PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA



PROCEEDINGS OF THE

COMMISSION OF ASSEMBLY MAY 2016

AND OF THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OCTOBER 2016

AND OF THE

URGENT MEETING of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECEMBER 2016

ASSEMBLY OFFICERS 2016

Moderator

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Clerk of Assembly

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Deputy Clerk

Rev Peter W Phillips BA, BTh 1 Warrnambool Road TERANG VIC 3260

Business Convener

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMISSION OF ASSEMBLY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA

MAY 2016

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 3 May 2016 at 10:30am.

1. Constitution

The Commission of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria met by appointment of the previous General Assembly (BB 2015 min. 129).

In the absence of the Moderator, Rev Mark Smith, past moderator Rev David Brown constituted the Commission of Assembly with the reading of Titus 2:11-3:8 and prayer and the singing of a hymn.

2. 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 2015, and who remain qualified to be members of the Assembly.

3. Apologies

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

Ministers: Keith Allen, Dave Assender, Keith Bell, Tony Bird, Robert Boan, Aaron Boyd, Graham Bradbeer, John Brennan, Robert Carner, Dallas Clarnette, Trevor Cox, Chris Duke, Robert Duncanson, Kyung Ee, Don Elliott, Wally Gear, Marvin Hagans, Neil Harvey, John Hyunh, Grant Lawry, Ian Leach, Ken Martin, Kevin Maxwell, Graham Nicholson, Kainano Opetaia, David Palmer, Len Pearce, James Playfoot, Paul Ridgewell, Mark Smith, Gary Stephens, John Sutherland, Matthew Tegart, Mark Tonkin, Gerald Vanderwert, Andrew Vines, Graeme Weber, Gary Wentworth, Michael Wharton, Michael Wishart, Wally Zurrer.

<u>Elders</u>: Peter Anderson, Geoff Cross, Edward de Zilwa, Julian Dunn, James Finster, Karl Hood, Alan Horsburgh, John Largerwey, Rex McCarron, George McConaghie, Bruce Miller, Peter Winstanley.

The Clerk moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Sustain the apologies.

The motion was seconded and approved.

4. Privilege

The Clerk raised a question of privilege.

The Acting Moderator ruled that there was a breach of privilege.

The Clerk read a statement about a complaint in regards to Rev Mark Smith, and advised the Commission of Assembly that, given that Rev Mark Smith had stood aside from all ministerial responsibilities pending inquiry of this matter by the Presbytery, the Rev David Brown would preside under rule 5:8 of the PCV Code.

Rev David Brown led in prayer.

5. Business Committee

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

The Convener, Rev Dean Carroll, moved the deliverance:

The motion was seconded:

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause:

Clauses 1-6 were approved.

The Clerk moved an additional clause 7:

That the Commission of Assembly:

- 7. a. Declare the petition of the Presbytery of Geelong re: St Georges to satisfy rule 5:39(c); and
 - b. place the petition on the agenda.

The motion was seconded and approved on a show of hands.

Dissent:

Rev Philip Mercer

Rev Peter Phillips

Clause 8 was approved.

The deliverance as a whole as amended was moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

- 1. Determine the hours of meeting be 10:30am to the finish of business, with: lunch 12:30pm to 1:30pm; refreshments 3:40pm to 4:00pm; dinner 5:30pm to 6:30pm; as necessary.
- 2. Determine the time for speakers to be as follows:
 - 20 minutes in total for:

Conveners and seconders moving deliverances as a whole

Petitioners—stating the petition

Appellants—stating the appeal

Respondents to appeals

Question time

15 minutes in total for:

Overturists—stating the overture

5 minutes for:

Appellants in reply

Movers of substantive motions and amendments

All other speakers

3. Appoint a Ballot Committee for the Commission of Assembly consisting of:

Ministers: Philip Daffy (Convener), Stuart Withers, Matthew James.

Elders: Bert Stasse, Doug Fraser.

- 4. Permit committee conveners and chairpersons who are not members of the Assembly to address the Commission of Assembly when their respective committee's report and deliverance is before the Commission of Assembly.
- 5. Permit the General Manager to be present in the Commission of Assembly, including when meeting in private, during any question time that relates to his areas of management so that he may answer questions as required.
- Permit the Law Agent to remain in the Commission of Assembly during all sittings, including when meeting in private, so that he may give legal advice as required.
- 7. a. Declare the petition of the Presbytery of Geelong re: St George's to satisfy rule 5:39(c); and
 - b. place the petition on the agenda.
- 8. Approve the agenda as printed.

The motion was seconded and approved.

6. Election of Moderator-Designate

The Clerk's report was laid on the table and received.

The Clerk moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

- Receive the nominations of Rev Kyung Rae Ee (minister, Shepparton) and Rev Robert Weymouth White (retired minister) for the position of Moderator-Designate 2016.
- 2. Proceed to elect the Moderator-Designate by preferential ballot as per regulations.

The motion was seconded and approved. (min. 9)

7. Theological Education Committee

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

8. Overture 1 – from Presbytery of Maroondah re: Assessment of candidates

The overture was laid on the table and received.

The overture was laid on the table and received The overture was stated by Rev Matt James.

Questions were asked of the overturist.

(1) Rev Matt James moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Sustain the overture.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

(2) The Clerk moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Dismiss the overture.

The motion was seconded and approved.

9. Election of Moderator Designate – Result of the Ballot (min. 6)

The Acting Moderator announced that, as the result of the ballot, the Moderator-Designate of the 2016 General Assembly is Rev Robert White.

The Acting Moderator led the Commission of Assembly in prayer.

10. Exit Students Committee

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

11. Board of Investment and Finance

The report of the Board of Investment and Finance was laid on the table and received. In the absence of the Chairman (Elder lain Bramley) Rev Andrew Bray moved the deliverance.

The motion was seconded.

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause.

Clauses 1-6 were approved.

Clause 7 was approved.

Clause 8 was moved and seconded.

Elder Andrew May moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Amend clause 8 by the addition of the words 'and allow the METRO committee to accept the BIF's suggestion to present a modified budget to GAV in October 2016', so that the clause would read:

8. Approve the METRO Budget for 2016/17 as revised by the BIF and allow the METRO Committee to present a modified budget to the GAV in October 2016.

The amendment was approved.

Clause 8 as amended was approved.

Rev Cameron Garrett moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Insert an additional clause after clause 8 as follows:

9. Approve the Church Planting Committee budget for 2016/17 as presented, with the addition of a new line under expenses named 'Media and Promotion' with a value of '\$7,500'.

and renumber subsequent clauses.

The amendment was seconded and disapproved.

Clause 9 was approved.

Clauses 10-12 were approved.

