oppose such changes
- 2% Strongly oppose such changes

7. Service Informal ways of helping others (in the last year)

Attenders who helped others in three or more of the ways below

- 26% Lent money outside family
- 28% Cared for someone who was very sick
- 44% Helped someone through a crisis
- 57% Visited someone in hospital
- 39% Gave possessions to a needy person
- 15% Tried to stop someone abusing alcohol or drugs
- 77% Donated money to charity
- 27% Contacted a parliamentarian or councillor about an issue

Involvement in church-based service activities

- 22% Attenders involved regularly in community service, social justice or welfare activities connected to this congregation

Ongoing involvement in community groups not connected to this church

- 26% Community service, care or welfare groups
- 7% Social action, justice or lobby groups
- 21% Sport, recreation or hobby groups
- 13% School or youth groups (e.g. P&C, Scouts)
- 11% Another kind of group
- 42% Not involved with such groups

8. Faith-Sharing

Inviting others to church here

Willingness to invite to a church service here any friends and relatives who do not currently attend a church

- 35% Willing and invited someone in the last 12 months
- 45% Willing, but did not invite someone in the last 12 months
- 9% Probably would not invite someone
- 0% Definitely would not invite someone
- 11% Do not know

Involvement in evangelistic or outreach activities

- 28% Attenders involved regularly in outreach or evangelistic activity

Readiness to share faith with others

- 19% Feel at ease talking about their faith and look for opportunities
- 49% Mostly feel at ease talking about their faith, and do so if it comes up
- 26% Find it hard to talk about their faith in ordinary language
- 6% Do not like to talk about their faith; life and actions are sufficient
- 0% Do not have faith

Aspects of church most valued - outreach

- 14% Attenders who most value this congregation reaching those who do not attend church
- 27% Attenders who want this congregation to give greater encouragement over the next 12 months for people to share their faith or invite others

9. Inclusion

Likelihood of attenders to follow up someone drifting away from church

- 13% Certain
- 23% Very likely
- 31% Likely
- 29% Hard to say
- 5% Unlikely

Attenders personally seek out and welcome people they know who are new arrivals

- 17% Always
- 35% Mostly
- 35% Sometimes
- 9% Rarely/never

Attenders have found it easy to make friends here

Among all attenders

- 80% Agree or strongly agree
- 5% Disagree or strongly disagree

Among those who have arrived in the last five years

- 80% Agree or strongly agree
- 4% Disagree or strongly disagree

C. Finance

The Common Fund balance of the Committee's General Fund as at 30th June 2012 was \$2,801,964, down by just under \$200,000 for the previous year. The budgeted deficit for the 2011-2012 year of just over \$1,650,000 was not realised because the capital works grants finalized in the 2011-2012 year were, in the main, not drawn down in that year because of delays experienced by almost all of the receiving churches (e.g. obtaining council permits, quotes from building contractors and finalizing contracts and schedules for the works).

In addition, subsidies paid to congregations were about \$165,000 less than expected for a number of reasons, including an inability to secure a home missionary or to find a suitable applicant to fill a second ministry worker position. Accordingly, the major portion of the \$1.65 million capital grants (including \$1million from general funds) will be expended in the 2012-2013 year, so that we have budgeted for a deficit of \$1,123,924 on general operations in the current financial year.

The Thompson Cross-Cultural Trust has now been fully expended so that all cross-cultural grants (totaling around \$130,000 per annum) will in future come from general funds. Grants from general funds (incorporating general subsidies, second ministry worker grants and cross-cultural ministry funding) are budgeted at around \$565,000 in 2012-2013, 2013-2014 and 2014-2015. This is largely sustained by our distribution from the Scots' Church Properties Trust (SCPT). In the 2011-2012 year we received

\$492,632 from the SCPT, \$42,632 more than we had budgeted. Accordingly, we have budgeted for a payment of \$500,000 in each of 2012-2013 and 2013-2014. It is hoped that by the 2014-2015 year the development of the site on the corner of Russell and Little Collins Streets will have been completed and the income stream from that development will see our grant from the SCPT increase substantially allowing further funding for capital works.

Capital Grants

As reported last year, with the approval of the Trusts Corporation/Board of Investment and Finance, \$1.65 million (including \$1 million from general funds) was allocated for capital works grants in the 2011-12 year. The availability of grants for purposes consistent with Church Extension and the enhancement of gospel ministry was widely advertised, and applications for more than four times this amount were received from 24 churches. Grants approved were as follows;

Congregations	Grant Approved	Project
Ballarat West	\$300,000	Second Stage Church Building
Belgrave Heights	\$160,000	Relocation and Renovation of Chapel
Bendigo	\$140,000	Major Renovation of Hall, Kitchen, & Toilets
Broadford	\$70,000	Completion of new Hall Project
Bundoora	\$150,000	Fit out of New Church Building
Clayton	\$160,000	Expand Worship Area and New Church Kitchen
Cranbourne	\$155,000	Outdoor Stage and New Church Kitchen
Dandenong	\$175,000	Expand Worship Area, Renovate Toilet Block
Frankston	\$145,000	Extend Hall and Car Park
Kaniva-Nhill	\$30,000	New Church Kitchen and Toilets at Kaniva
Mornington	\$300,000	New Church and Manse Project
Sorrento-Rye	\$75,000	New Toilets at Sorrento and Rye
South Yarra	\$35,000	Classroom within Church (for ESL)

Most of these projects are still in progress, so the grants are not yet paid out; however within a year they should be mostly expended. We rejoice to contemplate the expanded ministry that they will support.

Subsidies to Parishes

The stated amounts are paid over twelve months unless stated otherwise.

Congregations	Paid in 2011-12	Rate Approved for 2012-13 (PA)
Ararat	16,146 (11 months)	17,000
Bairnsdale	13,000	12,000
Brimbank	9,916	10,000
Broadford	15,000	13,000
Carisbrook-Castlemaine*	8,000	7,000
Cranbourne*	30,987	28,778
Deaf Presbyterian Church	19,000	22,000
Gisborne	20,000 (6 months)	
Horsham	22,000	20,000
Kaniva-Nhill*	17,000	16,000
Templestowe*	18,750	Pending

*These Home Mission Stations, along with Eaglehawk, receive an additional grant of half of their Home Missionary's basic Non Cash Benefit entitlement, from the MDC's Home Missionaries' Beneficiary Fund

Cross-Cultural Ministry Funding

Congregations	Paid in 2011-12	Rate Approved for 2012-13 (PA)
Canterbury Japanese Subsidy	25,000	24,000
Canterbury (Michael Lee, Cross Cultural Worker)	15,000	12,000
Clayton (Rev Chuol Yat)	32,727	27,000
Dandenong (Rev Kamran Nazir)	43,820	45,000
Donvale Cross-Cultural ESL Worker (David Pell)	-	15,000
Korean Balwyn Subsidy	15,000	12,000
Samoan South-East Subsidy	32,492	25,000
Sunshine (Rev Charles Okwo Sudanese Worker)	18,400	17,000

Second Worker Grants

Congregation/Worker	Paid in 2012-11	Rate Approved for 2012-13 (PA)
Bairnsdale (Pastoral Assistant, Appointment pending)	-	20,000
Canterbury (Joy Venning, Youth Worker)	7500	12,500
Caulfield-Elwood (Rev Bagoes Seta, Assistant Minister.)	40,000 Jan-Dec 2012	-
Clayton (James Jensen, Youth Worker)	12,500	23,000
Donvale (Leanne Pell, Women's Worker)	12,000	2,000
Dromana (Rev Stephen Giles, Pastoral Worker)	5,500	2,240
Drouin (Rev Heath Easton, Assistant Minister)	7,000	35,000
Eltham (Ministry Assistant, Appointment pending)	-	18,000
Frankston (Pastoral Assistant, appointment pending)	-	40,000
Heathmont (colleague/ successor, Appointment pending)	-	40,000 (over six months)
Surrey Hills (John Huynh, Pastoral Appointment)	40,000 Jan-Dec 2012	10,000
Wyndham (Peter Stanton, Pastoral Worker)	12,000	-

Evangelism Grants

A total of \$18,735 in grants was given to the following parishes; Bairnsdale, Bundoora, Clayton, Croydon Hills, Darwin, Donvale, Drouin, Frankston, Hume, Koroit-Port Fairy, Moorabool, Noorat, Reservoir, Rochester, Skipton-Lismore, Sunshine, Warrnambool, Whittlesea-Mernda. Single grants to parishes are normally capped at \$1000, though parishes may receive up to \$1500. Activities or events supported by grants must be intentionally evangelistic.

ESL Ministry Grants

\$1500 Grants were made to Dandenong, Donvale and Sunshine.

D. Initiatives

District Interim Moderator (DIM)

The position of DIM has been advertised and a pilot district identified. We have not recruited a DIM candidate to date. We expect an outcome of the first DIM appointment will be its more general acceptance.

Intentional Interim Moderator (IIM)

The position has been approved by the Assembly. We anticipate that the first potential recruits will be trained in March 2013.

ESL Ministries

We continue to encourage congregations to start ESL ministries to connect with and reach out to local communities. We appreciate the tutorage of PCNSW's ESL Coordinator, Judy Rowlands. Judy has agreed to lead ESL Ministry training for PCV churches again in Melbourne on 27 and 28 February and 2 March 2013. Times and locations will be confirmed soon and widely advertised.

We are aware of ESL works underway or in advanced stages of planning at, Brimbank, Canterbury, Dandenong, Donvale, Heidelberg, Reservoir, Surrey Hills, Sunshine, South Yarra, and St Kilda. Several other churches are at earlier stages of prayerful planning.

Evangelism Training

'Knowing your Neighbour and Xee' was presented in three congregations. It continues to be available through 2013 and beyond. The Evangelism Explosion, Xee paradigm will be presented in a modified and expanded manner in 2013. At the instruction of the Xee Board, future presentations will include assessments, suitable trainers being identified and commissioned. It will move beyond the two weekend teaching sessions to include additional coaching and potential cultural change for participants.

Embers to a Flame

We remain committed to the Embers to a Flame program as a biblical and pastoral approach to church revitalisation, and offer Embers coaching on a church by church basis. Engagement with individual churches remains available and encouraged. This is an ideal follow up to the MINISTRY TOOL BOX assessment. The MDC is fully committed to working with our churches in assessment and developing new healthy ministry paradigms.

E. Supply Preachers

Dr Murray Adamthwaite, Carrum Downs, 9773 5448

Robert Belcher, Armadale 9500 9806

Gilbert Bell, Sunshine 9311 4103

Rev Neil Benfell, Warrnambool, 5562 7771

Kevin Childs, Hawthorn 9819 4802

Carey Cox, Hawthorn 9818 1131

David Cox, Ivanhoe, 9497 4785

Fraser Diack, Warrnambool, 5561 0525

Ken McClimont, Ormond 9578 5580

Bruce Miller, Mill Park 9494 2003

Keith Mitchell, Ballarat, 5335 9379

Charles Okwo, St Albans 0407 543 221

Colin Phillips, Bacchus Marsh 5367 7323, Mobile 0438 536 770

Arnold Rowntree, Colac 0428 164 518

Norm Sharp, Ballarat, 5334 3747

Dennis Wright, Melton 9746 9706, Mob 0417 571 809

MODERATOR'S COMMITTEE (Min. 24)

The Assembly wishes to thank the Right Rev Robert Carner for presiding over the 2011 Assembly.

During the past year the Moderator has brought the greetings of the Assembly to the Presbyteries of North Western Victoria and Melbourne North as well as attending various meeting of Heads of Churches, civic functions and Assembly Committee meetings.

The Assembly congratulates Rev David Palmer on his election as Moderator-Designate for the 2012-2013 Moderatorial year.

Rev Carner has also visited our missionaries in Hungary, Pakistan and India, full details of which are given in his report to the Assembly and in articles such as appeared in *fellow workers*.

The committee recommends that the Moderator visit all parishes in the Presbyteries of Ballarat and Melbourne West. All arrangements should be made through the Clerks of Presbytery.

Official guidelines for visits are available from the Clerk of Assembly,

Conveners of Assembly Committees are asked to arrange, through their committees and directly with the Moderator, his visit during the year.

Graeme Weber
CONVENER

PAST MODERATOR'S REPORT (Min. 22)

This year I had the great privilege of representing you, the Presbyterian Church of Victoria in three foreign countries and four Australian States. The experiences were moving, informative, encouraging and 'Bridge Building'. Equally or more important was the opportunity to visit many Presbyterian churches on our home turf in Victoria. I visited some churches that have been frequently on my 'radar'; they gave me the feeling that I was reuniting with parts of my extended family, somewhat like a family reunion. I visited and continue to visit churches in the NW Presbytery (formerly Bendigo) and Melbourne North Presbytery.

It is hard to separate my full time role within the Ministry Development team from most of the things I did as moderator. I spend a great deal of time on the road visiting suburban and the most distant of our churches, so combining the moderatorial visits with the MDC visits meant that I invested a bit more of the road system in order to be blessed with fellowship in a different church almost every week.

Much time has been spent communicating with individuals and organisations as directed by the 2011 GAV and our own missionaries.

Chaplain Rev John Rickard and I visited Bishop Suriel from the Egyptian Coptic Orthodox Church. It was a great meeting and we have met a couple of times since at events where we were both invited. As we heard a great deal about the persecution of Christians in Egypt, we conveyed the message that the Presbyterian Church of Victoria is and will be praying for them and would like to be part of their support team in some capacity. This led to writing to the Egyptian Department of Justice and also writing a hand-delivered letter to the Egyptian Consulate of Australia, an interesting encounter which would require more time and space to report than can be contained in this report.

Letters to Australian politicians were written and a personal face to face appeal to the Premier, the Hon Ted Baillieu to support us by taking on the cause and urging politicians throughout the state to write to government officials of countries where Christians are being oppressed and even killed for their faith. At the direction of the PCV Assembly, Rev John Wilson has joined me in expanding this campaign.

Many times I have said that the most profound benefits of short term mission are less of what we bring to those whom we visit and more of the awareness and change within our own lives. Coral and I certainly found this to be true during our overseas mission trip in March and April, through which we were overwhelmingly blessed.

Christians all over the world are paying a severe price for their faith. We do not appreciate our relative freedoms enough because we have had them for a long time and until the past decade there was little political or social cost to being a Christian in the West. It is my desire to defend the cause of the persecuted Christians, a role that many organisations like (but not limited to) Barnabas Fund are addressing already. We are attempting to form an organisation that will be registered as either 'Rivers of Hope' or 'Streams of Hope' as a moderatorial project. This will provide a channel for funds, material resources and mission opportunities to and through the Presbyterian Church of Pakistan and the Presbyterian Church of India. The type of needs, resources and opportunities will be published in another paper wholly dedicated to that purpose. Coral and I have had the privilege of bringing a presentation on the

Moderator's trip and subsequent opportunities to a number of churches and their organisations over the past few months. This is not to run in competition with PresCare and the African Mission appeals, but to complement them by saying and demonstrating that we are connected and care for our brothers and sisters internationally.

I am Presbyterian by choice; after a spiritual journey through a myriad of isms and quite scary ideologies the Lord led me to a very sound Bible affirming, Bible teaching Presbyterian church where I came to know the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour. Some of my encounters in non Presbyterian, so called 'Christian Circles' reminded me of my journey almost thirty-five years ago. But, thirty-five years ago it was more 'politically correct' to jump in and witness, to share one's faith. Now both the legal and etiquette approach required of an invited guest frustrates me and often I have to proverbially 'bite my tongue' and remain silent.

A couple of government sponsored Multi-Faith meetings occasioned my attendance. These are an attempt by the Victorian Government to bring religious bodies together in order to seek common ground and peace. I found the Christians taking a back seat and alternative religions rising with the 'dominant voice'. One meeting stressed me enough to follow up with the guest speaker, the Chief Executive Officer of the Victorian Equal Opportunity & Human Rights Commission. I attended one Christian (maybe in name only) meeting of eighteen delegates. Out of this number two were Muslims, seven Buddhists and one openly 'gay'. These are people who will represent a Christian organisation in a time of state or national crisis. Challenged, yes! Concerned, yes! Reminded of our mission field, yes! Many times I was taken far out of my comfort zone.

In my travels I attended at their request, the General Assemblies of Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania. The networking and raised awareness of the successes together with the challenges faced by the other states was very beneficial and encouraging to me.

We spent a total of five weeks between Hungary, Pakistan and India. The culture and needs in each country were very different but a common thread was woven throughout. The universal common denominator is the need for the majority to come to know Christ as their personal Lord and Saviour. In this respect it is no different in our own country; many have just written Christ out of the equation and replaced Him with other philosophies and anti-Christian thought.

Hungary

In Hungary we were hosted by Laszlo and Eva Mihalyi from our Donvale congregation. More than three decades of Communist oppression contributed greatly toward removing the visible evangelical witness from the spiritual landscape; the great challenge is to rebuild. Laszlo and Eva have done an admirable job working with a great team to replant the church in this challenging mission field. They need your prayers for their mission work and for wisdom as they seek to care for their aged parents located in Hungary and Romania.

Many in Hungary proudly attribute their heritage to Nimrod. The proponents of this myth are instrumental in building a Ziggurat on the banks of the Danube. This is a culture that desperately needs to be seasoned with the salt and light of the scriptures. Matthew 5:13-16

We were blessed to spend quality time also with your missionary, Joy Hill (also from Donvale). She had just shifted from her former appointment in Sarajevo to now working in the offices of Pioneers in Budapest. Joy was fortunate to find a very nice apartment in what appears to me to be a safe community and close to her place of work.

Your prayers for your Hungary team, Laszlo, Eva and Joy are greatly appreciated; they have great challenges ahead of them.

Pray for the Carners as we plan to take LSL and provide 'professional development' in Hungary for European missionaries at the invitation of Pioneers Europe.

Pakistan

Spending ten days in Pakistan gave me a real appreciation, love and a sense of the need to pray for our friends like Dr Ian and Dorcas Denness. Much of our time was spent with armed guards around us. When we departed one church after leading the worship service we were told to hide behind the gates until the other passengers were loaded into the van then quickly move in. For the Carners the potential threat was a very unusual experience. For people like Ian and Dorcas it is a reality of everyday life.

We worked with the Presbyterian Church of Pakistan, and not one day went by that there was not an opportunity to preach, teach, lead a pastor's seminar or open a village Sunday School.

This was another reminder to me that Christians in the West have a very easy life with little cost to be a Christian. I have a much greater appreciation for what our Brothers and Sisters pay for their faith.

Like Hungary, we are planning to visit and minister in Pakistan in 2014.

India

We spent ten days in India with much of that time spent with your missionaries, John and Lynette Ellis. John is a seminary lecturer and Lynette is a committed helpmate, campus nurse and listening ear for all who need someone to listen to their woes. You will soon hear more about how you can partner with them in ministry. We also met two students, lovely young ladies who are fully sponsored by a retired couple from Victoria; they are blessed through their efforts to partner in seeing lives changed and equip servants of the gospel.

We were greatly blessed through meeting with the seminary faculty and leaders of various types of ministry. We were particularly moved by the ministry of the Children's Home. This was the vision of one man and over the past decade and a half has grown and seen many children from the 'Rag Pickers', the Dalits, also known as the untouchables, Hinduism's lowest class. I have news for anyone who uses the common title of untouchables; God loves them and has touched many of them with His saving grace. It is up to us to reach out to our extended family in Christian love.

This will be the tail end of our trip in 2014 after visiting Pakistan and Hungary.

Please, not only do we ask for prayer support for our intended trip but we would like to invite you to be a part of it. You will hear more from us later on about opportunities to help your brothers and sisters in foreign lands.