The deliverance as a whole as amended was moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

1. Approve the General Mission Program for the financial year 2016/17 as follows:

	2016/17
	\$
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES:	
Australian Presbyterian World Mission (Vic.)	15,000
State News	1,500
Theological Education – Bursary Fund	95,963
SUB-TOTAL: ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES	112,463
INTERDENOMINATIONAL ENTERPRISES:	
Australian Christian Lobby	11,900
ACCESS Ministries	26,500
Council for Chaplains in Tertiary Institutions	550
Victorian Council of Churches: Displan	650
SUB-TOTAL: INTERDENOMINATIONAL	39,600
OTHER GRANTS:	
Presbyterian Inland Mission	6,500
SUB-TOTAL: OTHER GRANTS	6,500
GRAND TOTAL	158,563

- 2. Resolve that the formula for the allocation of the General Mission Program to Presbyteries as approved at the Commission of Assembly in May 2012 should continue for the year 2016/17.
- 3. Approve the allocation of the total General Mission Program for the financial year 2016/17 as follows:

PRESBYTERY		Percentage of total	2016/17 \$
Ballarat		3.69%	5,852
Benalla		5.24%	8,304
Flinders		12.17%	19,290
Geelong		3.53%	5,591
Gippsland		4.23%	6,702
Kilnoorat		6.17%	9,776
Maroondah		8.57%	13,595
Melbourne East		19.81%	31,414
Melbourne North		16.91%	26,810
Melbourne West		16.84%	26,701
North Western Victoria		2.86%	4,528
	TOTAL	100.00%	158,563

- 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 ask parishes to pay their GMP allocations in full early in the financial years 2016/17, or where this is not possible, to pay the amounts by monthly or quarterly instalments.
- 6. Give thanks to God for his continued material blessings on our denomination.
- 7. Request the METRO Committee to discuss the financial implications of the current policy settings with the BIF and work with the BIF to produce a sustainable budget.
- 8. Approve the METRO Budgets for 2016/17 as revised by the BIF and allow the METRO Committee to present a modified budget to the GAV in October 2016.
- 9. Approve all other committee budgets for 2016/17 as presented in the report.
- 10. Encourage the PCV to regularly pray for our sister church in WA.
- 11. Approve grants from the GAA funds in each of the next two years of \$25,000 to the Presbyterian Church of South Australia towards the cost of appointing an intentional interim minister within the Presbytery of Torrens.
- 12. Approve grants from the GAA funds to the Presbyterian Church in Western Australia as follows:
 - a. \$80,000 in July 2016 to reduce the mortgage on the manse at Joondalup;
 - b. \$30,000 in July 2016 to reduce the mortgage on the manse at South Lake;
 - c. \$10,000 in each of the next three years towards church planting;
 - d. \$3,500 in each of the next three years to the PTC to provide funding towards an annual ministry conference in Western Australia;
 - e. \$75,000, \$65,000 and \$55,000 respectively over the next three years to fund an assistant worker.

The motion was seconded and approved.

12. Ministry Development Committee

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

13. Maintenance of the Ministry Committee

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

The Convener, Elder Dennis Wright, moved the deliverance.

That the Commission of Assembly:

- 1. Remind presbyteries to actively follow-up the submission of annual parish reports by each parish within its bounds, by the due date, so that the committee can do the work the Assembly expects.
- 2. Remind presbyteries to seriously take note of the need to review and process all grant and subsidy applications prior to forwarding the same to this committee. Also, strongly urge presbyteries to give more consideration to minister's long service leave entitlements and the proper taking of that leave; to keep the record of ministers' LSL up to date; and inform this committee as early as is practicable of any applications by ministers to take LSL.
- 3. Declare that as from 1 July 2016:
 - a. The minimum remuneration will be \$52,824.00.
 - b. The minimum stipend component of minimum remuneration will be \$34,572,00
 - c. The maximum non cash benefit component of minimum remuneration will be \$18,252.00.

- d. The sustentation qualifying stipend will be \$23,964.00 per annum; therefore the maximum sustentation grant available to a parish will be \$10,608.00.
- e. The additional amount for travel over 6,000 kilometres of the distance agreed between the minister and his parish as his annual distance of travel on church related matters remain at 49 cents per kilometre.
- f. The rate of parish contribution to the PCV Superannuation Fund is maintained at 15% of actual remuneration (\$7,920.00) for the year commencing 1 July 2016.
- g. Supply preaching fees for the year commencing 1 July 2016 increase by 2.0%, so that they become:

\$136 for one service:

\$157 for two services;

\$187 for three services, using the same sermon on the same day;

\$247 for two services or more, with separate sermons; and

That the travel reimbursement for supply preachers remains at 49 cents per kilometre.

- 4. Set the long service leave levy for the financial year 2016-17 at \$350 per parish per minister, to be paid by:
 - a. every parish, whether there is a settled minister, a home missionary or a vacancy; and
 - b. any General Assembly committee that is responsible for the employment of any church worker who is entitled to receive long service leave under the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee regulations.
- 5. Remind parishes to adhere to the guidelines set down by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and in particular, that they ensure they have completed and lodged the required Annual Information Statement (AIS) to the ACNC, in order to maintain charitable tax benefits which include the tax exemption status of the minister's non cash benefits.

The motion was seconded and approved.

14. Communication 1 – from Rev Bruce Meller, Clerk of the GAA, re: election of commissioners to 2016 GAA

Communication 1 was laid on the table and received.

15. Selection Committee – Election of Commissioners to the 2016 GAA

The report of the Selection Committee was laid on the table and received. The Convener, Rev Cameron Garrett, moved the deliverance as a whole:

That the Commission of Assembly:

- 1. Elect the following as commissioners to the 2016 General Assembly of Australia:
 - a. Ministers [4]: Moderator, Moderator Designate, Deputy Clerk, Business Convener;
 - b. Ministerial Alternates [4]: Rev D Palmer, Rev Dr R Carner, Rev D Brown, Rev A Bray:
 - c. Elders [4]: Mr D Wright, Mr R Butcher, Mr E Papajscik, Mr B Nelson.
- 2. Direct the PCV Clerk to notify the GAA Clerk, in writing, by 30 June 2016, of the Assembly's resolution above.

The motion was seconded and approved.

16. Code and General Administration Committee

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

17. Overture 2 – from the Presbytery of Melbourne North re: PCV honorific titles

The overture was laid on the table and received.

The overture was stated by Rev John Wilson.

Questions were asked of the overturist.

(1) Rev John Wilson moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the overture.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(2) Rev John Wilson moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Declare that it is not obligatory for moderators of the General Assembly to accept the honorific title, Right Reverend.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(3) Rev Allan Harman moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Discontinue the use of the honorific tile, 'Right Reverend' for the Moderator.

The motion was seconded and approved.

18. Petition 1 – Presbytery of Geelong, re: dissolution of St George's congregation and sale of the St George's property

The petitioners were brought to the bar.

The petition was taken as read and received.

The petitioners stated the petition.

Questions were asked.

(1) The Clerk moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Grant the prayer of the petition.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(2) The Clerk moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Agree with the mind of the Presbytery of Geelong to dissolve the St George's (Geelong) Presbyterian congregation (in accord with rule 4:90).

The motion was seconded and approved.

(3) The Clerk moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Declare that this decision shall have immediate effect (in accord with rule 6:15).

The motion was seconded and approved.

(4) The Clerk moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Give permission to the Presbytery of Geelong (in accord with BIF regulation 9(a) and rule 4:105) for the sale of the property at St George's Geelong, namely: the site contained in Certificate of Title Volume: 3299, Folio: 659786, the land on which stands church, hall, manse and car park, being two acres bounded in part by Little Malop Street, Latrobe Terrace and Ryrie Street, Geelong.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(5) The Clerk moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

In the matter of proceeds of sale, draw the attention of the presbytery to BIF regulation 10(c) and (d).

The motion was seconded and approved.

(6) Rev Peter Owen moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Allocate the proceeds of the sale to be held in trust for the purpose of church development within the Presbytery of Geelong.

The Acting Moderator was asked to rule on the competency of the motion.

The Acting Moderator ruled that the motion was incompetent.

(7) Rev Cameron Garrett moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Authorise the Presbytery of Geelong to bring proposals for the use of the proceeds of the sale for approval to a future Assembly.

Rev Barry Oakes raised a point of privilege.

The Acting Moderator ruled that there was a breach of privilege and asked the mover to confine his remarks to the motion.

The Acting Moderator was asked to rule on the competency of the motion.

On the advice of the Law Agent the Acting Moderator ruled that the motion was competent.

The motion was seconded.

Rev Barry Oakes raised a point of privilege.

The Acting Moderator ruled that there was no breach of privilege.

Rev Barry Oakes moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Depart from the Acting Moderator's ruling.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

The motion was put and disapproved.

Announcement of Final Decision

The Acting Moderator advised the petitioners of the Commission of Assembly's decision as follows:

That the Commission of Assembly had resolved to:

- 1. Grant the prayer of the petition.
- 2. Agree with the mind of the Presbytery of Geelong to dissolve the St George's (Geelong) Presbyterian congregation (in accord with rule 4:90).
- 3. Declare that this decision shall have immediate effect (in accord with rule 6:15).
- 4. Give permission to the Presbytery of Geelong (in accord with BIF regulation 9(a) and rule 4:105) for the sale of the property at St George's Geelong, namely: the site contained in Certificate of Title Volume: 3299, Folio: 659786, the land on which stands church, hall, manse and car park, being two acres bounded in part by Little Malop Street, Latrobe Terrace and Ryrie Street, Geelong.
- 5. In the matter of proceeds of sale, draw the attention of the presbytery to BIF regulation 10(c) and (d).

The Acting Moderator removed the petitioners from the bar.

19. Commission to confirm minutes

The Clerk moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Appoint the Acting 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.

20. Ballot Committee discharged

The Clerk moved:

That the Commission of Assembly:

Thank and discharge the Ballot Committee.

The motion was seconded and approved.

21. Dissolution

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

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 19 thereof.

Rev David Alfred Robert Brown
Acting Moderator

REPORTS

BUSINESS COMMITTEE (Min. 5)

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 in proper form, and competent.

Overtures 1 and 2 (previously numbered 4 and 2) are those carried over from the 2015 General Assembly (see Min. 113). As Overture 1 relates to candidates it is presented following the TEC report.

Order 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 order.

- 1. Devotion and Constitution
- 2. Roll
- 3. Apologies
- 4. Associations, NOM A1
- 5. Business Committee, p5 (del p6)
- 6. Election of Moderator-Designate, p7 (del p7)
- 7. Theological Education Committee, p8
- 8. Overture 1: Presbytery of Maroondah—Candidates, p10, NOM A2
- 9. Exit Students Committee, p11
- 10. Board of Investment and Finance, p13 (del p22)
- 11. Ministry Development Committee, p73
- 12. Maintenance of the Ministry Committee, p74 (del p76)
- 13. Communication 1: Commissioners to 2016 GAA, p77
- 14. Selection Committee, p78 (del p79)
- 15. Code and General Administration Committee, p80
- Overture 2: Presbytery of Melbourne North—PCV and honorific titles, p82 NOM A3
- 17. Petition 1: Presbytery of Geelong—St George's Dissolution and Sale of Property (separate mailing)
- 18. Commission to confirm minutes, NOM A4
- 19. Ballot Committee discharged, NOM A5
- 20. Dissolution

Dean Carroll CONVENER

BOARD OF INVESTMENT AND FINANCE (Min. 11)

General Mission Program

In October 2015 the Assembly dissolved the General Mission Program Committee and requested the Board of Investment and Finance (BIF) to take over the functions of that committee (Min 112.9).

The BIF has formulated the General Mission Program (GMP) for 2016/17 with reference to the rescinded GMP regulations 3(a) and (b). Just two committees submitted budgets requesting an application for GMP in accordance with those regulations – APWM and State News.

The regulations also provided for GMP to be allocated 'to any other organisations within or outside the Presbyterian Church of Victoria which the General Assembly has approved for financial support'.

The BIF notes the decision of the Commission of Assembly in May 2015 directing GMP be allocated to the TEC Bursary fund according to a pre-determined formula (Min 11.2) and has made provision for such allocation.

The BIF has found it more difficult to find specific Assembly resolutions authorising the allocations to Interdenominational Enterprises and Presbyterian Inland Mission which have been funded in recent years. The proposed allocation for 2016/17 continues to support those same organisations although the BIF has made no assessment of whether it remains appropriate to do so and to what extent. The BIF considers it timely that a review of the organisations be conducted and intends to do so and report to the Assembly on this in October. The BIF recommends that any approval of funding which the Assembly may grant in the future includes an annual review and/or a sunset clause. In this way the Assembly can be more confident that GMP funding is appropriate and relevant to the ongoing vision and direction of the church.

The resulting net total of the GMP for 2016/17 is \$158,563.

At the May 2015 Commission of the General Assembly, the amount of \$177,350 was approved as the total of the GMP allocated to Presbyteries for the financial year 2015/16. To the end of February 2016 approximately 93% of the total has been received compared to 89% to February 2015 against a total GMP of \$162,844 for 2014/15.

The proposed distribution for 2016/17 is shown below with the 2015/16 amounts shown for comparison:

	2015/16	2016/17
	\$	\$
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES:		
Australian Presbyterian World Mission (Vic.)	30,000	15,000
State News	1,500	1,500
Theological Education – for Bursary Fund	101,000	95,963
SUB-TOTAL: ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES	132,500	112,463
INTERDENOMINATIONAL ENTERPRISES:		
Australian Christian Lobby	11,600	11,900
ACCESS Ministries	25,900	26,500
Council for Chaplains in Tertiary Institutions	500	550
Victorian Council of Churches: Displan	600	650
SUB-TOTAL: INTERDENOMINATIONAL	38,600	39,600
OTHER GRANTS:		
Presbyterian Inland Mission	6,250	6,500
SUB-TOTAL: OTHER GRANTS	6,250	6,500
GRAND TOTAL	177,350	158,563

The 2012 Commission of Assembly approved the formula for the allocation to presbyteries of the total of the GMP until further recommendation is brought from the BIF 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.

The BIF does not see any reason to vary the formula.