Needs

It is my conviction that we need a fresh look at defining our scope of ministry and how we do it. Through the eyes of Bishop Suriel (Melbourne) and those people through whom the Lord blessed me during the international trip, one observes that the persecuted church is often stronger because it is tested; there is a cost to proclaiming Jesus.

One of the greatest fallacies is that we can continue doing things the way that we have always done them but expect a different or better result. We do have a lot of churches that are struggling in many ways and primarily lacking vision. I can quote Harry Reeder of *Embers to a Flame*, who believes that resources follow vision, not the other way around. When we have a strong enough vision, one that we are committed to, the financial resources which seem to be so lacking in some of our churches will follow a renewed vision.

Thank you for the opportunity to be blessed through being an Ambassador of Christ and your representative on our own home turf and in all the international regions mentioned above.

Rev Dr Robert L Carner

PRESBYTERIAN LADIES' COLLEGE (Min. 62)

Principal and Staff

Mrs Elaine Collin as Principal continues to provide passionate, visionary and professional leadership in every aspect of College life. Since her appointment in 2006 she has adeptly led the school across all aspects; staff, curriculum, capital works, school community/profile and sound financial position. We are pleased to report she has accepted re-appointment for a further five year term.

Mrs Collin is ably supported by Mr Tim Argall and Ms Keiron Jones as joint Deputy Principals, Mrs Cheryl Penberthy as Head of Junior School and Mrs Deborah Hendren as Head of the Early Learning Centre.

Mrs Penberthy was appointed as the new head of Junior School subsequent to Mrs Cora Farrall retiring in 2011. Mrs Farrall's career at PLC spanned 34 years and we are grateful for her fervent commitment to the Junior School and the positive impact she had.

At every level, working under this leadership team, we are blessed with staff, both teaching and support, who invest outstanding professional and personal qualities in the education, nurture and development of the students' academic abilities and character, through diligent delivery of the formal curriculum plus a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Thus we believe they are unfailing in their commitment to fulfil the College's mission.

Students

The students of the College continue to astound us with all that they are able to achieve in every field. Music, drama and sports performances are always very impressive, with many students winning awards or competitions at state and national level.

For Year 12 2011 the Median ATAR (across both VCE and IB) was 95.05. Reflective of this high achievement 100% of girls received a first round tertiary offer of their choice, with 75% receiving a first round offer to the University of Melbourne or Monash University. Within these offers 15 students received an offer to study medicine and 13 girls received overseas offers to prestigious universities.

We congratulate the 'Class of 2011' on their outstanding results in VCE and IB exams and wish them well as they embark on this new stage in their life, whether working, studying or new endeavours.

Financial

The necessary audited financial statements have been submitted to the Council, through its Risk Management, Audit and Compliance Committee, and will be attached to this report when submitted to the Presbyterian Church. The provision for doubtful debts is considered to be adequate and the audit report is unqualified.

We record here our gratitude to Mr John Shelton, Business Manager, and the staff working under him to manage the business, financial and practical affairs of the College. They work with grace and efficiency, and we note that the operating activities for the year returned a surplus which is used to fund the capital works programme.

Property Development

During 2011 the new entrance way and bus turning circle from Burwood Highway were ready for use at the start of the year, and the new synthetic hockey field was formally opened for use in July.

The refurbishment of Wyselaskie Hall and Mollison House classrooms in the Junior School, were officially opened in July.

The major new building project is well underway in the form of the Learning Resource Centre, a state-of-the-art library, making use of contemporary Information Technology for the purpose of education. We expect it will be completed in the second half of 2012.

Council

The College Council consists of volunteers, five of whom are appointed directly by the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, five are nominated by a selection committee that represents the Old Collegians and the Parents' Association, and seven are nominated to the Church by the Council itself. All appointments are for one year, although there is no restriction on being renominated.

The Council operates several sub-committees: the Executive and Finance Committee is chaired by the Council Chairman; the Property and Planning Committee is chaired by Mr Greg Garde QC; the Risk Management, Audit and Compliance Committee is chaired by Ms Fiona Pearse.

The Council has also created an independently incorporated company to hold in trust accumulated scholarship funds. The membership of the Board of Directors of 'Charles Pearson Pty Ltd' consists of the members of our Executive and Finance Committee plus the Principal. It is chaired by Mrs Christine Hopper, who also serves as vice-chair of the College Council.

Dr Andrew McDonald and Mrs Christine Hopper represent the College Council on the Board of the PLC Foundation, and Dr McDonald serves as its President.

During 2011, Mrs Deborah Sugars retired from membership of the Council and we wish to record here our gratitude for her eleven years of service. Deborah was well known in the College community and fulfilled the important role as Chairman of the Selection Committee which nominates members of Group B (Old Collegians and the Parents' Association) on Council. Her wise and godly advice was highly valued by the Council.

Although relating to the start of the current year it is important and timely to convey the retirement of Rev Douglas Robertson as Chairman of Council effective 29 March 2012. Rev Robertson held the position of Chairman since being appointed to Council in June 2002. His godly character, wisdom, grace and good humour was appreciated by all. His commitment to the school community was steadfast and displayed in the various wide ranging duties from speaking at school functions to a trusted confidant to the Principal. We give thanks to God that in His providence he enable Rev Robertson to serve PLC for such a length of time.

The new Chairman elected by Council is Mr Russell Walley. He joined the Council in June 2009 and is a finance executive at one of the major banks and is an elder at

Surrey Hills Presbyterian Church. He requests the Assembly's prayers for the Lord's wisdom in fulfilling the role of Chairman.

Mrs Janice Smith and Mr Greg Barton have been appointed to fill the two vacancies, and we look forward to the contributions they will make in the coming years to the work of the Council.

It is a great joy to report Presbyterian Ladies College continues to provide excellence in education to girls from both local and overseas homes, maintains a culture of encouragement and respect, and all within a framework of Christian values and ethos.

It is a privilege to serve as Chairman of PLC Council and the opportunity to work with the Principal, Business Manager and all members of Council.

Russell Walley
CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION (Min. 101)

I come with the greetings of the PWMU Council as I report on the work of PWMU in this past year.

The Council began the year with the Annual General Meeting held during Assembly Week. We enjoyed the day with Rev Peter Owen addressing the gathering in the morning and the Manlys were the speakers for the afternoon. Also at this time the Moderator presided over the AGM where the Council was sworn into office.

The State Council of PWMU hosts four events every year to which all members are encouraged to attend. The first of those is the March State Meeting at which Barbara Brown from Navigators addressed the women on her work. She informed us about her long time working for Navigators as well as the history of that organization.

The next is the Country Rally held in Seymour in April this year. We were fortunate to have Douglas and Jeanette Bennett address the meeting – telling the ladies about their work within the bounds of Wycliffe.

Our State Meeting in June saw the PYV OS/12 team inform us of their work and adventures in India.

Our August Thanksgiving Rally was about Women's Ministries – the PWMU is concerned about Ministering to Women as well as Missionaries and this day came out of Council funding some Victorian women to attend the Flourish Conference in July.

As part of the Ministry work the Council has launched a Face Book Page. We are endeavouring to reach out to Women who, for whatever reason, cannot attend a Branch Meeting. The page will enable Members (only) to discuss issues on their mind as regards both personal and Missionary work.

The two publications of the PWMU are the Newsletter and the Dayspring Magazine. We are thankful to the two women who edit these publications (Miss Robyn Crocker and Miss Sarah Cave) so that the correct information on Missionaries reaches out and informs the general church population on Victorian Missionaries.

Mrs Cassie Hood is still hosting Dayspring Day. This day is enjoyed by 60 children who enjoyed the theme "The Master's Chef" at the last gathering.

We are thankful to announce that the PWMU Council has hosted a Bursary Student. Mario Kasih is presently at the Presbyterian Theological College and this Bursary will enable him to complete his time in Australia and then return home to Indonesia.

This past year has seen new opportunities open up for PWMU to serve the Lord. We are thankful to provide for the needs of Victorian Missionaries both prayerfully and financially.

Through our promotions officer Mrs Fiona Bligh, our publications and websites we look to the Lord to guide us in our work.

The women of the PWMU Council are faithful and enthusiastic in their caring attitude towards those we work to assist and it is indeed a privilege to work alongside them.

Eileen Blythe
PRESIDENT

RECORDS COMMITTEE (Min. 100)

The Committee has examined minutes for the Presbyteries of Geelong, Melbourne East Maroondah, Gippsland, Kilnoorat, Melbourne West, and Melbourne North. This represents an equivalent of over 16 Presbytery years. Appropriate comments have been provided to each court.

The Committee has not drawn attention to spelling errors. While these may slip by a clerk, it is surprising that they seem to evade scrutiny by the entire Presbytery! The Committee repeats its advice from earlier years that where the minutes of a previous meeting are stated to have been confirmed "as amended" it should be clear which minutes have been corrected. Use of whiteout should be initialled even for what might seem minor corrections. Minutes must be brief, but they must also be sufficiently informative so that the matter can be deduced otherwise they can be misunderstood. "In house" presbytery abbreviations may also be used, but with a degree of common sense.

A considerable number of minutes are unsigned, and this should be corrected. If the one who ought to sign the approved minutes is now absent, the minutes should be signed by the current moderator, with the following annotation: "Signed at the request of the GAV Records Committee." Page number corrections should be initialled.

We also remind all Presbyteries that where Urgent Meetings are held, the notice calling the meeting, which also must contain the agenda items for the urgent meeting, should be included in the minutes.

In previous years, the Committee has reminded Presbytery Clerks that where a meeting sits in Private, no summary of business then discussed should appear in the minutes but only the motions passed. In most cases, simply sitting in private should be sufficient to guard reputations. There is also a provision for holding minutes in a "record apart" [Rule 6.20]. The rule providing for this separate record is both specific "cases where moral delinquency is alleged" and somewhat vague "cases where it seems desirable to safeguard the church against damages or to protect the reputation of individuals." Clearly this second *provisio* must be invoked sparingly. Rule 6.20 also provides that no matter is to be recorded in the regular minutes until the whole matter has been resolved, and not at the commencement of a matter.

Naturally these minutes in a record apart are not bound with the regular records, but the Committee believes they are minutes and should therefore be available for inspection, notwithstanding their sensitivity. This is particularly so as it is theoretically possible [sadly] that these minutes could refer to matters which might one day end up in a court of law.

No minutes held in a record apart have been presented for examination.

Rule 6.21 also provides that where due process has resulted in an acquittal, minutes held in a record apart should be destroyed after six years. It does not say what should happen in cases where no final determination is made. However, in this litigious age where the notion of any Statute of Limitations is increasingly disposed with, the destruction of records may well be problematic. The Committee has not considered the implications of this further, but draws the Assembly to this matter, and suggests that it would be prudent for Presbytery Clerks to seek advice from the

Assembly Clerk and Law Agent before any records are destroyed, and that in some cases it might be necessary to quietly ignore this requirement.

We commend to all presbyteries the practice of the Presbytery of Melbourne West which regularly prays for the Assembly and all its committees on a rotational basis.

There was one situation observed where money was paid in lieu of leave.

The Committee continues to be understaffed.

Graham Nicholson
CONVENER

SCOTCH COLLEGE (Min. 35)

Managing the very strong demand for places at Scotch College remains a pleasing issue for the School. The current enrolment of 1438 boys in the Senior School and 430 boys in the Junior School includes 158 boarders. The diversity of boys attending the School is enhanced by our boarding school and a number of exchange students who come to Scotch from around the world. Thus, as well as country Victoria and provincial towns, boys come from inter-state, China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, New Zealand, United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. Boys from the School have also taken part in international forums and debating competitions in Istanbul and Singapore. As befits the modern world, Scotch is an international school that looks outward.

This year, a representation of this world came to Scotch in the form of an international boys' schools conference. In the last week of the June/July vacation Scotch hosted some 550 visitors from boys' schools around the world, at the 19th Annual Conference of the International Boys' Schools Coalition. The IBSC membership of more than 250 schools includes many of the leading independent boys' schools worldwide. The last time the conference was held in Australia was in Sydney, 2001. Scotch College was chosen in 2010 to hold the 2012 conference and, in so doing, represented the other IBSC schools of Melbourne: Brighton Grammar School, Camberwell Grammar School, Trinity Grammar School, Marcellin College, Mazenod College, Melbourne Grammar School, Melbourne High School, St Kevin's College, and Xavier College. The conference was opened by the Honourable Alex Chernov AC QC, Governor of Victoria. Over four days, keynote speakers included Rufus Black, Master of Ormond College, educational psychologists Andrew Martin and Andrew Fuller, Debra Masters from the Living Laboratory, educational consultant Julia Atkin and Li Cunxin (*Mao's Last Dancer*). The sharing of ideas and initiatives from all nations in attendance was a feature of the 70 workshops presented by conference delegates.

We were again encouraged by excellent VCE results from our Year 12 boys. In 2011 the results of more than a third of the boys placed them in the top 5% of students in the state and over half were in the top 10%. Two boys achieved the maximum possible score. Five boys received Premier's awards including two in Australian History. At the VCE Season of Excellence two students of Drama presented their work at *Top Acts*, two Media students had films selected for the *Top Screen* showing and one student had his Visual Communications work displayed in the *Top Designs* exhibition.

Most boys continue to seek entrance to tertiary courses at Melbourne institutions, but there are increasing numbers of boys looking interstate and internationally for tertiary pathways. While we are pleased with these results, the pursuit of improvement continues, and the greater availability of statistical information now provides for a closer examination of the achievement of each boy in relation to all the other measurements of his ability and achievement.

The outstanding achievements of a large number of boys across various areas of endeavour continue to place challenges in front of all boys. Over the past year, boys have represented their state, or won competitions at state level, in areas as diverse as chess, cross-country running, cycling, baseball, basketball, computational linguistics, debating, football, hockey, informatics, mathematics, music, public

speaking and sailing. Twelve boys have represented Australia in international competitions or won competitions at the national level in baseball, chess, football, informatics, gokarting, rowing and sailing. The achievement of winning four APS summer sports premierships and the success of the 1st VIII in winning the APS Head of the River, the Victorian, the NSW and the National Schoolboy Championships indicates the strength of our team activities. Two individuals epitomise the commitment that boys apply to their endeavours: the boy who played rugby for his school, performed in a school play, sang in a choir concert and skied in an inter-school competition all within a few days; and the boy who within a few weeks sat his Music Associate exam, played at the Tattoo, took part in the ANZAC Day march, attended Choir Camp, played saxophone and flute and sang at the Autumn Concert, led the Show Band to success at the National Bands Festival at Mount Gambier and was the joint winner of the 24 Hour Hike by walking 112 km.

The relationship with Hume Central School in Broadmeadows based on working with students and teachers in English and psychology has been extended to mathematics and art. As a part of our services activities one of our mathematics teachers visits Hume Central each fortnight. The visit of art students from Hume proved to be both a motivating and learning experience for the students of both schools

A restructuring of our social services and outreach programmes has seen many boys take responsibility for their own placement into community service. At the end of last year, boys and staff were joined by students and staff from local schools to host the Sony Star Camp. This camp provided respite for families and the opportunity for their severely handicapped children to socialize through a residential camp in our boarding precinct. This initiative was supported by a number of doctors and nurses from among our parent body. The Indigenous Partnership Programme has given more boys the opportunity to work with the girls of Worowa College on some joint projects, including the creation of a traditional possum skin cloak that was presented to the Worowa community. Boys also assisted with a football clinic for indigenous students. Some boys from the IPP joined with indigenous students from Scotch to visit remote homelands in Arnhem Land. Our relationship with Tiwi College remains strong. A teacher from our English Department was given a year's leave to work at Tiwi College; weekly contact (storms permitting) between students of both schools has been possible as part of an ICT project; and twelve younger students will be visiting Melbourne and staying with Scotch families on their first trip from the islands. The visit is part of a programme encouraging regular attendance at Tiwi College. Continuing participation in the Global Village programme had boys assisting in two building projects in Cambodia and the injection of funds raised by boys on the 24 Hour Hike has allowed us to reach the target for the building of facilities at the Chitulika School in Zambia in association with World Vision.

The Student Christian Movement led by Christian Education teacher, Mr Geoff Dans, the Head of Christian Education, Mr Brian Ahern, and Assistant Chaplain, the Rev David Assender, meets weekly with conversations led by senior boys or by invited speakers. The SCM has also established a popular summer camp at our Cowes campsite. Mr Brian Ahern continues to coordinate our Year 9 Retreats held at our Healesville site. The Rev Graham Bradbeer took on the task of organising the 2012 Mission week. Young people from the Mustard mission created various presentations and musicians provided lunchtime entertainment with a message. Four former students were invited back to their school to speak of their faith at morning

assemblies. The annual Prayer Breakfast remains a significant occasion on our calendar bringing together parents, former students, boys and staff.

The Rev Graham Bradbeer continues to provide his pastoral oversight and tireless service to our whole community. His leadership of our assemblies and chapel services provides for the reading of the Scriptures and reflection upon their relevance to the lives of our boys. There is no doubting the esteem in which Graham is held throughout the Scotch community nor the gratitude that exists for his service.

David Crawford
CHAIRMAN

SELECTION COMMITTEE (Min. 87)

The Selection Committee has met as required since the 2011 Assembly by email, to attempt to fill casual vacancies which have arisen in the membership of Assembly committees.

After consulting the respective committees, boards, councils and other bodies, the Selection Committee brings the following nominations to the Assembly for their appointment on those bodies. Any alterations notified after the deadline for the white book (17th August) will be presented via an Assembly paper and/or notice of motion.