Based on that formula, the recommended allocations to presbyteries for 2016/17 are as follows:

PRESBYTERY		Percentage	Percentage	2016/17
		of LY total	of total	\$
Ballarat		4.10%	3.69%	5,852
Benalla		5.41%	5.24%	8,304
Flinders		12.82%	12.17%	19,290
Geelong		3.75%	3.53%	5,591
Gippsland		4.33%	4.23%	6,702
Kilnoorat		6.57%	6.17%	9,776
Maroondah		7.70%	8.57%	13,595
Melbourne East		20.54%	19.81%	31,414
Melbourne North		15.09%	16.91%	26,810
Melbourne West		16.69%	16.84%	26,701
North Western Victoria		3.00%	2.86%	4,528
	TOTAL	100.00%	100.00%	158,563

The percentage allocations for 2015/16 are shown for comparison purposes. The differences are the result of the relative changing membership numbers (communicants and adherents) within presbyteries. While the overall GMP total has decreased by 16% from last year, the allocations to presbyteries will vary as a result of the changes in membership.

Committee Budgets

In accordance with BIF Regulations, the BIF presents the Committee Budgets for approval by the Commission. The BIF has reviewed the budgets and in some cases sought further explanations or details from committees.

When the BIF examines the budgets proposed by committees, they are considered in terms of being sustainable in both the immediate and the longer term. The BIF also hopes the proposed budgets reflect good stewardship of resources. In some instances it may be appropriate for a committee to propose a budget with a significant deficit and this is the case for a number of budgets. Each budget has been considered on its merits taking account of the circumstances relevant to each committee.

The BIF notes that explanatory notes accompanied the Health and Community Chaplaincy budget (not included in the papers for the Commission) which provided explanation of changes and movements between years and encourages other committees to adopt this practice. Including explanatory notes, as well as the financial projections, in their budget submissions will better explain the thinking of each committee and assist the BIF.

The BIF reminds committees that having the budget approved simply means that the annual expenditure is approved. Committees are then required to appropriately consider any individual items of expenditure and approve it under the terms of Rule 5:33. The BIF has given committees a document detailing Committee Payment Procedures which is also available for downloading from the PCV website. The BIF reminds all committees to follow these procedures when requesting payments from the church office.

In view of the complexity of the budgets, the BIF would appreciate written notice of any questions being given to the General Manager before Wednesday 27 April to the meeting of the Commission.

General Assembly

In October 2011, the General Assembly among other things gave its consent to the Trusts Corporation to apply to the Court for necessary declarations to determine the correct interpretation of relevant aspects of the Scots' Church Trust Deed and to ensure due and proper administration of the trusts contained in that Trust Deed (2011 Blue Book, Min 63, p129).

In June 2013, following extensive efforts to resolve the issues through discussion and mediation the Trusts Corporation, having first obtained the fiat of the Attorney General and with the consent of the Assembly as mentioned above, initiated proceedings in the Supreme Court of Victoria.

Throughout the course of this dispute the legal costs have been borne by the General Assembly and reflected in its operating budget.

The proceedings have been drawn out for far longer than was anticipated. The Court sat for an initial 11 days from July 2015. This was followed by an adjournment to allow for a formal mediation ordered by the Court – the fourth mediation since the matter commenced. In November 2015 the Court sat for a further three days to hear

submissions specifically in relation to eight preliminary questions which had been framed. It was intended that the answers to these questions may lead to a faster resolution of the case. At the time of writing we await the findings of the Court in relation to these preliminary questions.

It is uncertain how the case may proceed from there. In framing the budget, the BIF has assumed the matter will proceed to a full trial of up to a further 20 days. We trust that this will not be required but think it prudent to plan for that eventuality. The timing is also unclear as to whether this may be partly in the current financial year or all in the next year. The budget reflects the best estimate of this. The budget for legal costs across the remainder of this financial year and the 2016/17 financial year is estimated to be \$800,000.

Theological Education Committee

The TEC budget for 2016/17 is showing a small surplus compared to a budget deficit of \$51,000 for the current year. The projection for future years suggest that the surplus may gradually increase.

The policy changes in relation to scholarships for candidates which were approved by the Commission of Assembly in 2015 have improved the overall financial position of the College significantly. The bursary fund is projected to generate a surplus of nearly \$24,000 after increasing funding for bursaries (candidates' living expenses) from \$25,000 to \$45,000. Twelve months ago the fund required an injection of \$100,000 to meet the then current expenses and a further \$200,000 capital injection. Based on current projections the bursary fund appears to be sustainable for the foreseeable future.

The policy change has also resulted in additional cash income to the general operations of the College of \$125,000 for the projected budget year which is a major factor in the turnaround to producing a balanced budget. From January 2016, the Trusts Corporation adjusted the interest paid on general committee funds so that the entire balance now earns interest at the rate of 12%. The effect of this policy change has been an additional \$80,000 income per year to the College. Other committees with large balances of general funds have similarly benefited.

Candidate numbers appear to have stabilised and are projected to remain at current levels or fall slightly over the next few years. The current candidate count is 20 with an Equivalent Full Time (EFT) count of 15.75.

The operating budget for the College is in sound shape. There is continued pressure to contain costs. Funding of qualitative growth initiatives remains a challenge. With the operating budget in good shape, the focus can be redirected towards the need for capital development of the site arising from the strategic review.

Church Planting Committee

The BIF notes that the funds of the committee are diminishing which is partly a consequence of the income projections which are beyond the control of the committee. However the continued funding of the full cost of the Church Planter Evangelist (CPE) seems incongruous. The BIF has raised this issue in the past with the Assembly.

The CPE is employed on a full time basis by the Assembly. At the same time he is the called minister of a church plant which is now well established. The BIF queries whether the CPE can effectively serve two masters under two different full-time mandates? The BIF is of the view that it is becoming increasingly difficult to justify the full cost of the CPE being borne by the committee while he concurrently sustains the call. The BIF has written to the committee requesting it to give some consideration to this complex matter.

The BIF is keen to see some progress in redrafting of the committee's regulations including those for the Property Development Fund. Since 2013 the regulations have been acknowledged by both the BIF and the committee as being inadequate and deficient in various areas. The proposed amendments to the Code which are being considered under the Barrier Act do not of themselves address the concerns which were raised some years ago. This makes it problematic for the BIF to fulfil its responsibilities under its own regulations in relation to monitoring committee expenditure, and is unhelpful for the church. The BIF has written to the committee encouraging it to take this matter up and bring a suitable proposal including revised regulations to the Assembly in October.

METRO Committee

The BIF is of the view that the budget presented by the METRO committee is unsustainable.

The projected deficit for 2016/17 is \$42,450 rising to \$130,550 in 2018/19. This is a consequence of the increasing trainee grants based on the new policy settings of the committee. Over the next three years committee funds are expected to decline by 33%. As the balance of funds decline the interest generated also declines. At the same time the trainee grants are increasing. This results in an acceleration in the decline of funds. In a short period of time (probably 6 or 7 years) the balance of funds available to the committee will be exhausted. Once the funds are exhausted the committee cannot operate.

This may be a conscious strategy of the committee, and in some circumstances such a strategy may be appropriate. If that is the intention the BIF considers that the Assembly should be asked to confirm that it is in agreement with this strategy. Alternatively, if the committee expects to continue indefinitely or at least for the foreseeable future, the current expenditure needs to be adjusted to more closely align with the income. The BIF has expressed its concerns to the committee and requested further explanation. At the time of writing this report the BIF has not received any acknowledgement or response from the committee.

Regrettably the BIF has made adjustments to the budget without further discussion with the committee in order to present a budget to the Commission for approval. While the \$42,450 deficit for the current budget year proposed by the committee may be considered to be within reasonable limits, the nature of the appointments means that any new appointments in the 2016/17 year will affect both the 2017/18 and 2018/19 budgets. The BIF has adjusted the budget by reducing the number of METRO trainees from four to two in each year. This results in a deficit of \$18,450 for the 2016/17 year and ongoing deficits of \$20,000, so the committee may need to do further work to achieve a sustainable future.

As reflected in the budget presented by the committee, trainees are appointed at the beginning of each calendar year for a two year period. The (two) trainees for 2016 have already been appointed so there is no plan to appoint more until 2017. The consequence of the Commission approving a reduced budget as recommended, will not impact on the committee until January 2017. This affords the committee the opportunity to bring a revised proposal and budget to the Assembly for consideration in October if appropriate.

Additional Expenditure

There has been no request to the BIF for any amendments to committee budgets in accordance with BIF Regulation 5(g)(ii) since last reporting to the Assembly in October 2015.

Proceeds of sale of property relating to deceased congregations

The BIF approved the allocation of \$12,600 to meet the cost of the Terang property insurance from of the Garvoc Sites Reserve fund.

Emergency Funding

There has been no request for emergency funding under the provisions authorised by the Assembly in 2005 (2005 Blue Book, Min 83.5, p88) since last reporting to the Assembly in October 2015.

Property matters

Approval was given by the BIF under BIF Regulation 9 (a) for the following urgent property transactions:

- lease of the Castlemaine manse at 13 Lyttleton Street Castlemaine for up to 18 months
- lease/letting of 3 Neerim Road Caulfield as a rooming house until 31 December 2021
- lease of the Kaniva manse at 11 Dungey Street, Kaniva for up to three years
- lease of the Broadford manse at 28 Hamilton Street Broadford for up to three years.

GAA Funds

Background

In May 2012 the GAV Commission of Assembly resolved:

- 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.

(2012 Blue Book, Min 12, p10. Report p16).

In May 2013 the BIF reported to the Commission of the General Assembly:

The 2012 Commission of Assembly agreed to apply the income from the capital of the GAA Funds to support the Moderator General's Church Planting Task Force with a particular focus on the church in South Australia (Min. 12.5 to 12.9 (sic) 2012 BB p10), and was awaiting further direction in that regard from the Task Force which was due to meet shortly after the Commission.

The matter has not progressed as quickly as was first thought. However a special purpose committee has been constituted to develop a plan to 'restructure' the PCSA to facilitate church revitalization and planting, particularly in Adelaide. There is also an initiative to set up a federal committee to enable the work to proceed more appropriately.

The BIF recommends that we wait until these initiatives have had a little more time to develop the work before taking any further decision to allocate funds, and asks the Commission to request the BIF to report on this matter to the next General Assembly. (2013 Blue Book, p18)

In October 2013 the General Assembly resolved to:

Make grants from funds held for GAA purposes in each year of the GAA triennium 2014 - 2016 as follows:

- a. \$25,000 to the Presbyterian Church of South Australia towards the cost of appointing an Intentional Interim Minister within the Presbytery of Torrens;
- b. \$10,000 to the Presbyterian Church in Western Australia towards church planting. (2013 Blue Book, Min 30.4, p94)

Current Situation

The allocation of the funds to WA have occurred but the funds were not applied to the SA Church until the third year of the trimester. Now that the work has commenced in South Australia, it would be helpful to continue the payments of \$25,000 for a further two years. Further, changes have occurred in that the SA Assembly has been suspended and QLD has now taken on oversight of the ministry that is occurring in SA. Due to the funds not being expended in the prescribed manner, there is now an accumulation of funds with the balance being just over \$360,000 (at the end of March 2016).

We had the Moderator of the PCWA address the last Assembly telling us of the many problems facing the Church in WA. Coupled with multiple pastoral issues, the personnel currently ministering in WA are feeling the strain of being stretched in many different directions. Further, the Moderator visited WA for their Assembly and had the opportunity to see and hear first-hand some of the struggles facing our brothers and sisters in WA. This proposal for the use of funds is aimed at alleviating some of their struggles. This would be in addition to continuing the funding to South Australia of \$25,000 for each of the next two years.

Proposal for use of GAA Funds

The table below represents a breakdown of the proposed grants to be made from the fund to the Church in WA. Further descriptions of the projects can be found following the table. These suggestions have come out of discussions with Mr Bill MacRae (Moderator – WA) and Rev Stuart Bonnington (Clerk – WA).

(Table on next page)

Item	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Comments
				Reduce mortgage by
Manse (Joondalup)	\$80,000	\$0	\$0	approximately 40%
				Reduce mortgage by
Manse (South Lake)	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	approximately 40%
Church Planting				Continuing current
Grant	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	practice
Ministry Conference	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	
Assistant Worker	\$75,000	\$65,000	\$55,000	
				Total across three
Totals	\$198,500	\$78,500	\$68,500	years \$345,500

While the funds available as at the end of March 2016 are \$362,211, it is expected that when the funds will be applied to the projects, the interest earned will meet the allocations of \$395,500.

1. Once off payments – Manse debt reduction

The ideal is to fund ministry related initiatives, however, there are two manses in WA that have mortgages. The manse at Joondalup has a debt of \$200,000 with the manse at South Lake having a debt of \$70,000. It is proposed to give a lump sum payment as suggested to significantly reduce the debt, thereby helping the congregations to meet their obligations to paying off the mortgage.

2. Church Planting Grant

This grant is a continuation of the current support for the WA Church.

3. Ministry Conference

To strengthen and encourage ministry in WA, it is proposed that a lecturer from PTC together with either another lecturer or minister of the PCV travel to WA to conduct a Ministry Conference. Naturally, this would be done outside PTC's teaching time; the timing of the conference to be negotiated between PTC and WA. To maximise the opportunity, it is envisaged that the 'team' will fly across on Saturday, preach at churches on Sunday and commence the ministry conference on Monday afternoon/evening flying back to Melbourne on Thursday.

An estimate of costs (for two people travelling from Melbourne):

Item	Est. Cost	Comments
Air Fares	\$1,400	
Accommodation	\$1,000	5 nights @\$200 per night
Meals	\$400	Assume some local hospitality
Hire Car	\$400	
Materials	\$300	Notes, books
Total	\$3,500	

4. Assistant Worker

One of the needs in WA is to strengthen the ministerial 'ranks' of the church. Over the last few years, there have been very trying issues arise and the ministers, as well as Presbytery and Assembly elders, have felt the strain of a lack of numbers. Consideration was given to setting aside funds for Assessor ministers from the PCV to support the Church in WA but the current PCV Moderator has had a time finding willing Assessors to fill requirements here in Victoria.

A suggestion is being put forward to mostly fund an Assistant Worker in WA. It is anticipated that a man of God's choosing will be made known to the WA Church who can be linked in with an existing congregation as an assistant, but with a focus on wider church duties such as promoting and initiating youth related ministry in churches and the denomination (similar to PYV here in Vic) as well as providing necessary ministerial support to the Presbytery and Assembly.

The selection of a suitable man for this role will be led by the Church in WA. A sliding scale of funding is proposed with a view at the end of three financial years that the Church in WA take on the full funding of this position or that the WA Church applies again to the PCV to determine if further assistance can be given.