Ad hoc Committee to Investigate Federal Vision Theology

[Rev Dr D J W Milne together with all members of PTC (Vic) faculty]

Rev P W Hastie, Dr A E Bird, Dr F Chung, Dr J C Hood

Convener: Rev Dr D J W Milne

Ad hoc Committee to Revise 'Breaking the Silence' Document

[Moderator, Law Agent, Clerk of Assembly, member of Code Committee, member of Trusts Corporation / Board of Investment and Finance]

Convener: Moderator

Assessors Panel

Moderator of the General Assembly, Clerk of Assembly, Convener of the Selection Committee, Convener of the Business Committee

Convener: Moderator of the Assembly

Australian Presbyterian World Mission [Vic] Committee

[10 Members appointed by the Assembly, 2 by P W M U]

RT 13: Rev C Yat [13], Rev M Jensen [13], Rev P Simmonds [18], Rev L Pearce [19]

RT 14: Mr D Bennett [17], Mr T Cunneen [13], Rev D Carroll [19]

RT 15: Rev P Orchard [13], Miss E Slater [17], Rev K Ee [20]

Convener: Rev P Simmonds [17]

Board of Investment and Finance [Trusts Corporation]

[10 members, elected for 5 year term, eligible for a second consecutive 5 year term]

RT 13: Rev A Slater [13], Mr D Brown [18], Mr D Wright [13]

RT 14: Mr E de Zilwa [15], Rev A Venn [19]

RT 15: Mr T Arnold [20], Mr A Letcher [20]

RT 17: Mr I Bramley [17], Rev S Deroon [22], Rev M Smith [22]

Chairman: [Appointed annually by the Board]

Building and Property Committee

[3 Members]

RT 13: Mrs J Bell [17]

RT 14: Mr G Nixon [17]

RT 15: Rev P Phillips [17]

Convener: Rev P Phillips [15]

Business Committee

[Clerk of Assembly, Deputy Clerk, Procurator, Law Agent, 3 Members of Assembly not conveners of other reporting committees, Clerks of Presbyteries during Assembly]

RT 13: Rev A Parle [17]

RT 14: Mr D Fraser [12]

RT 15: Rev P Mercer [19]

Convener: Rev Dr J Hood [13] [Convener appointed for 3 years and eligible for reappointment, notwithstanding other regulations]

Christian Education and Nurture Committee

[11 Members, at least 6 members of Assembly]

RT 13: Mrs A Harvey [20], vacancy, vacancy, vacancy

RT 14: Rev M Wishart [13], Rev M Wharton [17], Rev H Lim [18], vacancy

RT 15: Rev S Kroeger [15], Rev M James [14], vacancy

Convener: Rev S Kroeger [13]

Church and Nation Committee

[10 Members]

RT 13: Rev P Barclay [14], Rev D Middleton [19], vacancy

RT 14: Mr N Sharp [21], vacancy, vacancy

RT 15: Mr J Ballantyne [15], Rev D Combridge [15], Mr B Palmer [20],
Rev A Satchell [18]

Convener: Rev D Middleton [18]

Church Planting Committee

[6 Members, plus the Convener]

RT 13: Mr P Graham [20], Rev N Barbieri [17]

RT 14: Rev B Johnson [15], Rev D Martin [18]

RT 15: Rev R O'Brien [15], Mr P Leslie [15]

Convener: Rev D Elliott [15]

Clerkship Committee

[Moderator, Law Agent, convener of Business Committee, convener of Maintenance of the Ministry Committee, chairman of Board of Investment and Finance, two immediate past moderators]

Convener: Moderator

Code and General Administration Committee

[3 Members, plus ex officio Clerks of Assembly, Business Convener, Procurator, Law Agent, Chairman of Trusts Corporation]

RT 13: Rev G Nicholson [17]

RT 14: Rev Dr J Woodward [15]

RT 15: Rev J Dekker [17]

Convener: Clerk of Assembly

Conciliation Committee

[3 Ministers and 3 Elders appointed annually, plus the Immediate Past Moderator of the Assembly as convener]

Ministers: Rev P Phillips [12], Rev P Orchard [17], Rev G Weber [19]

Elders: Mr N Sharp [18], vacancy, vacancy

Convener: Immediate Past Moderator of the Assembly

Defence Force Chaplaincy Committee

[3 Members, plus all full-time and part-time Australian Defence Force Chaplains serving in Victoria]

RT 13: Rev J Dover [20]

RT 14: Rev B Riding [16]

RT 15: Mr R Myors [14]

Convener: Rev M De Pyle [17]

Exit Students Committee

Convener of Ministry Development Committee, Ministry Development Officer, Principal of Presbyterian Theological College [or his faculty representative], Training Officer, Convener of Church Planting Committee [whenever a Church planting placement is considered], Convener of Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee [whenever a chaplaincy placement is considered], representative of each candidate's Presbytery [preferably the convener of the Presbytery's Candidates' Committee or equivalent]

Convener: Convener of Ministry Development Committee

General Mission Program Committee

[6 Members]

RT 13: Rev P Court [19], [vacancy]

RT 14: Rev G Vayne [21], Mr N Sharp [20]

RT 15: Mr R Lowe [15], Mr G Kilmartin [15],

Convener: Mr N Sharp [20]

Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee

[10 Persons]

RT 13: Rev J Dover [14], vacancy, vacancy

RT 14: Mrs A Elliott [16], Rev M Fagan [18], Rev C Le Page [18]

RT 15: Miss B Brown [14], Mrs T Orchard [17], Mrs A Robertson [19], vacancy

Convener: Rev M Fagan [18]

Maintenance of the Ministry Committee

[6 Members]

RT 13: Rev K Allen [21], Rev Dr J Woodward [21]

RT 14: Rev M Crabb [21], Mr R Taylor [21]

RT 15: Mr R Butcher [16], vacancy

Convener: Rev Dr J Woodward [19]

METRO Committee

[6 Members, plus the Convener]

RT 13: Mr B Haughey [17], Rev B Harvey [21]

RT 14: Rev C Le Page [19], Mr A May [17]

RT 15: Rev P Owen [17], Rev T McIntosh [21]

Convener: Presbyterian Church of Victoria Training Officer

Ministry Development Committee

[6 Members, plus the Convener]

RT 13: Mrs M Brennan [16], Rev I Hutton [21]

RT 14: Dr B Ellis [20], Rev J Rickard [15]

RT 15: Rev G Lawry [14], Mr N Sharp [21]

Convener: Rev Dr A Bird [13]

Moderator's Committee

[2 Elders, 1 Minister as Convener, plus the Moderator and Moderator Designate]

RT 13: Rev G Weber [15]

RT 14: Mr A Forrester [19]

RT 15: Mr R Belcher [15]

Convener: Rev G Weber [13]

Records Committee

[6 Members of Assembly, at least 3 Ministers]

RT 13: Rev J Dekker [19], vacancy

RT 14: Rev A Satchell [17], vacancy

RT 13: Rev G Nicholson [13], Mr D Fraser [14]

Convener: Rev G Nicholson [13]

Social Services Committee

[10 Members]

RT 13: Mr R Lowe [15], Miss B Firth [15], Mr J Nuske [21], Mr B Evans [21]

RT 14: Miss R Anstee [12, notwithstanding 9 year rule], Mr D Wright [14],

Mr G Hamilton [21]

RT 15: Mr B Miller [18], Mr D Gibb [19], Mrs R Rodgers [21]

Convener: Mr R Lowe [15]

State News Committee

[4 Members, 2 Ministers and 2 Elders]

RT 13: Mr K Childs [13], Mr Phillip Betts [19]

RT 14: Rev P Daffy [15]

RT 15: Rev N Harvey [18]

Convener: Rev N Harvey [16]

Theological Education Committee

[10 Members, plus ex officio the principal and 1 other member of the Faculty]

RT 13: Rev P Daffy [13], Rev K Maxwell [18], Rev M Smith [19]

RT 14: vacancy, vacancy, Rev N Chambers [17]

RT 15: vacancy, Rev B Oakes [15], vacancy, vacancy

Convener: Rev N Chambers [15]

Other Appointments:

ACCESS Ministries

Rev G Lawry, Mrs A Thomas

Council for Chaplains in Tertiary Institutions

Mr P Leslie, Rev D Martin

Family Council of Victoria

[Appointee to report to Assembly through the Church and Nation Committee]

Mrs J Manners

Heads of Churches

The Moderator and Immediate Past Moderator

Press Officer

The Moderator in consultation with the clerk of Assembly and the convener of the Church and Nation Committee

PWMU Cook Book Committee

Rev J Wilson

St Andrews Foundation

Mrs M Conradi, Rev R O'Brien, Mr C Morrow

The Bible Society

Rev K Allen

G A A Representatives – Sept 2013

GAV representatives to GAA:

MINISTERS: Rev A Bray, Rev Dr R Carner, Rev Dr J Hood, Rev D Palmer,
Rev P Phillips, Rev J Wilson

ALTERNATES: Rev D Robertson, Rev P Burns, Rev G Lawry

ELDERS: Mr B Bayston, Mr P Betts, Mr D Fraser, Mr N Gilmour,
Mr B Stasse, Mr E de Zilwa

ALTERNATES: Mr D Hayward, Mr N Sharp

Bruce Riding
CONVENER

SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE (Min. 42)

Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes

The Social Services Committee's commitment to Aged Care is best expressed by Kirkbrae's Mission Statement:

1. The mission of Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes is to provide a high standard of professional loving care informed by the Bible and the example of Jesus Christ for our residents in pleasant and comfortable accommodation.
2. Provide residential community and healthcare to members of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria and neighbours in the wider community.
3. Believing that God charges us to care for the whole person, provide services that enrich the spiritual, emotional, social, intellectual and physical lives of our residents.

Property development

On the 10th August 2012, the plans for the building of 12 units, Administration Block and Maintenance Building were approved by the Shire of Yarra Ranges and a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit issued. Now that approval has been received, the committee will make available plans, specifications and costings to the Trusts Corporation, Board of Investment and Finance, Church Architect, Law Agent and Maroondah Presbytery.

It is envisaged that once the committee receives approval from the Board of Investment and Finance to proceed with the development the committee will call for tenders from building companies in early November and hopefully commence construction in February 2013.

Presbyterian Aged Care National CEO network

The CEOs have held meetings on two occasions this year, one on Melbourne in February and the other in Brisbane in May. The contact with the CEOs is assisting the committee to determine how best Kirkbrae can update their IT System.

Pres Care Queensland has presented to the committee a comprehensive report of how Kirkbrae's IT infrastructure and Communication Network can be integrated into their IT system. A decision is expected to be made by the committee on this important policy decision by the end of the year.

Financial Position

Tight budget oversight has enabled the committee to maintain a strong financial position. The Social Services Committee wishes to place on record their thanks to Mr Michael Ellison and members of the Trusts Corporation for their advice and support.

Thomas Hall Bequest

This bequest enables congregations to apply for financial assistance for their young members to attend camps.

During the year the committee financially supported 66 members from the following congregations:

Bundoora	\$ 230
St John's Bendigo	\$1,300
Brimbank	\$ 750
Frankston	\$1,950
Malvern	\$ 450
Hume	\$ 280
Woori Yallock	\$ 500
Warrnambool	\$1,400
Drouin	\$ 600
St Andrew's Clayton	\$ 200
St Stephens Surrey Hills	\$ 625
Cheltenham	\$ 350
Canterbury	<u>\$ 427</u>
 Total payments 2011/2012	 <u>\$9,062</u>

To download an application go to www.Kirkbrae.org.au and click on application forms. The committee would encourage congregations to take advantage of the bequest.

Poor of Melbourne Fund

The fund has been drawn down for two purposes in the past twelve months:

- (a) financially assist the Ingoing Retention costs for a retired missionary couple at Kirkbrae.
- (b) provide financial support for a cottage resident with payment of monthly village maintenance fees.

Kirkbrae Auxiliary, Trinity Presbyterian Church Camberwell

We were pleased to welcome 6 members of Kirkbrae Auxiliary to Kirkbrae on the 17th July. The Auxiliary has been raising funds for thirty years to support Kirkbrae and this year made a donation to purchase a new coffee machine for the Sunshine Café.

Without their continued financial support Kirkbrae would not be able to provide these additional services that bring comfort to our residents.

They enjoyed being shown around to view changes since their last visit and welcomed the opportunity to view the plans of the new village development.

Maintenance Services

The committee is pleased to report that under the leadership of Mr Alan Withers and his team, the buildings and grounds are maintained at a very high standard.

This is best expressed by the positive responses of the residents to the workmanship of Alan and his team with building improvements in the Village.

Cottages (Independent Living Units)

As at 1st January 2012 the following price structure for cottages, retentions and ongoing costs were approved by the committee.

One bedroom Size A \$160,000.00 (Lounge/meals area combined)

Size B	\$197,000.00 (Separate meals area in kitchen)
Size C	\$140,000.00 (Lounge/meals area combined no laundry)
Two bedroom	\$217,000.00
Three bedroom house	\$350,000.00

Lease Preparation:

A Lease preparation fee of \$500 (non-refundable) will be charged.

Retentions of 35% over a period of 7 years from ingoing paid deducted and calculated monthly.

The balance is refunded after the unit is vacated under the terms of the Lease Agreement, or may contribute to ingoing costs associated of moving into residential care.

Ongoing Costs:

Current weekly fee of \$78.26 per week for singles (no garage)

Current weekly fee of \$83.86 per week for singles (with garage)

Current weekly fee of \$63.14 each for married couples (no garage)

Current weekly fee of \$65.94 each for married couples (with garage)

The above fees cover general maintenance of the cottage, lawn mowing and includes water and land rates as well as building insurance.

Personal costs such as everyday living, electricity, phone and contents insurance are the resident's responsibility.

The committee wishes to acknowledge the work of Mrs Val Inverarity, ILU Manager for her dedicated service over many years for the welfare of the village residents.

Pastoral Care Kirkbrae

Each Sunday the residents at Kirkbrae meet for worship in the Community Hall conducted by Rev Wally Gear. These services are well attended by approximately 24 people each Sunday and there is a good spirit of friendship in the congregation.

A Bible study group meet weekly and each week a Chapel service is held in the hostel attended by up to 25 residents. Rev Wally Gear visits residents on a regular basis. On Mondays Rev Gear visits residents in Maroondah hospital and others in hospital who list themselves as Presbyterian. The average number of people he visits in Maroondah hospital each week is six.

On 24th February 2012 Mrs Janine Moyter was inducted by Rev Wally Gear as the Pastoral Care training intern for Kirkbrae. This was a joint service with members of the HCCC and SSC in attendance.

This was a very special day for Janine and Kirkbrae and she already has won the hearts of the residents with her listening skills and loving care.

Pastoral Care Tannoch Brae, Geelong (formerly Kirkbrae Bellarine)

Rev Andrew Bray is the Presbyterian Chaplain at Tannoch Brae, Geelong where worship services are held weekly on Wednesdays and Sundays. When Kirkbrae Bellarine was sold by the church a clause was inserted into the contract of sale allowing for a Presbyterian Minister to be a Chaplain at the retirement village at no cost to the village owners.

Since the sale of the retirement village the Social Services Committee has financially supported the employment of a Chaplain at Tannoch Brae. The committee is pleased that Rev Bray has been able to serve as Chaplain to the many Presbyterians who have retired there and provide them with pastoral care.

Strategic Plan 2012 - 2015

Committee members and key staff members met on the 23rd March 2012 to discuss Kirkbrae's Strategic Plan for the next three years.

Kirkbrae's history and culture was discussed and it was agreed that Kirkbrae has an excellent management team, staff enjoyed working there and the residents were well looked after.

The committee determined to keep a focus on Chaplaincy and to provide a Christian faith environment for our residents and staff. There was encouraging discussion on establishing a Chapel.

There was a particular discussion on IT Systems and for the IT System to be uniform throughout Kirkbrae.

It was agreed that the three goals the committee would focus on in the short term would be growth opportunities, maintaining financial stability and promoting quality care services. The committee agreed we would meet again before the end of the year and then on an annual basis to oversee the Strategic Plan.

Critical Incident Response Plan

The convener and key staff members met on 20th June 2012 in a training session to discuss how the team leaders would respond to a critical incident at Kirkbrae.

Following the Black Saturday bushfires of 2009 state and federal governments require Aged Care facilities to have a Critical Incident Response Plan.

The critical areas of concern for team leaders if there were an incident are the care of residents in the nursing home, the potential loss of power, communication with other staff members in the Village and the delegation of responsibilities for staff members.

The role of each staff member was discussed and each allocated a task they would be responsible for. It was a very thorough day of training and there will be further training on a regular basis with staff members.

A Chapel for Kirkbrae

With plans in place for the first stage of Kirkbrae's redevelopment the committee felt it was the appropriate time to plan for the building of a Chapel.

With this in mind at the May Social Services Committee meeting it was agreed that our architects Thomson Adsett draw up plans for a contemporary 100 Seat Chapel, a gathering space for after church services, a Chaplain's meeting room, a kitchen facing the gathering space, storage area, toilets and an airlock tower.

Pleased with the architects plans we then asked them to seek a quantity surveyor for the costing of the Chapel. They engaged Newton Kerr Partners quantity surveyors and construction cost consultants, who estimated the Total Building Works for the Chapel, would be in the range of \$1,246,000. This figure was regarded by Thomas Adsett as the upper limit for the building of the Chapel.

There are a number of reasons why the committee believe it is important to build a Chapel for Kirkbrae.

1. The present community centre where worship services are held has a multi-purpose use for daily social activities for the residents. It is not a stand alone building for Christian worship.
2. The community centre was built in 1960 and while quite adequate for social activities, is not seen by visitors or the local community as a building of Christian worship.
3. It is felt by the committee that as we are a Christian Aged Care facility it is important that Kirkbrae have a Chapel.
4. With the commencement of the redevelopment and the growth in resident numbers the time is right to build a Chapel.
5. There is land available to build the Chapel where it will be seen in a prominent position from Mount Dandenong Road.
6. Kirkbrae has a Chaplain and a Pastoral Care Intern to care for the spiritual needs of the residents.
7. The ability to hold funerals along with other services will be enhanced by the building of the Chapel.
8. The Chapel will be available for local congregations and Presbytery for worship services and other church activities.
9. A Sanctuary for prayer and reflection.
10. The Chapel will represent the Christian focus of Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes.

To raise funds to build the Chapel the committee believes a state wide appeal to members of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria should be conducted. With funds raised in this manner it would enable the committee to plan with confidence to proceed to build a Chapel on behalf of the residents and the wider church.

The raising of funds in this way will give focus to our Christian faith and the building of the Chapel will provide residents with a special place to worship Almighty God.

Growth Opportunities - Expansion

The committee was approached by the existing owner of an Aged Care facility in February this year with an offer for Kirkbrae to purchase a 9 bed Supported Residential Services facility in Olinda.

After conducting a due diligence of the proposal the committee concluded the exit price of \$1.8 million to \$2 million was prohibitive and the facility could not be run at a profit. The only way for it to work for Kirkbrae would be a 'walk in walk out' arrangement with no money changing hands.

The committee has also been approached by an Aged Care specialist agency making it known to the committee that they have a number of residential nursing homes for sale. No action has been taken by the committee at this stage.

Social Services Committee

After ten years of dedicated service on the Social Services Committee it was with regret the committee farewelled Mr Ron Spencer and Mrs Lois Taylor.

Ron served as a secretary on the committee for the full term of his office and oversaw the expansion of the hostel/nursing home. Diligent and hard working, Ron played a significant role in the growth of Kirkbrae and his wise counsel will be greatly missed by the committee.

Mrs Lois Taylor in a similar way contributed to the stability and growth of Kirkbrae. Lois's concern for the elderly and their needs was illustrated on many occasions when the committee was weighing up further expenditure for the nursing home residents. Her commitment to Kirkbrae has helped make it what it is today.

With two vacancies the Social Services Committee was pleased to welcome Mr Jim Nuske and Mrs Roberta Rodgers as new members.

Mr Nuske is an Elder of Scots' Presbyterian Church, Melbourne and Mrs Rodgers is a Board of Management member of Epping Presbyterian Church.

Appreciation

To members of the committee who willingly attend meetings, serve on committees and care about the welfare of the residents, a very big thank you.

In Mr Neil McConville the committee is very fortunate to have a CEO who is innovative, professional in all aspects of his work and is responsive to changes in Aged Care and committed to the well being of staff and residents.

Miss Amanda Hunt a new member of the executive team was appointed as Director of Nursing Services in August last year and has settled into her role with the support of her senior staff. Amanda leads by example and is prepared to make changes for the benefit of the nursing home residents. The committee is pleased Amanda has joined us at Kirkbrae.

Committee Membership

Mr Robert Lowe / Convener
Mr Ron Patterson
Miss Rae Anstee
Mr Barry Kilmartin
Mr Bruce Miller

Mr David Gibb / Secretary
Mr Dennis Wright
Miss Barbara Firth
Mrs Roberta Rodgers
Mr Jim Nuske

In Conclusion

The year ahead will hold many challenges for the committee but our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ will give us comfort as we proceed with the property development at Kirkbrae.

Supplementary Report

Property development

In May 2010 the Commission of Assembly resolved as follows:

“Approve that \$9.3 million of committee’s funds be committed over a period of 24 months to construct 24 one and two bedroom units and a village community centre and chapel for Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes, subject to the BIF approving the financial funding of the project.”

Minute 18, Blue Book p19.

During the course of the development of this proposal the configuration of the building works has change as a result of the Social Services Committee’s desire of financial prudence by operating within immediately available cash funds. A smaller development is conservative and ensures that the market is truly tested prior to expanding future developments.