Conclusion

The BIF gives thanks to God for his material blessings on our denomination.

We acknowledge the dedicated work of the General Manager and staff in the church office in financial management and church administration generally. We also commend those who work on each of the Assembly committees and thank them for their efforts generally, and specifically for their contribution to the budgetary process.

Iain Bramley CHAIRMAN

	Allocation 2015/16	Received for 2015/16	Received in Excess of Allocation	Received for Prior Year	TOTAL	BALANCE of Allocation NOT 2 Received	TOTAL Received for 2015/16 as % of Allocation
PRESBYTERY OF BALLARAT							
Total Allocated to Presbytery	7,272						
Ararat	508	508			508		100.0%
Ballarat North/Mt Prospect/Smeaton	1,016	1,016			1,016		100.0%
Ballarat South	1,320	1,320			1,320		100.0%
Ballarat West/Lexton	1,158	1,158			1,158		100.0%
Carisbrook/Castlemaine	934	934			934		100.0%
Daylesford	244	244			244		100.0%
Horsham/Marnoo	426	426			426		100.0%
Kaniva/Nhill	975	975			975		100.0%
Skipton/Lismore	691	691			691		100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	7,272	7,272			7,272		100.0%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid		<u> </u>					
PRESBYTERY OF BENALLA							
Total Allocated to Presbytery	9,595						
=	2,495	2.405			2.405		100.00/
Benalla Broadford	2,495 595	2,495 595			2,495 595		100.0% 100.0%
Numurkah	979	979			979		100.0%
Seymour/Nagambie/Yea	672	672			672		100.0%
Shepparton/Stanhope/Kyabram	1,152	1,152			1,152		100.0%
Tatura	1,612	1,612			1,132		100.0%
Wangaratta/Yarrawonga/Myrtleford	1,420	1,420			1,420		100.0%
Wodonga	672	672			672		100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	9,596	9,596			9,596		100.0%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid	3,030	3,330			3,030		100.070
r er centages subscribed/unpaid							
PRESBYTERY OF FLINDERS							
Total Allocated to Presbytery	22,729						
Aspendale	966	966			966		100.0%
Brighton	1,212	1,212			1,212		100.0%
Cardinia/Koo-Wee-Rup	158	158			158		100.0%
Cheltenham	1,822	822			822	1,000	45.1%
Clarinda	549					549	
Clayton	3,718	3,718			3,718		100.0%
Cranbourne	1,222					1,222	
Dandenong	1,173	1,173			1,173		100.0%
Dromana/Mornington	1,870	670			670	1,200	35.8%
Frankston	2,954	2,954			2,954		100.0%
Mordialloc	1,101	1,101			1,101		100.0%
Somerville	938	938			938		100.0%
Sorrento/Rye	3,966	3,966			3,966		100.0%
South East Samoan	1,079	1,079			1,079		100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	22,728	18,757			18,757	3,971	82.5%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid						17.5%	

	Alleration	B See J. C.	Received in	Danahar I far	TOTAL	BALANCE of Allocation	TOTAL Received for
	2015/16	Received for 2015/16	Allocation	Received for Prior Year	2015/16	Received	2015/16 as % of Allocation
PRESBYTERY OF GEELONG							
Total Allocated to Presbytery	6,649						
Colac	1,210	1,210			1,210		100.0%
Geelong North	1,809	1,809			1,809		100.0%
Geelong West	1,729	1,729			1,729		100.0%
Moorabool	744	744			744		100.0%
The Leigh	1,157	1,157			1,157		100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	6,649	6,649			6,649		100.0%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid							
PRESBYTERY OF GIPPSLAND							
Total Allocated to Presbytery	7,688						
Bairnsdale	707	707			707		100.0%
Drouin	3,115	3,115			3,115		100.0%
Leongatha	221	221			221		100.0%
Moe/Yarram	1,326	1,326			1,326		100.0%
Morwell	1,348	1,348			1,348		100.0%
Sale	88	88			88		100.0%
Warragul	884	884			884		100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	7,688	7,688			7,688		100.0%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid PRESBYTERY OF KILNOORAT Total Allocated to Presbytery	11,654						
Camperdown/Terang	990	990			990		100.0%
Hamilton	1,834	1,834			1,834		100.0%
Heywood/Portland	900	1,034			1,004	900	100.076
Koroit/Port Fairy	1,150	575			575	575	50.0%
Noorat	890	890			890	373	100.0%
Warrnambool	5,890	4,418			4,418	1,473	75.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	11,654	8,707			8,707	2,948	74.7%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid	11,001	0,1 01			0,101	25.3%	/0
PRESBYTERY OF MAROONDAH							
Total Allocated to Presbytery	13,663						
Belgrave Heights	724	724			724		100.0%
Blackburn	475	475			475		100.0%
Croydon Hills	2,148	2,148			2,148		100.0%
Donvale	6,120	6,120			6,120		100.0%
Heathmont	1,099	1,099			1,099		100.0%
Kirkbrae	100	100			100		100.0%
Mt Evelyn	999	999			999		100.0%
Warburton	749	749			749		100.0%
Woori Yallock	1,249	1,249			1,249		100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	13,663	13,663			13,663		100.0%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid	•	<u> </u>			•		

	Allocation 2015/16	Received for 2015/16	Received in Excess of Allocation	Received for Prior Year	TOTAL Received in 2015/16		TOTAL Received for 2015/16 as % of Allocation
PRESBYTERY OF MELBOURNE EAST							
Total Allocated to Presbytery	36,423						
Arabic	1,130	1,130			1,130		100.0%
Ashburton	1,555	1,555			1,555		100.0%
Auburn	1,650	1,650			1,650		100.0%
Burwood Community	2,338	2,338			2,338		100.0%
Camberwell	7,211	7,211			7,211		100.0%
Canterbury	3,679	3,679			3,679		100.0%
Caulfield/Elwood	3,205	3,205			3,205		100.0%
Gardenvale East	364	364			364		100.0%
Hawthorn	1,862	1,862			1,862		100.0%
Korean, Balwyn	2,152					2,152	
Malvern	3,151	3,151			3,151		100.0%
South Yarra	3,751	3,751			3,751		100.0%
St Kilda / Balaclava	1,598	-, -			-, -	1,598	
Surrey Hills	2,777	2,777			2,777	,	100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	36,423	32,673			32,673	3,750	89.7%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid		,			0_,010	10.3%	
. o. oomagoo oaboomboa,ampara						101070	
PRESBYTERY OF MELBOURNE NORTH							
Total Allocated to Presbytery	26,759						
Bundoora	4,216	4,216			4,216		100.0%
Eltham	3,950	3,950			3,950		100.0%
Epping	2,656	2,656			2,656		100.0%
0	2,030				2,030		100.0%
Heidelberg	602	2,077 602			602		
Hume Kongaraa Craund							100.0%
Kangaroo Ground	1,653	1,653			1,653		100.0%
Reservoir	3,295	3,295			3,295		100.0%
Samoan	2,826	2,826			2,826		100.0%
Valley	1,867	1,867			1,867		100.0%
Westminster Community Tem'towe	733	733			733		100.0%
Whittlesea/Mernda	2,875	2,875			2,875		100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	26,750	26,750			26,750		100.0%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid							
PRESBYTERY OF MELBOURNE WEST							
Total Allocated to Presbytery	29,592						
Brimbank	848	848			848		100.0%
Clifton Hill	577	577			577		100.0%
Darebin	894	894			894		100.0%
Essendon	1,208	1,208			1,208		100.0%
Gisborne	942	942			942		100.0%
Melton	1,300	1,300			1,300		100.0%
Point Cook	542	573	31		573		105.7%
Scots Melbourne/Flemington	17,886	17,886			17,886		100.0%
Sunshine	1,364	1,364			1,364		100.0%
West Footscray	942	942			942		100.0%
Williamstown	1,752	1,752			1,752		100.0%
Wyndham	1,732	1,732			1,732		100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	29,592	29,623	31		29,623		100.0%
	20,002	23,023	J1		23,023		100.170
Percentages subscribed/unpaid							

	Allocation 2015/16	Received for 2015/16	Received in Excess of Allocation	Received for Prior Year	TOTAL Received in 2015/16	BALANCE of Allocation NOT Received	TOTAL Received for 2015/16 as % of Allocation
PRESBYTERY OF NORTH WESTERN VICTORIA							
Total Allocated to Presbytery	5,326						
Bendigo -	1,550	1,550			1,550		100.0%
Eaglehawk	792	792			792		100.0%
Northern Lakes (Kerang/Pyramid Hill/Swan Hill)	1,370					1,370	
Rochester	1,309	1,309			1,309		100.0%
Sunraysia	305	305			305		100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	5,326	3,956			3,956	1,370	74.3%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid						25.7%	
SUMMARY							
Total Allocated to Presbyteries	177,350						
BALLARAT	7,272	7,272			7,272		100.0%
BENALLA	9,595	9,596			9,596		100.0%
FLINDERS	22,729	18,757			18,757	3,971	82.5%
GEELONG	6,649	6,649			6,649		100.0%
GIPPSLAND	7,688	7,688			7,688		100.0%
KILNOORAT	11,654	8,707			8,707	2,948	74.7%
MAROONDAH	13,663	13,663			13,663		100.0%
MELBOURNE EAST	36,423	32,673			32,673	3,750	89.7%
MELBOURNE NORTH	26,759	26,750			26,750		100.0%
MELBOURNE WEST	29,592	29,623	31		29,623		100.1%
NORTH WESTERN VICTORIA	5,326	3,956			3,956	1,370	74.3%
unallocated							
TOTALS	177,350	165,334	31		165,334	12,039	93.2%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid						6.8%	

Genera	General Assembly					Budget		
Benefic	Beneficiary Trusts					for		
Income §	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
		Projected Co	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	nterest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account	Account Description	2014/2015	2015/2016	8 Months to	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019
°		Actual	Budget	Feb-16	Projected	Proposed	Projected	Projected
Donaldson Trust	on Trust							
Income						%0.9	%0.9	%0.9
1352	Interest Common Fund Specific	2,249	009	2,847	4,300	0	0	0
1440	Other Income	111,589	140,500	57,053	140,500	144,800	154,100	164,200
1995	Unrealised Gains revaluation	22,894	0	(47,708)	(47,708)	0	0	0
	Total Income	136,732	141,100	12,191	97,092	144,800	154,100	164,200
Payments								
2291	Grants Paid	15,920	25,000	2,780	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
	Surplus	120,812	116,100	6,411	72,092	119,800	129,100	139,200
	Balance of Specific Funds in Comm Fund	36,020	0	37,209	0	0	0	0
	Perpetual Funds (Separately Invested)	282,154	282,154	282,154	282,154	282,154	282,154	282,154
	Specific Balance (Separately Invested)	1,501,847	1,617,947	1,507,069	1,573,939	1,693,739	1,822,839	1,962,039
Forster Trust	rust							
Income								
1353	Interest Common Fund Specific	3,664	3,700	2,444	3,600	3,700	3,700	3,700
Payments								
2292	Grants Paid	3,900	3,700	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,900	3,600
	Surplus	(236)	0	(1,156)	0	100	(200)	100
	Balance of Specific Funds	1,870	1,870	714	1,870	1,970	1,770	1,870
	Perpetual Funds	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000
Pensione	Pensioners Reserve							
Income								
1354	Interest Common Fund Specific	23,012	24,600	16,743	25,500	27,500	30,800	34,500
Payments								
2814	Pensions - Ministers & Widows	2,700	2,700	1,575	1,575	0	0	0
	Surplus	20,312	21,900	15,168	23,925	27,500	30,800	34,500
	Balance of Specific Funds	204,876	226,776	220,044	228,801	256,301	287,101	321,601

Genera	General Assembly					Budget		
Benefic	Beneficiary Trusts					for		
Income {	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17				12%	Approval 12%	12%	12%
Account No	Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Ministers	Ministers Retirement Housing							
Income								
1355	Interest Common Fund Specific	425,673	429,000	284,776	435,000	432,000	434,000	436,000
	Total Income	425,673	429,000	284,776	435,000	432,000	434,000	436,000
Payments								
2510	Legal Expenses	4,029	4,000	4,317	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
2751&2752	2751&2752 Property Expenses	11,500	12,000	3,761	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
	Total Expenditure	15,529	16,000	8,078	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000
	Surplus	410,144	413,000	276,698	419,000	416,000	418,000	420,000
Capital Itel	Capital Items / Balance Sheet Payments							
	Loans Advanced/Repaid	0	400,000	100,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000
	Balance Invested in Common Fund	3,579,097	3,592,097	3,755,795	3,598,097	3,614,097	3,632,097	3,652,097
J & E Wa	J & E Walters (P Owen Trustee)							
Income								
1356	Interest Common Fund Specific	16,473	16,800	10,841	16,200	16,500	15,600	15,000
Payments								
2293	Grants Paid	32,100	16,800	15,000	16,800	24,000	20,000	20,000
	Surplus	(15,627)	0	(4,159)	(009)	(7,500)	(4,400)	(2,000)
	Balance of Specific Funds	14,130	14,130	9,971	13,530	6,030	1,630	(3,370)
	Perpetual Funds	123,658	123,658	123,658	123,658	123,658	123,658	123,658
		•		•				
Surplus/(D	Surplus/(Deficit) Beneficiary Trusts	535,405	551,000	292,963	514,417	555,900	573,300	588,800
TOTAL	Balance of Specific Funds	5,337,840	5,452,820	5,530,803	5,416,237	5,572,137	5,745,437	5,934,237
TOTAL	Perpetual Funds	434,812	434,812	434,812	434,812	434,812	434,812	434,812