The amended proposal incorporates 12 new units, rather than 24, an expanded maintenance shed and compound (previously not included), and a new administration building to bring all the executive managers and support staff into one complex.

The sale of the 12 units will generate \$4.8 million, with a deduction of 35% retention over the next 7 years, or income of \$240,000 per annum or a total of \$1.68 million over the next 7 years.

We believe it is prudent to defer building the new community centre and Kirkbrae Chapel until the next development stage.

Since drafting the report the Assembly, the committee has met with representatives of the Board of Investment and Finance to discuss the funding of the proposed property development and the revised proposal. The Board of Investment and Finance has approved the funding arrangements for up to \$6.5 million.

The committee is now seeking the consent of the Assembly to the revised proposal.

Robert Lowe
CONVENER

ST ANDREWS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE (Min. 34)

Growth

1 Corinthians 3:7

So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.

Psalms 65:10

You water its furrows abundantly, You settle its ridges, You soften it with showers, You bless its growth.

Galatians 6:7-8

But the one who plants in response to God, letting God's Spirit do the growth work in him, harvests a crop of real life, eternal life.

2012 is our third year of operation at Knox and we are thankful to God for all the stabilisation and growth (the seen and unseen) occurring at St Andrews Christian College.

This growth is evident in our: increased student numbers (March 2011: 419 students. August 2012: 457 students); increased focus in teaching Christianly; service in the community; excellence and development in our teaching and learning programs; increased professional development for staff; introduction of new whole school programs; progress in playground upgrades and building program; development of our ICT department and infrastructure; improved communication with parents utilising technology; consolidation of and continual development of our curriculum.

These are just some of the seen and measurable elements of progress at St Andrews Christian College in the past year, but as we look at the scriptures we are reminded that real growth comes from God. It is a growth that buds from what is already present, growth that is centred on God and growth that is purposeful and eternal.

Jeremiah 17:7-8 beautifully describes this growth using the metaphor of a tree:

*But blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord;
whose confidence is in him.*

*He will be like a tree planted by the water
that sends out its roots by the stream.*

*It does not fear when heat comes;
its leaves are always green.*

*It has no worries in a year of drought
and never fails to bear fruit.*

Midst the goals and targets we set at St Andrews Christian College, we must continue to set our roots deep and solidly on Christ and not only focus on Him but trust in Him. The depth of our dependence on Christ will result in continual visible growth that reflects Him, as we continue to grow students for God's kingdom.

Significant and New Developments

- We successfully undertook Registration this year. This gave the College an opportunity to improve policies and procedures and to review and update the curriculum in line with the introduction of the National Curriculum next year. Our

whole school curriculum integrates a biblical worldview which is strongly embedded in the culture and DNA of the College.

- Continued training for staff in Christian Education with New Hope International's Effective Teaching Series.
- The introduction of whole school programs (Prep to Year 12) such as the *Values Program* and the *Student Leadership Development Program*.
- Intentional Service Programs in which all classes partake in service in the school, community and beyond. *Impacting the World for Christ* is the theme for 2012 which is underpinned by our biblical focus from 1 John 3:18 '*..let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and truth*'. Our connections with a school in Vanuatu and our first mission trip with students to India in 2012 help us to become intentional about our service to God in our desire to love Him, serve Him and love our sisters and brothers around the world. It is our desire to take our knowledge and training to Christian Schools in developing nations to help them in their mission to shape and build the youth of their nation for God's purposes.
- Serving the community of St Andrews Christian College in open forums such as our focus on social media and open night on 'Restoring the Balance in the Digital Age'.

Academic Performance 2011 results:

The College has had another good year of academic performance, with the Primary being listed as the top 26th school in Australia, according to 2011 NAPLAN results. These tests assess very narrow criteria for school performance and should always be reviewed in the context of the wider service delivery of a school.

Analysis of the NAPLAN data for those students who have been at St Andrews for two testing periods reveals a general trend of strong growth, particularly in students performing at the lower levels of performance. This individual growth (student gain) is the most important aspect to concentrate on and remains a significant strength of St Andrews Christian College.

Students from Years 3 - 12 who elect to sit outside academic competitions have also been rewarded with great results. With the University of NSW ICAS competitions in English, Science and Mathematics, at least 50% of our students who entered the competitions, won an award.

The Australian Mathematics Competition is a recognized international competition open to all students from Years 3 - 12. 109 students from St Andrews Christian College participated in this competition, with 7 students gaining High Distinctions (top 2%), 38 receiving Distinctions (top 15%) whilst 44 students received Credit Awards.

The Rio Tinto Big Science Competition is an international competition entered by 37,138 students from 559 schools. St Andrews Christian College entered 27 students. Of these, 5 received High Distinctions, 6 received Distinctions and 9 students earned a Credit.

VCE Results

30% of our students achieved an ATAR of over 90, whilst 47% of our students achieved a score of over 80. Some students who were below 80, achieved scores well in excess of their expectations and one VCE student from 2011 was awarded a Subject Category Award in the Premier's VCE Awards for 2012.

Governance

We have seen a marked growth in the maturity of our governance processes and resulting outcomes this year. 2012 has been our second year with a full complement on the Board and the group is working together very productively. Significantly, Board discussions are beginning to look beyond immediate needs and are starting to focus on the long term structure and goals of the College.

Membership changes over the year are summarised as follows:

- James Bligh took over as Chairperson from Daniel Muggeridge in July;
- Sharon Rowland took over the Secretary role from James Bligh;
- Daniel Muggeridge and Len Webster resigned from the Board during the year;
- Sharon Rowland's term (company nominee) was extended for another 3 years commencing 1/1/2012. The Board sought out and recommended to the PCV nominations for another 2 Board members, Wes Cassidy and Geoffrey Hui (Membership confirmed and commenced in early 2012).

Specific achievements of the Board for 2011-2012 include the following:

- We farewelled Ray Tiller as interim principal and welcomed Catriona Wansbrough in the beginning of 2011. A smooth leadership transition from Ray to Catriona was supported;
- Reviewed and approved various significant College policies including the Enrolment Policy;
- Amendment to the Statement of Faith in regard to sexual conduct;
- Developed several new Board policies including Standing Orders to provide a framework within which Board members operate;
- Establishment of guidelines for a Founders' Day committee in preparation for the College's 30 year anniversary in 2013;
- Established a Risk Committee to formally identify risks as well as provide a framework within which they are reviewed and managed;
- Commenced the process of a Constitutional review;
- Reviewed monthly financials including development of KPIs to more effectively monitor College financial status, including the introduction of rolling monthly cash flow forecasts;
- Input into development of the College's annual budget and tuition fee schedule;
- Reviewed and approved the Statutory Accounts for 2010;
- Supported the application to further develop the Multi Purpose Hall through the addition of a change-room facility;
- Spent a day on development as a team – offsite day – focus of discussions was on Vision, our Values statements and the need to be clear on our Mission;
- Continued discussions with Bob Speck re. Reconciliation;
- Chairman attended the annual CSA Conference with the Principal.

Looking Forward

The theme of GROWTH is paramount for the future.

A current exciting development in the College is the planning of a restructure for 2013 which will change the College from a Primary/High School structure to a Junior (Prep – Year 4)/ Middle (Year 5 – Year 8) and Senior School (Year 9 – Year 12) model.

This restructure will help to grow existing student numbers and give the College the platform to continually strive for excellence in Teaching and Learning. The educational, social, emotional and spiritual advantages of Middle Schooling are significant for both the individual, the Middle School cohort and the whole College.

Thanks and Acknowledgement

The College continues to enjoy a strong relationship with the PCV through practical help and, more important, continued prayer support and fellowship. This has been a great source of strength and encouragement throughout the year. Thanks to all who have supported the College through personal service, prayer and financial sacrifice.

Final thanks must go to God who continues to greatly bless the College. Those in leadership at the College continually pray that we can be humble stewards of this organisation and remain on the path that He has set before us.

James Bligh
CHAIRMAN

Catriona Wansbrough
PRINCIPAL

STATE NEWS COMMITTEE (Min. 29)

As scheduled, *fellow workers*, under the enthusiastic and capable editorship of Mrs Chiara Bilyj, has been produced and distributed on time, each quarter, in the months of December, 2011 and March, June and September this year.

Once again, the content of our own state news publication has been decided by those parishes, presbyteries, committees, organisations and individuals who feel they have something worthwhile to share with the rest of the church.

Over the twelve month period from September, 2011 to June, 2012, the following parishes, presbyteries, committees, organisations and individuals have come to that conclusion:

- out of the 103 parishes in the state: Bendigo (x3), Clayton, Heidelberg, Frankston (x2), Scots (Melbourne), Skipton/Lismore, Heathmont, Kaniva/Nhill, Broadford, Drouin, Moe, Geelong West and Hawthorn;
- of the eleven presbyteries: Ballarat (x5), Geelong and Maroondah;
- of the 20 Assembly committees: METRO;
- of the three organisations: HMWA and PYV (x3).

There have also been articles on the STAMP visit to Malawi, John Flynn and the PIM (x4), the Ministry Family Camp, Kirkbrae, Exit Students, the Moderator's visits (x3) and a 'Ladies Weekender'

We thank all those who were responsible for contributing articles, though we have yet to hear our Editor complain that she has too much material.

As it was last year, so again it is this year: the Presbytery of Ballarat through its Publicity Officer, Rev Hui Lim, has been the 'Most Publicity Minded Presbytery' for the second year in a row.

Rev Kevin Murray, National Director of APWM and Rev Stuart Bonnington, Superintendent, PIM, have, since the demise of *Australian Presbyterian*, been very pro-active in endeavouring to provide up to date information to encourage and enable a greater prayerful involvement of the whole church in missions. They have done this by means of full colour inserts in the news magazines of the various states. '*The Pulse*' and '*New Directions*', published by the church in New South Wales and Queensland respectively, are also printed in full colour.

This, we believe, has raised an issue in relation to the presentation of future editions of *fellow workers*. While APWM and PIM inserts are in full colour, *fellow workers* is a two colour production. We are of the opinion that *fellow workers* is equally deserving of being moved to a full colour format and at the time of writing this report, your Committee is actively seeking to upgrade in this way.

Neil Harvey
CONVENER

THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE (Min. 85)

The last year has seen the PTC undergo a significant transition as we farewelled Principal Milne and welcomed Principal Hastie. There has also been change in the TEC with the resignations of a number of our members. Change will continue into the coming year with the acceptance by Rev Dr Goswell of the Old Testament post at the PTC NSW. In all this change both the TEC and Faculty have retained their focus on preparing men to be pastors and teachers in our congregations and preparing men and women for gospel ministry throughout Victoria and further afield.

Enrolments

We presently have a total of 48 students, 23 full time and 25 part time, with ten full time candidates and five candidates studying part time. We are grateful to God for the quality of our candidates, and continue to pray and urge you all to pray and ask God to raise up more for gospel ministry in this state, and especially more men whom he has gifted for pastoring our congregations through the teaching of his word.

Committee Membership

The TEC is sad to farewell at this Assembly a number of very dedicated members [Len Webster, John Stasse, Chris Duke, Graham Nixon] whose service has been invaluable over this time of transition. Some have finished their time, and some have had to resign due to other commitments. Their departure means that the TEC has significant needs at this time which we are trying to meet with the assistance of the Selection Committee. As we are the governing body of a tertiary institution with a significant budget we are looking for those with experience in either tertiary education or finance. We face a number of challenges both in developing the property, refining our governance, and staying abreast of accreditation requirements and need those who can help us meet those challenges in the coming years.

We are conscious that to attract and keep those with the expertise we need we have to develop a governance structure that allows them to contribute meaningfully and efficiently. In the coming year we are planning to review our operation as a governing body and the way we structure our responsibilities. We also hope to make available governance training for all members of the TEC.

Finance

The TEC has been bringing before the Assembly the difficulty we have in maintaining our current levels of support for the training of candidates since at least 2009. The TEC grants full scholarships to all candidates for the ministry and also seeks to provide some limited income assistance to those candidates with financial needs. Maintaining this level of support is increasingly difficult because:

1. Our fees increase in line with ACT fees, which increase every year.
2. Investment returns have now returned to what are probably more realistic levels with an associated decline in our bursary income.
3. Student numbers have grown, a trend we hope will continue in the long term.

If we are blessed with the number of candidates we need to replace ministers retiring our bursary fund will be under severe strain.

This past year (2011-2012) the Bursary fund has been in deficit \$36,767 and the TEC is not in a position to supplement this from general operating income. Hence the capital (that component which is not a perpetual trust) is being rapidly depleted with

an adverse effect on the capacity of the Bursary Fund to provide for students in the future. That is it will be a compounding problem as each year with decreased capital there will be a decreased income exacerbating the drain on the capital of the fund. This in turn raises the possibility of real financial hardship amongst our candidates, or some making a decision not to train because they cannot afford to maintain their families on the very limited income of a student.

In response to our need the Trustees in 2009 allocated the remainder of the Melva Thompson bequest as a perpetual fund 'to be used for payment of bursaries to candidates for the ministry', a boost of \$250,000 to our perpetual fund. This was very helpful but still not sufficient to maintain our fund and its income at a level sufficient to meet our needs.

At the 2010 Assembly moved to 'Support in principle to funding some of the TEC's operating budget from GMP' (2010 BB 92:12 p. 174), which while not directed specifically to the support of students indicated a willingness on the part of the Assembly to consider financially supporting the work of the College.

In view of our current loss and anticipated future loss of capital from the Bursary Fund (\$33,914 in 2012-2013, \$45,446 in 2013-2014) the TEC proposes that the Assembly engage with financially supporting our candidates. Our goal is to make the funding of students' study and our capacity to support their living more secure as we look to the future and a hoped for increase in candidates. Below is a discussion of what form this support could take.

1. Do nothing

This really is not an option but we list it to show what inaction would bring. Very soon the capital of the bursary fund would be reduced to the perpetual portion alone. The income this produces would be insufficient to fund the fees of students let alone provide some income assistance to meet the costs of daily living. We would either have to make up the gap from our general income or commence charging the candidates fees. Neither is satisfactory. Taking money from general income would compromise other areas of the college's ministry and run our general operating budget further into debt. Making the students pay fees would force them to adopt 'Fee-Help' where eligible and the TEC does not regard this as a satisfactory outcome for the reasons stated below.

2. Encourage the candidates to adopt 'Fee-Help' (Making the candidate alone pay)

'FEE-HELP is a loan scheme that assists eligible fee paying students pay all or part of their tuition fees.' For information concerning the scheme go to studyassist.gov.au/sites/StudyAssist/HELPPayingMyFees and follow the links. Many colleges do encourage their students to use 'Fee-Help' and its advent has allowed theological colleges to charge fees that are more realistically related to the cost of delivering theology courses. Private students at our college make use of Fee-Help.

Why do we think it is not right to make our candidates use Fee-Help

1. Scripture encourages us to owe no one anything except the debt of love. Fee-Help ensures that our students would all emerge with a monetary debt to the government.
2. Scripture encourages us to be dependent on no-one (1 Thess. 4:12). Fee-Help means that we would depend on the government to finance the theological education of our candidates. It also increases our dependence

on the ACT as Fee-Help is only accessible as we are accredited through them.

3. Fee-Help saddles the individual with a debt for a task that the denomination encourages them to undertake, regulates their entry into, and determines their course of study during their training. It means one individual bears the cost for a collective decision. If we claim the authority to determine who can be a candidate and what they should study then we must also accept the responsibility for financing the consequences of our decisions.
4. The debt may well hamper ministers when they seek to acquire their own housing (affecting their credit rating).
5. Having the state finance the education of our candidates may well expose us to criticism from the wider community, especially if courses are seen as unnecessary or luxurious.
6. The argument that our ministers will never achieve an income which would require them to repay their debt, and hence the education is 'free', is not a good argument. Is it right, just because we can, to enter into a debt which we have no intention of paying off (or in this case to encourage another to take on a debt on the grounds that they will never be required to pay it off)? This would seem to go against the spirit of love. It also appears to be a cynical exercise in transferring the cost of educating our ministers from the community of the faithful to the secular state.
7. Could not the state change the conditions of granting Fee-Help (i.e. start to charge interest [at the moment there is no interest, but an annual CPI adjustment], or require repayment from the start of earning)?

These would appear to be good reasons not to rely on students taking on Fee-Help in its present form to fund their training, where all the debt is borne by the student and it would never be paid off (and never intended to be paid off.) Yet we still face the problem of adequately financing theological education.

3. A limited 'End user' pays scheme (make some congregations pay).

We initially considered that we could permit students to take on a Fee-Help debt (solving the TEC's problem of adequately financing the courses and at the same time having money to help students with their living expenses from the Bursary Fund) but ask the congregations in which they minister for the first ten years to repay the Fee-Help debt as part of the terms of call – paying one tenth of the total debt each year for the first ten years.

We then thought why involve the government at all. The TEC could wear the cost of training while the student was at college, and then have congregations to which students go repay the Bursary Fund one tenth of the cost of training each year for the first ten years of their ministry. This repayment would replenish the bursary trust and allow it to keep operating effectively well into the future.

In this way the current church would pay for the training of its ministers, but it would be spread over a number of years and also, probably, a number of parishes. To counter the suggestion that only wealthy parishes could seek an Exit appointment support for those less financial parishes taking an exit student could be made available from the Maintenance of Ministry or MDC. The payment would not go to the minister but directly to the TEC. The minister would have no debt, and we would not

be dependent on the government and not be seen as using the government provision cynically to fund our training.

Although there would be for a time a continued running down of our funds this would be reversed after a couple of years, and more money would become available for bursaries.

Should a minister leave the ministry of the denomination or go interstate (to a church not committed to these repayments) the minister would accept liability for the debt. There should also be provision to have this waived under certain circumstances (e.g. missionary service, retirement due to ill health).

If this suggestion were taken up there would need to be restriction on the courses for which help from the bursary fund could be accumulated – i.e. to only those subjects required for the course of study and limiting the number of ACT subjects (the more expensive subjects) within that to the minimum required to gain the degree. Some discussion would also be needed to determine what to do when students failed a subject.

4. Add the fees, or a proportion of them, each year to GMP (making all congregations pay)

The above scheme 'end user pays' has some attraction but it may seem unfair, when the whole denomination benefits from trained ministers, to only make those parishes where a graduate ministers for the first ten years responsible for supporting their course of study. It would seem fairer to ask the whole denomination share the cost.

This could be done by the candidates' fees for the preceding year being added to GMP and the cost thus distributed across the denomination. For example this last financial year the TEC has paid \$123,695 in grants for tuition fees. Under this proposal that amount would be added to the GMP proposal for the following Commission of Assembly.

It might be argued that the Assembly should only pay the difference between the income generated by the bursary fund and our expenditure (i.e. enough to maintain the capital at current levels). This would not be acceptable to the TEC for a number of reasons. Firstly, this would not allow us to increase the amount of income we give as assistance to the living expenses of students. As more candidates have growing families and have not been as long in the workforce, and as many of them have also done a two year ministry apprenticeship with a very low income before they come to college, we feel a growing need for the capacity to provide more income support to candidates. Secondly it would not allow us to increase our bursary funds which we anticipate we need to do if we are going to adequately help an increasing number of students, and if we are going to slowly return the Bursary Fund to a healthy state. In fact the lag between our expenditure and the return from the following years GMP would ensure that we continued to consume capital.

If GMP providing the total amount of candidates' tuition fees each year were thought to be too great a cost to GMP an helpful alternative would be for the GMP to make up the difference between funds provided from the bursary fund and the cost of scholarships (that is replace the capital drained from our bursary fund each year) and pay a percentage of each preceding year's scholarship amount. A percentage that would allow us to replenish and build up our bursary fund would be 20%. This would

eventually allow us to stop the reduction in the capital of the Bursary Fund and slowly recover the Bursary Fund while allowing us to be in a position to support what we hope will be an increasing number of students. That is the goal of this procedure would be to build up our bursary fund to the point where it can adequately fund student training both now and into the future by making a modest contribution each year that would mean we increase, not decrease, the capital of the fund each year. In this scenario the GMP would seek in an additional \$61,506 in 2013- 2014 (Deficit of \$36,767 and 20% of total fees \$24,739), but in subsequent years the amount sought would decrease, unless we were blessed with an influx of students, for in this proposal the call on GMP would decrease as the funds were built up (increasing the income) and the deficit became less every year, while the Bursary Fund would slowly be grown to meet increasing demand.

This proposal, if adopted, could be reviewed in five years to see if it were achieving its goal of allowing greater assistance to students, ending the run down of the capital of the Bursary Fund, and slowly increasing its capacity to fund future training.

5. Increase substantially the perpetual portion of the Bursary Fund by one off donation

This, of course, would be ideal, but the amount of capital would be significant, and even if we made up the funds to pay for the present demand there would still be no capacity to respond to an increased demand in the future.

The TEC has long held that the present church should make some contribution to the training of its ministers and not just live off the prudent provision of the past. Even better if it also invests in the future church by making small but wise contributions that will enhance our capacity to train those whom God raises up to serve us in teaching and preaching in the years to come. The TEC therefore commends to the Assembly Option 4, asking all congregations to pay a limited amount that will allow us to continue our support of students into the future. Doing nothing is not an option.

Staff

The TEC is well served by the staff in the office, Alicia Noble and Sophia Urbano. The Principal has conducted a thorough review of their work from which emerged a revised job description for both. On the basis of this we have increased their remuneration and will be seeking from January 1 2013 an increase in hours for the Administrative Officer, Mrs Alicia Noble.

Old Testament Lecturer

As many of you know Rev Dr G Goswell will resign from his position as Old Testament Lecturer at the PTC Victoria in December 2012 to commence teaching at the PTC NSW in a similar role in January 2013. Dr Goswell has served the college energetically and faithfully for the past 11 years since coming to us from NSW. He has been active in many areas of college life beside his lecturing, serving as Academic Dean, Acting Principal in 2007, and Associate Editor of the Reformed Theological Review. He has also undertaken the supervision of a number of our postgraduate students. He has been active in the ACT where he sits on the Research Committee and the Academic Board and has previously served on the Coursework Committee. In addition, Greg is a member of a number of academic societies such as Tyndale House, Cambridge and the Evangelical Theological Society. He also serves as the secretary of the GAA College Committee. He has adorned the College, inspired a generation of students with a love of the Old

Testament, and will be missed. We express our gratitude to him for his service and wish him well for his continuing service of the Lord in teaching his word.

Dr Goswell's departure creates a vacancy in Old Testament at the PTC where we need four full time lecturers with research Masters or above to maintain ACT accreditation. We have included below and in the deliverance a job description for the Old Testament post for the Assembly's approval to allow us to commence advertising the position. We have also included for approval the terms and conditions of employment.

Lecturer in Old Testament Studies Job Description

1. Position Summary

The Presbyterian Theological College (PTC), the ministry training college of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, is seeking a lecturer in Old Testament Studies. The PTC is a reformed and evangelical institution which has a vital role in developing, disseminating and supporting faithful gospel ministry in Melbourne, regional Victoria and beyond. The assembly, through the Theological Education Committee (TEC), the body entrusted with the oversight of the College by the Victorian Assembly, is looking for a faithful Christian, academically able in the disciplines of Hebrew and Old Testament studies and with experience in pastoral ministry, who can help students understand the Old Testament in its context, locate its teaching in the flow of biblical theology to fulfilment in Christ, and preach it today as God's Word. A lecturer at the PTC will also have a role as a theological resource to his brothers in parish ministry.

2. Responsibilities

The lecturer in Old Testament will be responsible, under the Principal of the PTC, for delivery of lectures in the area of Old Testament studies and Hebrew language, teaching principally the Old Testament courses of the Australian College of Theology. A lecturer must

- Set an example in life and ministry to the students.
- Contribute to the well being of the college community.
- Be involved in and represent the College's interests in the life of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.
- Undertake administrative tasks delegated by the Principal.
- Stay abreast of educational developments and be willing to be innovative in the delivery of his courses and in their assessment.

These tasks will involve attendance at faculty meetings, participation in Australian College of Theology meetings in his area, and participation in Presbytery and Assembly.

3. Attributes

- Able to meet the qualifications of an elder as described in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1, i.e. demonstrating a mature Christian character.
- Prayerful.
- Fully committed to the Bible as the Word of God.
- A capacity to communicate clearly.
- Ability to relate to people of diverse cultural backgrounds.

4. Qualifications

Essential

- Qualified in Old Testament at Research Masters level or above.
- A minister in full standing with the Presbyterian church of Australia or willing to satisfy the requirements of the rules of the General Assembly of Australia relative to the reception of ministers from other churches.
- Pastoral experience.
- A wholehearted commitment to the Westminster Confession of Faith as a systematic exposition of the teaching of Scripture.

Achievements and Capabilities

- Demonstrated ability to teach in his discipline, ideally with some experience in curriculum design and assessment.
- Educational experience with an awareness of different modes of delivery of courses.
- Understanding of the Australian Higher Educational context, especially of the expectations of the Australian College of Theology.
- Involvement in discipling and training others in ministry skills.
- Demonstrated capacity to work in a team.
- Experience in the activities of Presbytery and Assembly.
- Administrative experience with an ability to share in the administrative work of a tertiary institution.

Terms and Conditions, Old Testament Lecturer, PTC Vic.

Terms and conditions:

- i) 1.05 times the minister's minimum remuneration package as defined in the annual MMC deliverance to the Assembly.
- ii) manse provided or benefit as set by the Theological Education Committee.
- iii) telephone rent plus all calls.
- iv) superannuation at the ministerial rate.
- v) Six month's paid study leave during each fourth and each seventh year of appointment.
- vi) removal costs paid by the Theological Education Committee within Australia but a negotiated figure if from overseas.
- vii) Annual leave equivalent to ministerial annual leave as defined in the annual MMC deliverance to the Assembly, currently five weeks.
- viii) Workcover.
- ix) Payment of manse energy bills up to \$2,000 per annum as a non cash benefit.
- x) Any other provision the Assembly may determine.

Dr Goswell's vacancy and Dr Bird's study leave in 2013 have created a need for a large number of lectures to be provided by visiting lecturers. Principal Hastie has been active in ensuring that this will be an opportunity for our students to be exposed to high quality teaching from very well qualified lecturers. He will detail the arrangements made in his report but the TEC endorses the provision that has been made and thanks all those who have responded willingly to his invitation.

Property

It has become apparent to the TEC that the time has come for the development of another master plan for the property. The library is at capacity and there seems no simple way to increase the floor space for the ever increasing collection of books, journals and on line resources. The college house has also reached the stage where

major decisions need to be made about its use and development. There is pressure on office space and sometimes a larger lecture space would be helpful. To help us develop the master plan the TEC will seek to employ an architect qualified and experienced in the development of tertiary campuses, particularly those engaged in theological education. In the coming months when we have a concrete proposal and costing we will commence discussions with the BIF for a variation in our budget to allow us to commence the review in the new year.

Donations to the building fund would help us in the development of this plan and also to the longer term development of the campus. I commend to the Assembly the DGR building fund for its support.

The library is also about to undertake a major security upgrade with the installation of RFID technology at a cost of \$21,000. This will improve not only security but also circulation control, and underline to all who use the library the value of the collection. The library also has a DGR Fund and I commend to the Assembly this fund. Donations to the library are an investment in the long term quality of the education offered at the PTC and an investment in the denomination's ministry.

Review of College Committee Regulations

The GAA Code Committee has signalled that it is intending to revise the composition of the GAA Committees including the College Committee along the following lines.

'The Committee resolved to:

- (1) Express its opinion that the General Assembly should determine that:
 - a. The Assembly itself shall elect the convener of each of its committees except in the case of the Code Committee and the Finance Committee;
 - b. Unless otherwise prescribed by regulation, the committees of the Assembly shall consist of ten members plus the Convener, those members to be elected by the Assembly on the following basis

NSW	3 members
Queensland	2 members
Victoria	2 members
South Australia	1 member
Tasmania	1 member
Western Australia	1 member
- (2) Make the following recommendations to the committees affected by them:
 - a. In the Chaplains to the Defence Force Committee, only ministers may be nominated as the Convener.
 - b. In the College Committee, the Principal or nominee of each the Theological Colleges recognised by the Assembly should be included as additional members.'

The TEC welcomes this proposed revision believing that it will improve and clarify the governance structures of the PTC Victoria, allowing both the GAA College Committee and the Victorian TEC to function more effectively as a governing council of an educational institution, and also allow the faculties of the various theological colleges, including our own, to function as an Academic Board reporting to the College Committee but not be the ultimate direction setters or evaluators of theological training within the denomination. We await developments but would like the Assembly

to indicate its support for the proposed revision of the composition of the College Committee.

Training Officer

The TEC continues to benefit from the hard work of the Training Officer. He has established relationships across the denomination that allow him to encourage young people to consider training at the PTC, inform the practical training of candidates at the PTC, and encourage ministers in their first appointments to implement many of the training strategies learnt while at College. We are thankful for his input into the SFE scheme, and also his activity in College Mission. He continues to support congregations seeking to implement training programs in their own context. More of his work can be learned from his report, but we repeat that we are thankful to God for his labour on our behalf.

Neil Chambers
CONVENER

Training Officer Report Together Training Trainers

A The Past 12 months

1. Pre college/ Metro

Our joint work with AFES and MTS continues to be profitable with a number of future gospel workers being identified. This is very encouraging. What is less encouraging is that while some of these future trainees are from Presbyterian churches the vast majority are not. We need to continue to pray that God will raise up ministers that have training on their heart and also that the Lord will stir up people willing to be trained.

METRO also continues to be both an encouragement and an administrative challenge. We currently have 5 funded trainees and 12 youthmetro trainees. A number of our former trainees are at the point of deciding to come to theological college. Please pray for them. Refer to the METRO report for more information or visit www.metrotraineeship.org.au

2. College

My work at the college consists of meeting with our fulltime candidates 1 on 1 weekly for an hour. It is a privilege to be involved in their spiritual development as we discuss their ministry skills and theological development as it relates to forming an intentional discipling ministry.

Often my time with candidates is devoted to their spiritual walk which sadly can take a bit of battering during the college years. Candidates are also keen to discuss how to revitalise our churches and how to improve their preaching.

MTS has long ago identified that loss of a vision for training during the college years as a major reason for pastors not training their congregations. Please continue to pray for this vital aspect of our candidates training.

In addition to meeting with the candidates, I oversee SFE. SFE stands for 'Supervised Field Education.' SFE is conducted over the duration of a candidate's time at the college, usually 4 years. It seeks to train students in their areas of ministry

weakness. As part of SFE candidates have their sermons reviewed, attend college mission, attend one summer placement of 4-6 week and be placed in a church for two years as an SFE placement.

If you are interested in having a candidate for a two year SFE placement or having a college mission attend your church then please contact me.

2. Broader Church

I will be revisiting all our presbyteries over the next year asking them two questions: 'What are your greatest needs when it comes to being an intentional disciple-maker?' and 'How can I assist you?' I hope this will enable me to focus my time more sharply.

I generally do not run a lot of weekend training courses, others are doing this sort of ministry. I prefer to work with individual ministers asking them to identify specific ways I can help them in their task of being intentional disciple makers.

I am working with a number of ministers and some Sessions in this way. Our time together I pray has been very helpful as we seek to develop healthy churches that are intentional about making disciples. I must make mention of the 'Embers to Flame' process at this point. I can highly recommend this training process. The 'Fuelled Days' have also been helpful in this regard.

If you are at all interested in being better equipped as a disciple-maker, developing a healthier church, evangelism or the training of preachers then please contact me. I would appreciate the opportunity to chat with you and to see if there might be some way in which I could be of assistance to your ministry.

I continued to meet with some of our most recent exit appointments. They are all doing extremely well and are a blessing to their congregations. I am grateful for the continued opportunity that I have to work with them and for the mutual encouragement that comes from working on training strategies with such a group of men.

I will also be doing some inter-state work this year. Greg Goswell and I are travelling to W.A. during September to run a number of training courses. Later in the year Peter Hastie and I will be travelling to Tasmania to discuss how I as the training officer and the PTC can be of service to them.

B. The Next 12 months

I have often joked with some of my close friends that it seems that I only really have one thing to say - 'We need to be better disciple-makers.' It is hard work. As leaders in ministry, we are easily consumed by keeping the program running and the people happy - the 'urgent' crowds out the 'important'. We know that training God's people will maintain and expand the ministry but it takes all our energies just to keep the wheels turning.

So by way of encouragement I offer the following thoughts. Besides my quiet times, nothing has had a greater spiritual effect on me than the one-on-one relationships I have experienced. I have had many spiritual mentors, but one person who stands out is my first discipler: Tim Wilson. My friendship with Tim is a prime example of the elements of discipleship. And 1 Thessalonians 2 is a good scriptural anchor for this topic.

Initiative

'You yourselves know, brothers, that our coming to you was not in vain' (v. 1). Paul described his ministry as 'our coming to you.' That is initiative. He and his colleagues went to meet the Thessalonians where they were, geographically and spiritually. A discipler seeks out others. That is what Tim did with me.

Generosity

'You remember our labor and toil, brothers; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God' (v. 9). Disciplers are generous with their time, money, and resources. They do not give in order to push people into obedience; they give because of that what the Gospel requires of them.

I will always remember Tim's generosity, especially with his time. He never made me feel like I was an inconvenience or that he was too busy.

Truth

'We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers' (v. 13).

Like the Apostle Paul, Tim pointed me toward God. In addition to our Bible study, we studied the Scriptures one-on-one every week. I began to see how the internals and the externals of the Christian life are integrated, with Scripture at the core.

Tim wove Scripture into our conversations as easily as some people quote movie lines. The Word of God was embedded in his life, and it showed. He gently challenged me not to live by how I felt but by the truth of God's Word. When concepts in Scripture clicked for me, I could see the joy on his face. Truly, the Word was at work from the beginning of our relationship.

Imitation

'For you, brothers, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea' (v. 14). During my last year at high school Tim and I led a Bible study together. I found myself reaching out to other students in the way Tim had with me. They were asking questions that I had asked only a year or two before.

After Tim moved on from that church, I continued to lead Bible studies and disciple younger students who then led other to Christ after I moved on.

Replication is a sure sign of successful discipleship, even if it seems to take a long time. Even now, in my mid-40s, I still find people, thanks to Facebook, that were reached for Christ during those early days. I do not know if Tim expected this, but his initiative in my life resulted in many more Jesus-followers than just me. I have imitated what Tim lived out with me, and God has reproduced it among others.

So let me encourage you, find just one person and invest in them for the sake of the Kingdom. Any shift in ministry thinking which allows for greater ministry training is a real encouragement. Development requires dialogue. I will continue to seek you out as I visit presbyteries. However, feel free to take the initiative and call me and we can chat together about training trainers.

There is so much that still needs to be done. By the grace of our Lord Jesus much is being done already. Praise God for His mercy to us.

Nello Barbieri
TRAINING OFFICER

FACULTY REPORT

Introduction

This is my first report to the General Assembly of Victoria. I was installed as Principal on Friday 10 February 2012 and spent the next two months familiarizing myself with the College and the role and responsibilities of the Principal. I wish to record my thanks to Dr Douglas Milne, my immediate predecessor, for his warm welcome and generous support for me. I have also been grateful to Dr Allan Harman, another former Principal, for his kind encouragement throughout the year. I am particularly conscious that I am building on a strong legacy established by those who have served before me.

Accreditation

The Australian College of Theology has informed the College that it successfully completed the re-accreditation process in December 2011 and has been re-accredited from 1 January 2012 to 30 December 2016. The College is now authorized to offer 27 different diplomas and degrees, ranging from a Diploma of Ministry to the Doctorate of Theology. The main courses that we offer are a series of graduate diplomas, the Bachelor of Ministry, the Bachelor of Theology, the Master of Divinity, the Master of Arts in Theology, the Master of Theology and the Doctor of Theology.

Enrolments

The College began this year with 66 students, of whom 25 were full-time and 41 part-time. There were 15 Presbyterian candidates for the ministry, 10 of whom were full-time and 5 part-time.

In second semester enrolments declined to 48 students, 23 full-time and 25 part-time. The fall in numbers was because no introductory ACT courses were offered as evening subjects from July to November 2012. In 2013 evening courses for these ACT subjects will resume.

The College also offers short courses in the evenings. In first semester Dr Felix Chung taught the Chinese short course in Old Testament and the Theology of Mission. 25 people attended this course. Dr Karl Hood also taught a short course in Biblical Counselling that attracted over 40 students. Both the short courses were well received and the evaluations were encouraging.

In second semester Dr Chung taught a Chinese short course on Introduction to Theology. Dr Harman also taught a short course on the Psalms. Both classes attracted good numbers of around 25 to 30 students.

Administrative Positions

The following administrative positions are held within the College – Rev Peter Hastie (Principal and Pastoral Dean), Dr Greg Goswell (Academic Dean), Dr Tony Bird

(Post-graduate Dean), Dr Jared Hood (Librarian), Dr Felix Chung (Pastoral Studies and Missions Co-ordinator), Rev Nello Barbieri, (Assembly Training Officer), Mrs Alicia Noble (Administrative Officer), Mrs Sophia Urbano (Registrar) and Mrs Heather Rickard (Assistant Librarian). The staff meet as a team weekly to read the Bible, pray and discuss the work of the College. A good team spirit has developed.

Teaching Staff

The following Faculty were lecturing in the College throughout 2012:

Semester One – Dr Tony Bird, Dr Greg Goswell, Dr Jared Hood, Dr Douglas Milne, Dr Felix Chung, Rev Nello Barbieri. Adjunct lecturers – Dr Karl Hood and Ms Wendy Bytheway.

Semester Two – Rev Peter Hastie, Dr Tony Bird, Dr Jared Hood, Dr Felix Chung, Rev Nello Barbieri, Adjunct Lecturers – Dr Douglas Milne, Dr Allan Harman, Rev Martin Pakula, Rev John Dekker, Ms Wendy Bytheway. MA Intensive – Dr Gerald Bray.

Teaching Program

The full program for the Graduate Diploma, Bachelor of Ministry, Bachelor of Theology and Master of Divinity has run throughout the year. In addition, two short courses have been run in each semester. Dr Greg Goswell also taught an MA(Theol) subject in Semester 1 on 'Preaching in Isaiah'. In Semester 2 Dr Gerald Bray taught a course on 'The History of Biblical Interpretation' for the MA(Theol) as an intensive from 13-17 August. Dr Goswell has also run a Hebrew Club that has been attended by students and ministers.

Post-graduate Seminars

Four post-graduate seminars have been scheduled for 2012. The first one took place in Semester One, and three others have occurred in Semester Two.

Academic Issues

Throughout 2012 the staff have considered a number of academic issues that have significant educational implications for the College. The staff made a submission to the ACT Academic Board on the issue of full on-line delivery of the Bachelor of Theology and Master of Divinity degrees in February 2012.

Members of the ACT consortium have been divided on the wisdom of this proposal. At the June Consortium almost half the participants expressed disquiet over some aspects of the proposal. Numbers of college principals believed that introducing full on-line degrees would have significant implications for the training of ministers for pastoral roles and community life. The Board of the ACT announced on 23 August 2012 that from 2013 onwards it will be possible to undertake the entire BTh and the MDiv by distance on-line.

This could create serious problems for us as a church in future years as the personal dimension of training is lost. We recently had an enquirer at the College who wanted to know whether he could enrol in the College degree program. When the Registrar told him that he would need a reference from a minister before he could be enrolled, he said: 'I do not have a minister because I do not go to church. I am an online Christian who wants to study Christianity.' We may see more of this attitude in the future. If such people graduate and then later try to become ministers on the basis of their formal qualifications, then the church could face some serious issues.

A further issue that has concerned the staff relates to the present academic load for students who are Presbyterian candidates. The Faculty has spent considerable time addressing this issue.

Course Restructure

The Faculty is conscious that over recent years the course loads for all students, especially candidates, have increased. In some cases the increases have been significant. The main reason behind the increase has been the decision by the Australian College of Theology to introduce the semester system several years ago. Subjects are now taken on a semester basis, as opposed to a full year, and consequently the demands imposed by assignments have in some cases almost doubled. This has meant that students are now engaged in considerably more research and writing than they were a decade or so ago. At the same time, the internal subjects required by the GAA College Committee have also increased, although only marginally.

During July-August 2012 the Faculty has met on several occasions to address the issue by finding ways to reduce the study and assessment loads of students to realistic and acceptable levels. The Faculty has decided to require candidates to undertake two less ACT subjects and four less internal ones with no candidate doing more than four subjects per semester.

Beginning in 2013 the College will introduce two week's of intensive mode study for first and second year candidates that will include Greek, Hebrew, Language/Grammar, Study, Learning and Research Skills, Biblical Theology, Polity and Apologetics. Students in their third and fourth years will be required to do Worship and Philosophy in intensive mode. All students will be assessed within the two-week period so that when the first semester begins, their only concern will be their ACT subjects. These will be limited to four.

Spiritual Formation

The College Faculty believes that the study of Christian theology must issue in godliness, worship and mission. To this end, we have sought to integrate a range of activities within the academic programs to facilitate this process. A voluntary student prayer meeting is held weekly. Chapel services are held daily where all the members of the College meet for prayer, praise, Bible reading and preaching. Staff and students have shared the preaching responsibility in Semester 2. In second half of this semester six final year students will be preaching through 2 Timothy to remind the student body of the urgency of Gospel ministry, the importance of faithfulness to God, and the attitudes and ministry skills that they will need as they enter the pastorate.

Rev Nello Barbieri plays a critical role in the life of the college and the wider church. As Assembly Training Officer he meets with students on an individual basis to mentor and prepare them for a life of Christian service in the ministry of the Word. The Training Officer meets with each Presbyterian candidate (15 in total) weekly for one hour, as well as a number of other students. He and Dr Greg Goswell have recently visited WA churches to conduct training for them and will also visit churches in Tasmania later this year. This maintains our connection with these states as required by the GAA.

Ministry Formation

In addition to the specific ACT course on this subject, which is taught by the Principal, the Training Officer also mentors seven candidates who are in the supervised field education program (SFE). He meets with each candidate weekly and maintains contact with their supervisors. All Presbyterian candidates are required to attend the annual College mission where they gain first-hand experience in preaching, leading public worship and Bible study groups, children's ministry, evangelism, and home visitation.

Candidate's wives

Throughout 2012, many of the wives of Presbyterian candidates have met regularly for Bible study, prayer, and mutual support. On occasions, they have invited guest speakers who have addressed them on important issues relating to their future ministries. The Principal's wife attends these meetings to provide support and encouragement to the group.

College Mission

In July 2012, Rev Nello Barbieri and Rev Peter Hastie led fifteen students on the College mission to Drouin Presbyterian Church to engage in a week of ministry. Students preached in a number of churches in Gippsland and engaged in evangelism in Drouin, Warragul, Bunyip and Garfield. They also conducted Bible Studies in Drouin and ran a children's program throughout the week. Students also visited home in the area, the local funeral director, an aged-care facility and received briefings from RE teachers in local schools, age care providers and the ministry leaders of the local church in Drouin. The mission culminated with an evangelistic event at a Men's Shed in Nilma North, where approximately 50 men attended a country-and-western evening where one of the students, Stuart Withers, preached. The College is grateful for the assistance of Rev Mark Smith and his wife, Danielle, in making the mission such a helpful exercise.

Ministry Conference

At our annual Ministry Conference in March, 110 people attended the program. The Rt Rev David Jones gave five addresses on The Letter of Jude and the importance of church planting. Dr John Wilson gave a stimulating presentation on the state of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria and proposals for spiritual renewal within the denomination. Ben Pfahlert, the National Director for MTS gave two addresses on the importance of discipleship-training and Rev Nello Barbieri spoke on discipling individuals. The conference also featured a guest panel consisting of Revs Neil Chambers, Bill Medley, Gerald Vanderwert and Don Elliot.

Staff in 2013

With the departure of Dr Greg Goswell in late 2012 and Dr Tony Bird taking sabbatical leave, Dr Bruce Winter, Dr Allan Harman, Dr Douglas Milne and Rev Martin Pakula have been invited to lecture at the College in Semesters 1 and 2 in 2013. The TEC has endorsed these arrangements.

Australian College of Theology

Rev Peter Hastie and Dr Jared Hood attended the annual Consortium Conference in Sydney in June 2012.

Professional Development

Dr Greg Goswell has taken study leave in Semester 2, 2012 and has visited Tyndale House, Cambridge. Dr Tony Bird will be on study leave for all 2013.

Need for Candidates

I have been impressed by the quality of the students that we have at the College, especially those who are graduating in 2012. The College has done a fine job in preparing them for the ministry. However, there are simply not enough of them. We need many more.

One of the pressing needs facing the church is the need for candidates from within the Presbyterian Church of Victoria. It should be of some concern that many of our students do not come from within the denomination. Further, quite a few of the candidates that do come from within the denomination tend to come from some predictable sources. It would be good if we saw a rise in the number of Presbyterian students from Victoria and Tasmania coming to the College to study for the ministry as well as an increase in women students and those who wish to be better equipped within their congregations in ministries of the Word that supported the minister. Jesus reminds us that the solution to this problem lies in persistent and effectual prayer: 'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest field.' (Matthew 9:37, 38)

Engagement with the Denomination

The College staff plays a significant role in the denomination. Apart from their work at the College, which is quite intense, they also maintain commitments in the wider church. Dr Jared Hood serves the Assembly as Business Convener and is an Interim Moderator for Essendon-Clifton Hill. Dr Tony Bird plays an active role in Donvale Presbyterian Church and Dr Felix Chung maintains active contacts with Chinese churches in Melbourne. Dr Greg Goswell attends Canterbury Presbyterian Church and serves as the Secretary for the GAA College Committee and has co-ordinated work for the GAA Reception of Ministers Committee. Rev Nello Barbieri attends Bundoora Presbyterian Church and is in constant contact with ministers of the church and runs seminars and consultancies on a regular basis. Dr Douglas Milne plays an active role in Canterbury church and leads a weekly Bible study. Rev Peter Hastie has attended a number of Presbyterian churches in the last few months, both in the city and in country centres like Morwell, Drouin, Eaglehawk and Kaniva-Nhill. He has also attended the Presbyteries of Melbourne North and Melbourne West and the Ministers' Family Camp at Phillip Island.

From July to November both staff and students will be visiting Presbyterian churches throughout the state, at no cost to the local churches, to preach and to share with the churches the ministry of the College in the life of the denomination. We have been pleased by the high rate of take-up of our invitation to serve the churches of Victoria in this way. We wish to build solid partnerships within the denomination all around the state.

Engagement with Wider Church

Since July 2012 the Principal has attended on behalf of the College the installation of Dr Brian Rosner as the Principal of Ridley College, The Charles Perry Memorial Lecture at Ridley College, The Ministry Training Scheme and Metro Conference at the Melbourne School of Theology, The Reformed Theological College in Geelong, The Melbourne School of Theology book launch for Dr Colin Kruse's commentary on

Romans, The Chinese Gospel Church (Uniting) in Lonsdale St, and has delivered a number of addresses at the Reformed Church of Australia conference at Box Hill. He has also attended on behalf of the College the annual Interserve Conference held at Ridley College.

The Principal

The Rev Peter Hastie moved to Melbourne in January, 2012. Up until early April he familiarized himself with the administration of the College. During this period he had a family bereavement in Sydney. From mid-April he took two month's long service leave as well as a month's annual leave. He began at the College in Melbourne on July 1, 2012. During his time overseas in April-May he visited The Master's Seminary in Los Angeles, Westminster Theological Seminary, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Capitol Hill Baptist Church and 9 Marks Ministries, Washington. In each of these places he conducted interviews with staff members about their views on the future directions of theological education.

Thank you

I would like to record my thanks to the TEC, especially its Convener, Rev Neil Chambers, for its warm support of me, the staff and students of the College. I am deeply grateful for their constant encouragement. I would also like to thank the staff in the Church Office for their helpfulness, both to me and to the College. I am particularly indebted to Michael Ellison and Dr John Wilson for their generous assistance.

The Faculty and the staff at the College are a very able team who perform cheerfully at a high level, even though they often work under greater constraints than other institutions. They have a very high commitment to the church and to the mission that we have been charged with by the Assembly. I would like to record my special thanks to our hard-working and friendly office staff, Mrs Alicia Noble and Mrs Sophia Urbano, who make it a pleasure for staff and students to come to the College.

Peter Hastie
PRINCIPAL

TRUSTS CORPORATION (Min. 26)

General

The Trusts Corporation was formed by resolution of the General Assembly having been empowered to do so by the State of Victoria which enacted the Presbyterian Trusts Act 1890. The main functions of the Trusts Corporation are to:

- Hold in trust the property, including money, belonging to the Church and also to hold congregational property where it has been so requested by the relevant congregation
- Establish a register of Trustees of Congregations
- Facilitate the conveyance and transfer of church property.

The Trusts Corporation is a corporate body and must act in accordance with the prevailing legislation including the provisions of the Trustee Act (Victoria) 1958 and the Presbyterian Trusts Act 1890. The legislation sets out the manner in which trustees in general and the Trusts Corporation in particular must act. Responsibilities and obligations of the Trusts Corporation therefore include:

- Exercising care, diligence and skill in investing funds held in trust
- Exercising its powers in the best interests of all present and future beneficiaries of each trust
- Acting impartially towards beneficiaries and between different classes of beneficiaries

Under the 1890 Act as amended the Trusts Corporation may in its discretion invest funds either separately or in a Common Fund.

With very few exceptions, the Trusts Corporation does not have authority over the use of the funds, except to see that the funds are expended consistently with the intended purpose. It is the committees of the General Assembly and the congregations and presbyteries which have the power to authorise expenditure in accordance with the terms of the trust. The Trusts Corporation is responsible to manage and invest the funds which it holds in trust for the benefit of these other bodies.

Membership of the Trusts Corporation

The members of the Board of Investment and Finance form the membership of the Trusts Corporation.

Investment Funds Held

The **funds held** by the Trusts Corporation include:

- i) Trust funds held on behalf of the General Assembly and its Committees
- ii) Trust Funds held on behalf of Congregations and PWMU
- iii) Sites Reserve Funds
- iv) Amounts held in relation to the Capital Fund
- v) Deposits held on behalf of Congregations
- vi) The Common Fund Reserve
- vii) The Common Fund Income Suspense Account.

Broadly speaking, **investment of these funds** is channelled in one of two ways at the discretion of the Trusts Corporation under the powers given to it by the 1890 Act (as amended). Funds may be either:

- a) separately invested on behalf of each individual trust. Each trust receives the income and capital gains or losses which arise from the investment of the funds which are made in the name of the trust, and
- b) invested in the Common Fund. These funds are grouped together and invested as a whole. It is not possible to identify individual investments relating to each trust. The Trusts Corporation in accordance with the 1890 Act (as amended 1965) determines the interest rate to be applied to each different type of fund. Capital gains and losses are borne by the Common Fund and are not charged against the individual trust balances.

The **Common Fund** is simply a convenient mechanism for investing smaller sums collectively. By grouping them together an appropriate diversification of investment can be achieved to reduce the risk, while maximising income potential through having larger sums to invest.

Included in the Common Fund is a Reserve account to which any capital gains and losses are charged. This is called the **Common Fund Reserve**. The Common Fund Reserve provides a level of protection for the funds invested in the Common Fund against the loss of capital in times when the investment market experiences a downturn. The Common Fund Reserve also generates additional income which can be distributed across the funds which are invested in the Common Fund.

Investment returns generated by the Common Fund (including the Reserve) are distributed as interest to the beneficiaries of the various trusts at rates determined by the Trusts Corporation.

Funds in the hands of the Trusts Corporation will generally be **invested separately** where the funds are sufficiently large. The level which has been established in relation to Sites Reserve balances is \$1,000,000. Sites Reserve balances exceeding this figure will be invested separately. For other funds, a variety of factors are considered in determining whether to invest the funds separately.

Funds Held for Ministry

The investments which are managed for the benefit of the Committees of the Assembly and other church bodies are shown in the table below. These represent the funds available to the church for the support of its ministry. The Assembly has allocated the funds to each committee and given the committees authority to spend the funds within the specific purposes relevant to each trust and in accordance with the committee's regulations.

	June 2011	Balance as at 30 June 2012			% of Total	% Change
	Total Funds	Common Fund	Separate Investments	Total Funds		
Sites Reserve	18,200,270	9,878,764	6,514,563	16,393,327	23%	-10%
Social Services	15,142,340	384,994	15,686,029	16,071,023	20%	6%
GA - Beneficiary & Special	8,877,563	8,349,240	1,270,549	9,619,789	11%	8%
Congregations	9,316,732	474,526	7,565,030	8,039,556	12%	-14%
GA Operations	6,606,183	6,276,304	-	6,276,304	8%	-5%
Ministry Development	5,331,504	5,132,286	-	5,132,286	7%	-4%
Theological Education	4,897,786	4,964,768	-	4,964,768	6%	1%
Health & Community						
Chaplaincy	2,793,296	1,608,009	1,073,758	2,681,766	3%	-4%
Church Planting	2,017,834	2,001,149	-	2,001,149	3%	-1%
Maintenance of the Ministry	1,922,709	1,958,538	-	1,958,538	2%	2%
Christian Education & Nurture	1,157,763	1,236,500	-	1,236,500	1%	7%
METRO	838,164	863,383	-	863,383	1%	3%
APWM (Victoria)	870,527	862,245	-	862,245	1%	-1%
PWMU	573,143	662,297	-	662,297	1%	16%
Presbyterian Youth in Victoria	423,922	413,736	-	413,736	1%	-2%
Church & Nation	89,322	344,738	-	344,738	0%	286%
State News	48,470	50,471	-	50,471	0%	4%
	79,107,526	45,461,948	32,109,929	77,571,877	100%	-2%

Funds held in Trust on behalf of Committees, Congregations and other church bodies

Annual Results

The annual interest rates paid on amounts invested in the Common Fund for the year ended 30 June 2012 were:

Perpetual and Specific Trusts	12%
General Trusts - first \$600,000	12%
General Trusts - balance above \$600,000	4%
Sites Reserve accounts and Deposits - first \$600,000	8%
Sites Reserve accounts and Deposits - balance above \$600,000	4%

Common Fund interest rates paid on funds

In addition to the funds held on behalf of committees and other bodies the Common Fund Reserve which decreased from \$23,059,054 to \$19,902,054; and the Income Suspense account of \$4,866,814 also form part of the investments.

Common Fund Movements

		\$
Opening Balance 1 July 2011		74,759,449
Net Income after expenses	4,676,756	
Capital Gains/(Losses)	(5,316,844)	
		(640,088)
Distributions		(4,293,309)
Net Increase in Committee & Other Funds		405,483
Closing Balance 30 June 2012		70,231,535

The investment markets continue to be challenging with the ASX 300 accumulation index declining by 7% for the year. The performance of the Common Fund was approximately negative 1% for the year.

The total funds invested by the Trusts Corporation at 30 June 2012 was \$102,341,463 (2011 \$109,610,510).

The Trusts Corporation will be happy to answer questions on the accounts at the Assembly, but because of the amount of detail in them requests that notice be given so that accurate and full answers can be provided.

Investment Committee

Further to the report to the Assembly last year, the Investment Committee has completed its review of investment objectives and strategic asset allocation. As a result of the review the decision has been taken to increase the allocation to International Equities to a more meaningful size, and increase the allocation to fixed interest with a corresponding reduction in the allocation to Australian equities. The new asset allocation is as follows:

Asset Classes	Benchmark %	Range %
Australian Equities	40.0	37.5-42.5
International Equities	10.0	9.0-11.0
Fixed Interest Securities	45.0	42.5-47.5
Cash	5.0	3.0-7.0
TOTAL	100.0	

The adjustment of the portfolio to the new allocation is currently being implemented.

Insurance

The insurances for 2012/13 have been renewed with Ansvar Insurance Ltd. Overall premiums for policies for which the Trusts Corporation is responsible have increased by approximately 5% from the previous year.

Congregations are reminded that the local Board of Management is responsible for ensuring that adequate property insurance cover is arranged for church buildings. Each year the Trusts Corporation negotiates terms on a policy with Ansvar, through OAMPS Insurance Brokers, which is available to all Boards for this cover. Although the premium increases with respect to this policy have been significant this year, the Trusts Corporation still believes this is competitively priced, especially when considering the terms which have been negotiated on this policy. Boards are free to participate in this program or arrange the property cover elsewhere.

Bequests

The following bequests were received by the Trusts Corporation during the year:

Bequest from	Amount	Purpose
Mary Alison Western	\$49,070	Mornington Presbyterian Church 'to assist in the establishment of a church building in which to worship'.

Rhoda Cromie Hodgins	\$10,000	Tallygaroopna Presbyterian Church for use in its Sunday School program and for the maintenance of the church buildings and grounds.
Irene Helen Hicks	\$31,168.56	To the Presbyterian Church of Victoria

As the will of Irene Helen Hicks was drawn prior to church union, 75% of the bequest was remitted to the Uniting Church in accordance with the provisions of the Presbyterian Church in Australia Act 1974. The Trusts Corporation recommends that the remaining \$7,792.14 be allocated to the General Assembly for general purposes.

Scots Church Properties Trust

As reported to the Commission of Assembly in May this year, the Hon Justice Bruce McPherson, retired judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland and member of Ann St Presbyterian Church in Brisbane, has been selected as mediator to assist the Trusts Corporation and trustees of the Scots Church Properties Trust to work together to try and formulate joint questions for submission to the Attorney-General and the Court (See minute 63.1 of the October 2011 Assembly BB page 130).

The Trusts Corporation has prepared a comprehensive paper detailing the questions and issues as well as stating its position.

A date of September 7 has been agreed for the mediation.

In November 2011 a distribution for the year ended 30 June 2011 of \$615,790 was received from the Scots Church Properties Trust. A further amount of \$502,359.53 was received at the same time which was stated to be an adjustment for prior years. The second amount was not shown in the 2011 audited accounts of the Scots Church Properties Trust. To date the Trusts Corporation has not been provided with an audited statement of that distribution. The Trusts Corporation is uncertain of the precise nature of that distribution and how it has been funded. Until these matters become clear, the Trusts Corporation does not consider it appropriate to distribute the funds between the Ministry Development Committee and the Church Planting Committee in the usual manner. The funds are being held for the time being as unallocated in the General Assembly accounts.

Andrew Slater
CHAIRMAN

COMMUNICATION 1 (Min. 69) PRESBYTERIAN INLAND MISSION

2012 Communication to the State Churches.

On 11/11/1901, John Flynn wrote to his father:

Dear Father,

I will be 21 this day fortnight, and have been thinking that I should give you my thoughts concerning the future. It is four or five years since I first got the idea of becoming a minister. Since then of course my views have changed considerably, but the more I think, the more I see the beauty and grandeur of Christianity, and the hollowness of human life considered as complete in itself.

If Jesus of Nazareth be indeed the Son of Almighty God; if He was in reality 'God with us' showing us the Father; if it is a fact that we only sojourn on this earth for a while, and then appear before the Creator of the universe; if it be really true that the Power who made us desires us to live in constant communion with Him, well, why are these truths not more responded to than they are? If it is true that Jesus is God's Son, and that through Him 'whosoever-will' may approach the Father Himself, what more honourable calling can a man follow than getting his fellows to realise this fact: and act upon it?

*Your affectionate son,
John*

This year we celebrate the centenary of the formation of our organisation's predecessor, the Australian Inland Mission, and over one hundred years of continuous inland ministry by the Presbyterian Church of Australia. Our ambition and delight is still the same as John Flynn expressed to his father. Because we recognise who Jesus is, we want to tell others about Him and urge them to act upon that knowledge.

Centenary

Rev Dr John Flynn had a heart pulsating with a God-given vision for the gospel to our inland folk which flowed over into practical help of so many kinds - reading materials, better mail service, friendship in the midst of silence and loneliness, medical help, nursing homes, hospitals, Aerial Medical Service (later RFDS) ... a ministry carried on today by our own Presbyterian Inland Mission. It's a story of one of our own, a very special one. A story of a life dedicated to God and the nurture of others. A story to be told!! (Quote from Rev Robert Benn – Flynn historian and PIM speaker)

There will be three main events held this year which will mark the Centenary.
September 22nd The Scots Church, Melbourne (Where the first AIM rally was held)
September 23rd North Sydney Presbyterian Church (Where Flynn was an elder)
October 7th Beltana, SA. (where Flynn was a Missioner and much of the AIM philosophy was born)

Rev Robert Benn, has undertaken a great deal of research on the AIM and is available to give his exciting presentation with hundreds of photographs to Churches, Presbyteries, Rotary Clubs and many other groups.

We urge congregations and ministers to consider marking this special year in some way and considering ways in which you may be able to invigorate your gospel efforts

after the encouragement of the ideals and ambitions of this organisation. We also wish to mark this occasion by setting up a special fund which will be used especially for the establishment of a new church in the heart of Australia – Alice Springs; the purchase of a church building in Darwin and support for Patrol teams.

More details can be gained from the PIM website page www.pim.org.au.

Highpoints from 2011

We are thankful to Almighty God for the following highpoints for 2011.

1. The PIM has been able, on behalf of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, to take the gospel of the Lord Jesus to the remote parts of our Commonwealth. The Word of Truth has been proclaimed in countless situations and relationships have been built, which we pray will bring fruit for the Lord Jesus in His time.
2. Our biggest asset, our patrol teams, press on for the sake of the Lord Jesus whether times are easy or difficult.
3. The PIM Mission Church in Darwin (NT) continues to consolidate, and has planted a second congregation in Bees Creek to minister to the growing rural area. This congregation is on the fringe of where the new City of Weddell will be established.
4. Through many hundreds of thousands of kilometres travelled, our patrol teams have not had any serious crashes or other mishaps.
5. Our last year's communication asked you to pray for our increasing financial needs and challenges. Through much prayer, hard work, and reorganisation we have seen the Lord's provision for our needs at every turn.
6. We continually thank God for the support received from congregations, PWA/PWMU groups, men's organisations, PIM Presbytery advocates and enthusiastic individuals.

Staffing

We give thanks to God for the zeal of our patrol teams. They travel vast distances without the comforts of home with little by way of encouragement. Their desire and their reward is to see some advance in the work of the Kingdom of God as He works through their efforts.

At the end of 2011 we were very sorry to lose the services of Derek and Joan Douglas (Charleville), and pray that the Lord will bless them as they move into different spheres of service.

David and Gae McDonald have been appointed to the Flynn Patrol in South Australia. They will live in Whyalla. We expect them to be able to take up their appointment in mid 2012 after they have raised sufficient financial support.

We are grateful for the ongoing work of Mr Mike Timmins whose ministry as the PIM Office Manager is invaluable to us. As part of our cost saving measures, Mike has graciously allowed us to move the office into his home.

Finance

It was another very challenging year for PIM finances. Not only were our finances hit by fickle financial markets, but so were the finances of some of our regular donors which made it difficult for them to support the work.

Amazingly, and through prayer and some determined management of the situation, we ended the year with a deficit of just \$16,000 with a total expenditure of \$530,000 (previous year \$601,000).

Measures undertaken have included:

- Prayer
- Not filling vacancies immediately.
- Requiring new patrol padres to raise their own support for stipend (expenses still paid by PIM)
- Moving PIM Office into the Office Manager's home.
- Pruning of administrative expenses.
- Re-vamping of On Track, revising its mode of distribution and updating other forms of publicity.
- Establishing the Flynn Fund for development of the ministry of PIM.

The Lord continues as our provider, and we ask the Presbyterian Churches of Australia to commit our financial needs to the Lord Himself in prayer.

Committee

There have been no changes to the Committee since our last Communication. The Full Committee meets annually and the Executive meets monthly by phone conference.

Up to date information on this ministry including points for prayer and details of Centenary celebrations can be found on the PIM web site.

www.pim.org.au

We give sincere thanks to God for all those who, out of a heart for the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, have prayed, served, promoted or given to support the work of PIM beyond the furthest fences.

For Christ and the Continent,

Robert Duncanson, Convener
convener@pim.org.au

Stuart Bonnington, Superintendent
superintendent@pim.org.au

PRESBYTERIAN INLAND MISSION
Supplementary to Communication 1

After five or six years of prayer, planning and hard work the Presbyterian Inland Mission is delighted to be able to report that we have been able to appoint Keith Bell to take up the position of church planter in Alice Springs.

The establishment of a Presbyterian Church in Alice Springs is a daunting missionary challenge. It will take all the resources that the church planter and his wife can muster, and will require the committed prayer support of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

It is anticipated that Keith and Jenny Bell will move to Alice Springs at the beginning of April 2013.

R S Duncanson
CONVENER

COMMUNICATION 2 (Min. 73)

**FROM PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS NETWORK
OF VICTORIA (PSNV)**

COMMUNICATION 3 (Min. 74)

Re: Appointment of Commissioners to 2013 GA

COMMUNICATION 4 (Min.75)

Re: Moderator-General Nominate 2013 GA

COMMUNICATION 5 (Min. 76)

Re: Five Yearly Visitation

COMMUNICATION 6 (Min. 77)

COMMUNICATION 7 (Min. 78)

COMMUNICATION 8 (Min. 60)

PresAID Presbyterians Assisting In Development

Moderator and All members of the Assembly,

PresAID was set up by the General Assembly of Australia in 2007 to provide direct financial assistance to sister churches in the developing world for works of mercy and the more effective preaching of the Gospel.

Since then, our congregations throughout Australia have contributed more than \$660,000 from their Christmas Day and Good Friday offerings each year to projects in Malawi, Pakistan, Sudan, Zambia, Zimbabwe, India, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Vanuatu, Indonesia, Timor Leste and Namibia.

Projects supported have included famine relief, flood relief, orphan and vulnerable children care, hospital upgrading, water reticulation, HIV/AIDS projects, Christian schools, student scholarships, building churches, theological education, provision of vehicles, publication programs, student accommodation and Bible translation.

This Christmas we are planning to help an exciting variety of worthy causes, namely:

- **\$6,000** for training two students for the ministry from Zimbabwe at Chasefu Theological College, Zambia.
- **\$3,000** for upgrading facilities at the Bible College of the Evangelical Reformed Church of Myanmar.
- **\$15,000** for sponsorship of students and establishment of a publication program at the Bangladesh Bible Correspondence Institute of the Reformed Presbyterian Church.
- **\$36,000** for building three churches of the Church of Central Africa – Presbyterian between Lusaka and Chipata.

We are therefore looking to the Lord to provide some \$60,000 through the generosity of His people in the 2012 PresAID Christmas Day Appeal. If more than this amount is raised we will be able as a national church to do even more to assist in the extension of Christ's Kingdom.

We would be grateful if the Assembly would encourage all congregations to participate in the forthcoming 2012 PresAID Christmas Day Appeal and all our people to give generously to it.

Thank you for your help and co-operation.
Yours sincerely in Christ,

Rev Bob Thomas
CONVENER

OVERTURE 1 (Min. 47)

From: R L Carner, J Rickard, M Fagan, Kyung R Ee, Mr A Zirngast
Re: Strategy Committee Proposal

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

In the light of:

- a) It is essential that the Assembly, every few years, needs to hear the concerns of the church while fully respecting the sovereignty and integrity of every presbytery and parish. This is not to manufacture a 'Top Down' mandate for change, but an attempt to create a focal point for the collection of information from the heart of our congregations and presbyteries, the grass roots level.
- b) Many ecclesiastical (& secular) organisations operate from structures that served the needs of the past compounded by ad hoc needs that become enshrined into codes and common practice. They remain in place and have the potential of inhibiting ways of addressing contemporary issues.
- c) The findings of this committee will contribute to the process of increasing the efficiency and focus of the church. It is our prayer that this endeavour will consolidate the collective ideas regarding how the Presbyterian Church will establish and own a strategy on how we are to approach the next 5, 10, 15 and more years to come.
- d) The truth that any organisation that is unwilling to constantly assess their procedures is an organisation destined to decline. And that failure to assess current paradigms for some may be a sign of yielding to fear.
- e) This Overture is intended to establish a research team, to be the 'collective ear' for the church; individuals, presbyteries, committees and any agencies the current church. The initial goal is to identify the most pressing needs and how the current structures help, or just function in a plenary manner.
- f) Change is intimidating, it is threatening and is seldom welcomed! But any organisation that is unwilling to constantly assess their procedures is an organisation destined to decline. Review of current paradigms is not wrong, the discovery may be that no change is necessary. Failure to assess for some may be a sign of yielding to fear.
- g) If the need for significant or radical change is discovered, the code and financial (trusts) that can impact upon change will be examined. No mandates will be brought before the GAV, rather important and changeable issues presented for further assessment and action.
- h) The PROJECTED OUTCOME of this process is that the collective mind of the church will be heard. Existing structures will be assessed and their servants commended where appropriate. Recommendations for change will be presented as just that, 'recommendations', not mandates. Deliverances, Motions for change will be presented as further projects to be considered before a final decision is sought through the GAV.

- i) The OBJECTIVE: This is a large brief but it should be attainable over the appointed two years. Not all of the items listed will receive nor require extensive attention. Other issues may be identified in the course the research.
- j) Answers Questions that are sought (but not limited to) are listed in **j through w**.
- k) This project may be seen as a revisiting of the former 'Strategy Committee'. Structures (trellis) of the church will be reassessed. The roles of committees will be assessed and alternatives / modifications sought if helpful. Some of the questions that we will seek to answer:
 - l) Should some committees be combined or more added?
 - m) Should some functions of any committee be jettisoned as relics of the past or insufficient benefits to justify retaining its service?
 - n) Should some functions of a committee be transferred to another committee?
 - o) Are the financial resources of the PCV released in the most efficient and productive way to enhance the proclamation of the Gospel?
 - p) How long should the GAV continue to support unviable churches? (how do we define unviable?)
 - q) Do we have 'subsidised' churches that due to their unique nature, should remain entitled to long term support with little expectation of them becoming viable?
 - r) Are there alternatives for ministers who have faithfully served the church for many years but for some reason, they cannot be effective in front line ministry? What is the continued responsibility of the GAV?
 - s) Are current Presbytery Boundaries helpful or should changes be considered?
 - t) If the current need for ministers continues to lag behind the supply of ministers through PTC, do the options include importing from other states or overseas? The later has a large expense that probably cannot be covered by many vacant churches. What options are available?
 - u) Have adequate procedures and safety mechanisms been put in place to assess and qualify supply preachers and private appointments?
 - v) How can training opportunities (PD) and mentoring relationships be provided, encouraged and financed if ones parish is not able?
 - w) Do we open dialogue on the benefits of or disadvantages of regional churches vs neighbourhood churches?

Now therefore the Overturists humbly overture the General Assembly to take these premises into consideration and:

1. Establish a team as a Strategy Committee to research, to be the 'collective ear' for the church; individuals, presbyteries, committees and any agencies the current church. The initial goal is to identify the most pressing needs and how the current structures help, or just function in a plenary manner.
2. Appoint the following members to the Strategy Committee; Rev Dr Robert L Carner, Rev Gerald Vanderwert, Rev Kyung Rae Ee, Rev J Rickard, Mr A Zirngast. Proposed Convener, Rev Dr R L Carner. The Committee shall have the power to conscript adjunct members as diverse skill bases are required.
3. Identify the process: Information shall be obtained via (but not limited to): surveys, informal and formal interviews, informal and formal dialogues with members of presbyteries and individual churches. Up to two committee meetings will be held each year with the anticipation that most meetings will take place over conference calls and other electronic media.
4. Declare that the Committee shall meet and report for a period of no less than two years. A progress report shall be presented to the GAV in 2013 with a goal of the final report and recommendations being presented in 2014 if possible. If it is determined in 2014 that ongoing work may be helpful, the Assembly may re-appoint the committee or do otherwise.
5. Prior to the opening night of the GAV in 2013 & 2014, or during the GAV, there will be an elective/optional workshop to present and interact with the commissioners on the findings.
6. Acknowledge that due to the privilege and advantage of travel through parishes and presbyteries provided through the moderatorial and MDC role, the convener shall take advantage of the appointed travels to listen to members, compile observations, concerns and recommendations.

Or do otherwise as in their wisdom they consider appropriate.

Rev Dr Robert Carner to state the overture.

OVERTURE 2 (Min. 84)

**From: the Board of Investment and Finance
Re: The Clerks of the General Assembly**

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

In the light of:

- a) The Clerk of Assembly is appointed by the Assembly.
- b) The Assembly in October 2006 (Min. 88.1), as part of the agreed Terms of Settlement for the Clerk of Assembly, made provision for periodic review of the appointment including duties, remuneration and performance
- c) The Assembly established a committee for this purpose: 'entitled Clerkship Review Committee, consisting of the Moderator (convener), the Law Agent, the convener of the Business committee, the convener of the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee, the chairman of the Board of Investment and Finance and the two immediate past moderators'
- d) The Commission of Assembly in May 2007 acted on a report and recommendation from the Clerkship Review Committee to appoint the Clerk for a further period of five years from 1 January 2011 but is not obligated to conduct a further review until four years after the beginning of the current appointment
- e) Apart from the Clerkship Review Committee, there is no person or body to whom the Clerk or the Deputy Clerk may report or from whom either of them is able to seek support for the tasks they are required to perform, or advice about how they perform their duties
- f) In August 2011 the Clerk sought the help of the BIF in restructuring his remuneration, acknowledging that 'there is no body or committee for such approach' nor any specific authorisation to make such request to the BIF.
- g) The BIF brought the matter before the Assembly on behalf of the Clerk in October 2011, despite there being no obvious provision for this in the Code. The report to the Assembly stated: 'The way in which the current appointment was made over several meetings of Assembly was (in retrospect) rather piecemeal and not as well integrated as it might have been'.
- h) It would be beneficial both for the Clerks and the Assembly to address this oversight in governance and specify the mechanisms for support and administration of the Clerks

Now therefore the Board of Investment and Finance humbly overtures the Assembly to take these premises into consideration by expanding the responsibilities of the Clerkship Review Committee and renaming it to 'The Clerkship Committee' with the following regulations:

Clerkship Committee Regulations

1. There shall be a committee of the General Assembly to be called the Clerkship Committee ('the Committee') consisting of the Moderator (convener), the Law Agent, the convener of the Business committee, the convener of the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee, the chairman of the Board of Investment and Finance and the two immediate past moderators.
2. The purpose of the committee is to provide pastoral and other support for the Clerk and to administer the Clerk's terms of settlement.
3. The functions of the Committee shall include –
 - a. Providing counsel, pastoral care and support to the Clerk;
 - b. Providing a body from whom the Clerk can seek advice between meetings of the Assembly;
 - c. To receive annual reports from the Clerk on the performance of duties as determined by the Assembly and specified in the 'Statement of Duties' as published by the Assembly from time to time;
 - d. In consultation with the BIF to recommend to the Assembly the remuneration to be paid to the Clerk ;
 - e. To receive and determine any requests for leave made by the Clerk;
 - f. To appoint an Acting Clerk whenever the Clerk is on leave, ill or otherwise unable to perform the duties of his office.
 - g. To perform the role of the Clerkship Review Committee as specified in the Terms of Settlement for the Clerk of Assembly.
4. The Committee shall only meet as and when required but shall meet at least once during the year prior to the meeting of the Assembly for that year.
5. In these regulations:
The Assembly means the General Assembly of Victoria
The Clerk means the person elected to that office by the Assembly pursuant to provisions contained in the Code and shall also mean, where appropriate, the Deputy Clerk.

Or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

To be stated by Andrew Slater and Edward de Zilwa

OVERTURE 3 (Min. 30)

**From the Rev K Maxwell, Rev P Seiler, Elder J Finster, Rev J Playfoot
and Rev K Martin.**

Re: Federal Vision/ Auburn Avenue Theologies

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria

Let this overture show that:

- a) there is a theology commonly known as 'Federal Vision,' or 'Auburn Avenue Theology'
- b) this theology has caused considerable confusion and disruption among the churches and ministers of the PCA (particularly in NSW and QLD) and has now reached Victoria.
- c) this theology appears to have significant implications for the key theological areas of:- regeneration, election, atonement, justification, adoption and the efficacy of baptism in salvation.

Now we humbly overture the General Assembly to take these premises into consideration and appoint an ad hoc committee to:

Investigate the soteriology of the Federal Vision/Auburn Avenue theologies and determine whether these viewpoints and formulations conform with or are compatible with the system of doctrine taught in the Westminster Confession of Faith as read in the light of the Declaratory Statement, whether they are hostile to or strike at the very heart of the gospel, and present a declaration or statement regarding the issues raised by these viewpoints to the 2013 GAV.

or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate

Rev K Maxwell and Rev P Seiler to present the Overture.

PETITION 1 (Min. 44)

From: The Presbytery of Kilnoorat

Re: Dissolution of the North Warrnambool congregation

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

This petition shows that:

1. There is a congregation called North Warrnambool (trading as North Community Church).
2. At a congregational meeting held on the 7th of February 2010 the following motion was passed:
'The congregation instructs the session clerk to advise Presbytery in writing that the congregation resolves to discontinue services at North Community Church and request that Sunday 21st February 2010 be made the final service of thanksgiving and be attended by a Presbytery representative.'
The Presbytery agreed to this and the last service was held on Sunday, 21st February 2010.
3. The North Community Church was a church plant of the Presbytery of Kilnoorat but after five years of faithful service and numbers remaining around the original 20-25 persons, it was felt that viability would never be achieved. Most of the congregation are now part of St Johns Warrnambool congregation.
4. The North Community Church never owned a church building and met at Kings College Warrnambool. This location is 4km from the main Warrnambool Presbyterian Church.

Now therefore, the Presbytery of Kilnoorat humbly petition the General Assembly to take these premises into consideration and agree with the decision of the Presbytery of Kilnoorat taken on the 8th May, 2012, to dissolve the congregation (Rule 4.90).

Or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

The petition is to be presented by Rev Peter Phillips and Rev Miles Fagan.

PETITION 2 (Min. 45)

From: The Presbytery of North Western Victoria

Re: Subdivision and sale of part of the Bendigo Manse property

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

This petition shows that:

- a) The Manse of the Bendigo Presbyterian Church is situated at 4 Drechsler Street, Flora Hill (Allotment 482N in Section H, County of Sandhurst, Parish of Bendigo) comprising a land area of approximately 2075 square metres.
- b) The rear yard behind the Manse is very large (approximately 55 metres by 20 metres), is not able to be accessed by any vehicle but only on foot beside and through the Manse itself, and is surplus to the use of the resident Minister and congregation at Bendigo.
- c) The Bendigo congregation unanimously agreed to a recommendation of its Board of Management that an area measuring approximately 20 metres by 20 metres at the southern end of the Manse yard be subdivided and sold at an agreed price to a neighbour whose property backs on to the Manse yard.
- d) The Presbytery of North Western Victoria agreed (minute 120608.14) in principle to the sale of this portion of the land and requested approval from the Trusts Corporation for the sale to proceed.
- e) The Trusts Corporation has advised the Presbytery of its decision (minute 216/12) that the approval of the Assembly is required for this to take place.

Now therefore the Presbytery of North Western Victoria humbly petitions the General Assembly to take these premises into consideration and approve the subdivision and sale of the said portion of land from the Bendigo Manse at 4 Drechsler Street, Flora Hill (Allotment 482N in Section H, County of Sandhurst, Parish of Bendigo) in accordance with Board of Investment & Finance regulations 9 and 10(a) and (b) or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate

This petition is to be presented by Rev Philip Burns and Rev John Sutherland.

PETITION 3 (Min. 46)

**From: the Presbytery of Flinders
Re: Use of the former Seaford manse**

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria

This petition shows that:

3. There exists a property at 12 Erwin Drive, Seaford, which was used as a manse site in connection with the former Seaford congregation under the terms of the Model Trust Deed.
4. The General Assembly agreed to the decision of the Presbytery of Flinders to dissolve the Seaford congregation (GAV Min 98, 2011) and granted permission to the Presbytery of Flinders to proceed with the sale of the manse (GAV Min 99, 2011).
5. The Presbytery of Flinders has allowed the manse to be occupied by a candidate for the ministry currently undertaking an SFE placement at Frankston Presbyterian Church, until such time as it proceeds to a sale (Presbytery Min 12.02.28.10.6.2).
6. The residence of a gospel worker in the former Seaford manse preserves gospel witness in that suburb.
7. A Bible study was held in the former Seaford manse in 2012, and Session plans for this to continue.
8. The nature of the ministry opportunities at Frankston, the strategic location of the former Seaford manse, and the opportunity for the continuation of gospel ministry in Seaford lead Presbytery to judge that it would be premature to proceed with the sale when the manse could be used for gospel work in the immediate area.
9. Frankston Presbyterian Church has received a provisional appointment for an exit student in 2013.
10. The use of the former Seaford manse would ease the financial burden on Frankston Presbyterian Church as it proceeds with plans for a second worker, and make it less dependent on Ministry Development Committee funding.

Now therefore the Presbytery of Flinders humbly petitions the General Assembly to take these premises into consideration and

- Notwithstanding GAV Min 99, 2011, and in the light of changed circumstances, permit the Presbytery of Flinders to withdraw from the sale of the former Seaford manse, so that the property may be used instead for ministry purposes with the Frankston Parish.
- Permit the property at 12 Erwin Drive, Seaford, to be used as a manse site in conjunction with the Frankston congregation under the terms of the Model Trust Deed.

or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

This petition is to be presented by Rev John Dekker and Rev Bill Medley

PETITION 4 (Min. 71)

**From: the Presbytery of Maroondah
Re: Rev Brian Harvey Seat on Presbytery**

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria

This petition shows that:

Whereas the Rev Brian Harvey is a minister of the Presbyterian Church with a certificate of status from Maroondah Presbytery.

Whereas the Rev Brian Harvey has been appointed as CENC Youth Ministry Director by the Commission of Assembly on 1st May 2012.

Now therefore, the Presbytery of Maroondah humbly petitions the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria to take these premises into consideration and grant the Rev Brian Harvey a seat on the presbytery in which he is residing as long as the appointment lasts in accordance with the provision of rule 4.3(g).

Or do otherwise as the Assembly in its wisdom may deem fit.

Petition to be presented by Rev Andrew Venn and Elder Douglas Fraser.

PETITION 5 (Min. 65)

From the Presbytery of Benalla

Re: Dissolution of the Tallangatta Congregation

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria

This petition shows that:

- a) There is a congregation called Tallangatta.
- b) The congregation at Tallangatta has been in a long period of decline, from the early 1990s and into the 2000s, with attendances at Tallangatta averaging 6-7 per Sunday.
- c) In December 2008 the Presbytery of Benalla was informed that regular worship services at Tallangatta and Dederang would cease as of 31 December 2008.
- d) In January 2009 the Presbytery of Benalla conducted a special visitation to the Parish of Tallangatta/Dederang to ascertain how regular worship services could be maintained in the parish.
- e) After examining various options the Presbytery was unable to maintain regular worship services in a manner suitable to the needs of the congregation at Tallangatta.
- f) In March 2009, the Presbytery of Benalla called a Congregational meeting at Tallangatta to inform the congregation of their decisions. At that meeting the congregation unanimously agreed to continue to meet as a Bible Study Fellowship group sharing leadership among themselves, and that a Minister from the presbytery would conduct communion on a regular basis. The situation would be reviewed in 12 months.
- g) In August 2009, the Presbytery of Benalla appointed a sub-committee to examine the possibility of combining Tallangatta with the Parish of Wodonga. This possibility was considered unsatisfactory to the remaining 3-4 members of the congregation still meeting regularly.
- h) In November 2009, the Parish Moderator met with the congregation to review the situation. It was evident to all that the congregation could not continue.
- i) All members on the congregational roll were given Certificates of Transfer and encouraged to join other evangelical churches in the area.
- j) The Presbytery of Benalla resolved at a Special Meeting of Presbytery in June 2012 meeting (minute: 12.06.30) to petition to the General Assembly of Victoria to dissolve the congregation of Tallangatta.

Now therefore the Presbytery of Benalla humbly petitions the General Assembly of Victoria to take these premises into consideration and agree with the decision of the Presbytery of Benalla taken on the 29th of June 2012 to dissolve the congregation of Tallangatta (rule 4.90),

or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

Rev Kevin Maxwell and Rev Ken Martin were appointed to present the petition.

PETITON 6 (Min. 66)

From the Presbytery of Benalla

Re: Sale of the Tallangatta Property

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria

This petition shows that:

- a) the congregation of Tallangatta has been dissolved and Sunday services have ceased since December 2008
- b) the property associated with the former congregation of Tallangatta consists of a weatherboard church, and external toilet block on one block located at 4 Wonga Grove Tallangatta.
- c) the church is no longer in use by the Presbyterian Church of Victoria and will rapidly deteriorate requiring extensive maintenance.

Now therefore the Presbytery of Benalla humbly petitions the General Assembly to take these premises into consideration and grant permission, according to BIF regulation 10(c), and rule 4.105, for the sale of the property at Tallangatta:

- Land description: Lot 1 on Plan of Subdivision 111620
Volume 08269; Folio 506;
Created by instrument LP111620 12/07/1974
Municipality of Towong, Parish of Beethang.
- Trustees: The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation
or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

Rev Kevin Maxwell and Rev Ken Martin were appointed to present the petition.

PETITION 7 (Min. 72)

From Presbytery of Kilnoorat

Re: Sale of Garvoc Property

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

This petition shows that:

1. The congregation of Garvoc is dissolved. Sunday services have not been held there since 27 July 2008
2. The property associated with the former congregation of Garvoc consists of a weatherboard church on one title.
Address: Princes Highway, Garvoc, Vic
Trustees: The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation
Certificate of Title Volume No: 10592
Folio No: 931
Allotment No: 7A
Subdivision: Section 12
Parish: Garvoc
3. The Presbytery of Kilnoorat at its meeting of the 13th of June 2012 resolved (minute 12/97) to petition the General Assembly of Victoria for its consent to the sale of the property at Garvoc as per reg 10(c) and rule 4.105 of the Board of Investment and Finance.

Now therefore the Presbytery of Kilnoorat humbly petitions the General Assembly to take these premises into consideration and to grant its consent to the sale of the property at Garvoc
or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

This petition is to be presented by Rev Miles Fagan and Rev Peter Phillips

PETITION 8 (Min. 103)

From: Elder Reg Butcher

Re: Procedure followed by the Presbytery of Melbourne North in the allocation of the proceeds of sale of the Pascoe Vale church site.

To: The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

I bring these matters before the Assembly as I have not gained any satisfaction by trying to bring an appeal to Assembly or follow-up actions at Presbytery, all of which were unfruitful and so I respectfully petition the Assembly concerning these issues according to rule 6:38.

The petition shows that:

- a) The Presbytery of Melbourne North adopted a procedure for seeking applications for the allocation of the proceeds of sale of the Pascoe Vale church site.
- b) There were serious defects in the procedure adopted and in compliance with that procedure.
- c) The resolution of the Presbytery suggested that the applications would be dealt with in one way but subsequently were dealt with in another way.
- d) The procedure adopted included an assessment form filled in by Presbyters and contained a pre-determination of the applications which could be successful.
- e) After the decision was taken, the assessment forms were destroyed and Presbytery forwarded the successful applications to the Board of Investment and Finance together with a description of the process by the Moderator.
- f) Attempts to forward the other applications were frustrated.
- g) Voting was influenced by the participation in the voting by Presbytery members who were ministers and elders of the congregations favoured by the recommendations.
- h) The Board of Investment and Finance was deprived of the opportunity of making its own independent assessment of the rejected applications.

NOW THEREFORE I, Reginald H Butcher, humbly petition the Assembly to take these premises into consideration and to resolve that these matters be referred to its Code Committee for report to the 2013 General Assembly concerning –

1. The process adopted by the Presbytery;
2. Whether substantial justice was done to the interests of all concerned;
3. Whether the Assembly Rule 5.34 applied to the Presbytery and if so, has there been a breach of it, and if not, whether the principle it embodies has been breached.

Or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

ASSEMBLY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES 2012-2013

Ad hoc Committee Sites Reserve Fund (2011)

[Immediate past Moderator (Convener), Clerk of Assembly, Law Agent, General Manager (Secretary), Chairman of the Board of Investment and Finance and one nominee from each interested Presbytery.]

Ad hoc Committee to Investigate Federal Vision Theology

[Rev Dr D J W Milne together with all members of PTC (Vic) faculty]

Rev P W Hastie, Dr A E Bird, Dr F Chung, Dr J C Hood

Convener: Rev Dr D J W Milne

Ad hoc Committee to Revise 'Breaking the Silence' Document

[Moderator, Law Agent, Clerk of Assembly, member of Code Committee, member of Trusts Corporation / Board of Investment and Finance]

Convener: Moderator

Assessors Panel

Moderator of the General Assembly, Clerk of Assembly, Convener of the Selection Committee, Convener of the Business Committee

Convener: Moderator of the Assembly

Australian Presbyterian World Mission [Vic] Committee

[10 Members appointed by the Assembly, 2 by P W M U]

RT 13: Rev C Yat [13], Rev M Jensen [13], Rev P Simmonds [18], Rev L Pearce [19]

RT 14: Mr D Bennett [17], Mr T Cunneen [13], Rev D Carroll [19]

RT 15: Rev P Orchard [13], Miss E Slater [17], Rev K Ee [20]

Convener: Rev P Simmonds [17]

Board of Investment and Finance [Trusts Corporation]

[10 members, elected for 5 year term, eligible for a second consecutive 5 year term]

RT 13: Rev A Slater [13], Mr D Brown [18], Mr D Wright [13]

RT 14: Mr E de Zilwa [15], Rev A Venn [19]

RT 15: Mr T Arnold [20], Mr A Letcher [20]

RT 17: Mr I Bramley [17], Rev S Deroon [22], Rev M Smith [22]

Chairman: [Appointed annually by the Board]

Building and Property Committee

[3 Members]

RT 13: Mrs J Bell [17]

RT 14: Mr G Nixon [17]

RT 15: Rev P Phillips [17]

Convener: Rev P Phillips [15]

Business Committee

[Clerk of Assembly, Deputy Clerk, Procurator, Law Agent, 3 Members of Assembly not conveners of other reporting committees, Clerks of Presbyteries during Assembly]

RT 13: Rev A Parle [17]

RT 14: Mr D Fraser [12]

RT 15: Rev P Mercer [19]

Convener: Rev Dr J Hood [13] [Convener appointed for 3 years and eligible for reappointment, notwithstanding other regulations]

Christian Education and Nurture Committee

[11 Members, at least 6 members of Assembly]

RT 13: Mrs A Harvey [20], vacancy, vacancy, vacancy

RT 14: Rev M Wishart [13], Rev M Wharton [17], Rev H Lim [18], vacancy

RT 15: Rev S Kroeger [15], Rev M James [14], vacancy

Convener: Rev S Kroeger [13]

Church and Nation Committee

[10 Members]

RT 13: Rev P Barclay [14], Rev D Middleton [19], vacancy

RT 14: Mr N Sharp [21], vacancy, vacancy

RT 15: Mr J Ballantyne [15], Rev D Combridge [15], Mr B Palmer [20],

Rev A Satchell [18]

Convener: Rev D Middleton [18]

Church Planting Committee

[6 Members, plus the Convener]

RT 13: Mr P Graham [20], Rev N Barbieri [17]

RT 14: Rev B Johnson [15], Rev D Martin [18]

RT 15: Rev R O'Brien [15], Mr P Leslie [15]

Convener: Rev D Elliott [15]

Clerkship Committee

[Moderator, Law Agent, convener of Business Committee, convener of Maintenance of the Ministry Committee, chairman of Board of Investment and Finance, two immediate past moderators]

Convener: Moderator

Code and General Administration Committee

[3 Members, plus ex officio Clerks of Assembly, Business Convener, Procurator, Law Agent, Chairman of Trusts Corporation]

RT 13: Rev G Nicholson [17]

RT 14: Rev Dr J Woodward [15]

RT 15: Rev J Dekker [17]

Convener: Clerk of Assembly

Conciliation Committee

[3 Ministers and 3 Elders appointed annually, plus the Immediate Past Moderator of the Assembly as convener]

Ministers: Rev P Phillips [12], Rev P Orchard [17], Rev G Weber [19]

Elders: Mr N Sharp [18], vacancy, vacancy

Convener: Immediate Past Moderator of the Assembly

Defence Force Chaplaincy Committee

[3 Members, plus all full-time and part-time Australian Defence Force Chaplains serving in Victoria]

RT 13: Rev J Dover [20]

RT 14: Rev B Riding [16]

RT 15: Mr R Myors [14]

Convener: Rev M De Pyle [17]

Exit Students Committee

Convener of Ministry Development Committee, Ministry Development Officer, Principal of Presbyterian Theological College [or his faculty representative], Training Officer, Convener of Church Planting Committee [whenever a Church planting placement is considered], Convener of Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee [whenever a chaplaincy placement is considered], representative of each candidate's Presbytery [preferably the convener of the Presbytery's Candidates' Committee or equivalent]

Convener: Convener of Ministry Development Committee

General Mission Program Committee

[6 Members]

RT 13: Rev P Court [19], [vacancy]

RT 14: Rev G Vayne [21], Mr N Sharp [20]

RT 15: Mr R Lowe [15], Mr G Kilmartin [15],

Convener: Mr N Sharp [20]

Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee

[10 Persons]

RT 13: Rev J Dover [14], vacancy, vacancy

RT 14: Mrs A Elliott [16], Rev M Fagan [18], Rev C Le Page [18]

RT 15: Miss B Brown [14], Mrs T Orchard [17], Mrs A Robertson [19], vacancy

Convener: Rev M Fagan [18]

Maintenance of the Ministry Committee

[6 Members]

RT 13: Rev K Allen [21], Rev Dr J Woodward [21]

RT 14: Rev M Crabb [21], Mr R Taylor [21]

RT 15: Mr R Butcher [16], vacancy

Convener: Rev Dr J Woodward [19]

METRO Committee

[6 Members, plus the Convener]

RT 13: Mr B Haughey [17], Rev B Harvey [21]

RT 14: Rev C Le Page [19], Mr A May [17]

RT 15: Rev P Owen [17], Rev T McIntosh [21]

Convener: Presbyterian Church of Victoria Training Officer

Ministry Development Committee

[6 Members, plus the Convener]

RT 13: Mrs M Brennan [16], Rev I Hutton [21]

RT 14: Dr B Ellis [20], Rev J Rickard [15]

RT 15: Rev G Lawry [14], Mr N Sharp [21]

Convener: Rev Dr A Bird [13]

Moderator's Committee

[2 Elders, 1 Minister as Convener, plus the Moderator and Moderator Designate]

RT 13: Rev G Weber [15]

RT 14: Mr A Forrester [19]

RT 15: Mr R Belcher [15]

Convener: Rev G Weber [13]

Records Committee

[6 Members of Assembly, at least 3 Ministers]

RT 13: Rev J Dekker [19], vacancy

RT 14: Rev A Satchell [17], vacancy

RT 13: Rev G Nicholson [13], Mr D Fraser [14]

Convener: Rev G Nicholson [13]

Social Services Committee

[10 Members]

RT 13: Mr R Lowe [15], Miss B Firth [15], Mr J Nuske [21], Mr B Evans [21]

RT 14: Miss R Anstee [12, notwithstanding 9 year rule], Mr D Wright [14],

Mr G Hamilton [21]

RT 15: Mr B Miller [18], Mr D Gibb [19], Mrs R Rodgers [21]

Convener: Mr R Lowe [15]

State News Committee

[4 Members, 2 Ministers and 2 Elders]

RT 13: Mr K Childs [13], Mr Phillip Betts [19]

RT 14: Rev P Daffy [15]

RT 15: Rev N Harvey [18]

Convener: Rev N Harvey [16]

Theological Education Committee

[10 Members, plus ex officio the principal and 1 other member of the Faculty]

RT 13: Rev P Daffy [13], Rev K Maxwell [18], Rev M Smith [19]

RT 14: vacancy, vacancy, Rev N Chambers [17]

RT 15: vacancy, Rev B Oakes [15], vacancy, vacancy

Convener: Rev N Chambers [15]

Other Appointments:

ACCESS Ministries

Rev G Lawry, Mrs A Thomas

Council for Chaplains in Tertiary Institutions

Mr P Leslie, Rev D Martin

Family Council of Victoria

[Appointee to report to Assembly through the Church and Nation Committee]

Mrs J Manners

Heads of Churches

The Moderator and Immediate Past Moderator

Press Officer

The Moderator in consultation with the clerk of Assembly and the convener of the Church and Nation Committee

PWMU Cook Book Committee

Rev J Wilson

St Andrews Foundation

Mrs M Conradi, Rev R O'Brien, Mr C Morrow

The Bible Society

Rev K Allen

G A A Representatives – Sept 2013

GAV representatives to GAA:

MINISTERS: Rev A Bray, Rev Dr R Carner, Rev Dr J Hood, Rev D Palmer,
Rev P Phillips, Rev J Wilson

ALTERNATES: Rev D Robertson, Rev P Burns, Rev G Lawry

ELDERS: Mr B Bayston, Mr P Betts, Mr D Fraser, Mr N Gilmour,
Mr B Stasse, Mr E de Zilwa

ALTERNATES: Mr D Hayward, Mr N Sharp

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