## Control of the con	General Assem Specific Trusts Income & Expend	General Assembly Specific Trusts Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17				, , ,	Budget for Approval	, , %	, , ,
Moderators Trust	Account No	Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Moderators Expenses 24,857 24,300 16,230 24,800 24,400 24,400 Surplus 24,857 24,300 4,803 24,300 24,400 Surplus Surp	Deakin (I	Moderators) Trust	- - -						
Noderators Expenses 24,857 24,400 16,230 24,300 24,300 24,400 10 control Expenses 24,857 24,300 4,803 24,300 24,400 24,	Income	_							
Total Expenditure 24,857 24,300 4,803 24,300 24,400 24,400 Surplus Surplus 24,857 24,300 4,803 24,300 24,400 Surplus Surplus 202,337 202,037 213,365 202,437 202,337 202,037 213,365 202,437 202,337 202,337 202,037 213,365 202,437 202,337 202,037 213,365 202,437 202,337 202,037 213,365 202,437 202,337 202,037 213,365 202,437 202,337 202,037 213,365 202,437 202,337 202,037	1351	Interest Common Fund Specific	23,728	24,400	16,230	24,800	24,300	24,300	24,300
Total Expenditure 24,857 24,350 4,803 24,300 24,400	Payments	-	1 1 0						
Surplate of Specific Funds	7590	Moderators Expenses	24,857	24,300	4,803	24,300	24,400	24,300	24,300
Surplus Surp		Total Expenditure	24,857	24,300	4,803	24,300	24,400	24,300	24,300
Balance of Specific Funds 201,337 213,365 202,437 202,337 211,365 202,437 202,337 211,365 202,437 202,337 211,365 202,437 202,337 211,365 202,437 202,337 211,260 22,600 2		Surplus	(1,129)	100	11,428	200	(100)	0	0
Interest Common Fund Specific 101,255 101,600 68,391 103,600 103,201 103,200 103		Balance of Specific Funds	201,937	202,037	213,365	202,437	202,337	202,337	202,337
Name Parish Specific 101,255 101,600 68,391 103,600 103,200	Fraser Tr	ust	Ī						
National Paris Common Fund Specific 101,265 101,600 68,391 103,600 103,200 101,200	Income								
Pert Paid Missiens on Home Assignment	1353	Interest Common Fund Specific	101,255	101,600	68,391	103,600	103,200	105,200	107,600
Rent Paid Missionaries on Home Assignment	Payments								
Interest transfer to General 26,061 35,600 30,274 41,562 41,200 Supranuation Missionaries 28,317 80,600 30,274 86,562 86,200 Suzpius (Indexation of Capital) 12,338 21,000 38,117 17,038 17,000 Standard of Capital) 12,338 21,000 38,117 17,038 17,000 Standard of Funds Standard of Capital of	2791	Rent Paid Missionaries on Home Assignment	15,456	45,000	0	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
Superamentation witsstoriaries September Septemb	2400	Interest transfer to General	46,061	35,600	30,274	41,562	41,200	40,200	40,600
Surplus (Indexation of Capital) 12,938 2,1000 38,117 17,038 17,000 38,117 17,038 17,000 38,117 17,038 17,000 38,117 17,038 17,000 38,117 17,038 17,000 38,117 17,038 17,000 38,117 17,038 37,000 38,117 17,038 37,000 38,117 38,000 38,	7070	Total Expenditure	26,600	80 600	30 274	86.562	86 200	85 200	85 600
Surplus Interest Common Fund Specific Interest Common Fu		Control of a distance of the control	40,00	24,000	20,11	47.030	41,000	000 00	000 00
Balance of Funds Balance of		Surpius (indexation of Capital)	12,938	21,000	38,117	17,038	17,000	20,000	22,000
Interest Common Fund Specific		Balance of Funds	842,962	863,962	881,079	860,000	877,000	897,000	919,000
Interest Common Fund Specific	Balfour N	Aemorial Trust				2.00%	2.00%	2.25%	2.50%
Interest Common Fund Specific	Income								
Rent Paid Ministers' Holiday Homes 142,252 124,900 83,410 122,700 127,100 Rent Paid Ministers' Holiday Homes 107,743 90,000 70,298 90,000 92,500 Wages - Ministers' Holiday Homes 1,379 1,656 844 1,656 1,693 Ministers' Superannuation Subsidy 200,000 20,000 0 0 0 TEC Bursaries 314,517 91,656 71,141 91,656 94,193 Surplus (172,265) 33,244 12,268 31,044 32,907 Balance of Funds 936,717 969,961 948,985 967,761 1,000,668 1, Interest Common Fund Specific 21,421 21,500 13,665 20,700 19,600 Insurance Claims & Risk Management 36,906 24,000 1,165 (11,800) (15,400) Surplus (15,400) 1,165 176,339 163,374 147,974	1356		131,002	114,400	74,270	112,200	116,100	120,100	124,300
Rent Paid Ministers' Holiday Home 107,743 90,000 70,298 90,000 92,500 Wages - Ministers' Holiday Homes 1,379 1,656 844 1,656 1,693 Ministers' Superannuation Subsidy 200,000 20,000 92,500 1,693 TEC Bursaries 200,000 31,451 91,656 71,141 91,656 94,193 Surplus 1000,000 31,451 96,961 31,044 32,907 1,000,668 1,000,66	2		142,252	124,900	83,410	122,700	127,100	131,600	135,800
Rent Paid Ministers' Holiday Homes 107,743 90,000 70,298 90,000 92,500 Wages - Ministers Holiday Homes 1,379 1,656 844 1,656 1,693 Ministers Holiday Homes 200,000 0 0 0 0 TEC Bursaries 314,517 91,656 71,141 91,656 94,193 Surplus (172,265) 33,244 12,268 31,044 32,907 Balance of Funds 936,717 969,961 948,985 967,761 1,000,668 1, e Interest Common Fund Specific 21,421 21,500 13,665 20,700 19,600 Insurance Claims & Risk Management 36,906 24,000 1,165 (11,800) (15,400) Surplus (15,485) (2,500) 1,165 (11,800) (15,400)	Payments								
Wagges - Ministers Floileday Ploines 1,379 1,020 044 1,020 1,030 Ministers' Superannuation Subsidy 2,395 0 0 0 0 0 0 TEC Bursaries 314,517 91,656 71,141 91,656 94,193 0	2790	Rent Paid Ministers' Holiday Home	107,743	90,000	70,298	90,000	92,500	95,000	95,000
TEC Bursaries 200,000 0	2810	Wages - Ministers Holiday Homes Ministers' Superannuation Subsidy	1,379	0C0, I	044	oco, I	1,093	1,731	1,7,4
Total Expenditure 314,517 91,656 71,141 91,656 94,193 Surplus (172,265) 33,244 12,268 31,044 32,907 1,000,668 1, Balance of Funds (172,265) 33,244 12,268 31,044 32,907 1,000,668 1, e Interest Common Fund Specific 21,271 21,500 13,665 20,700 19,600 19,600 Insurance Claims & Risk Management 36,906 24,000 12,500 32,500 35,000 Surplus (15,485) (2,500) 1,165 (11,800) (15,400) Balance of Funds 175,174 172,674 176,339 163,374 147,974	2292	TEC Bursaries	200,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Surplus (172,265) 33,244 12,268 31,044 32,907 1,000,668 1, Balance of Funds Palance of Funds (172,265) 33,244 12,268 31,044 32,907 1,000,668 1		Total Expenditure	314,517	91,656	71,141	91,656	94,193	96,731	96,774
Balance of Funds 936,717 969,961 948,985 967,761 1,000,668 1, e Interest Common Fund Specific 21,421 21,500 13,665 20,700 19,600 19,600 19,600 19,600 10,60		Surplus	(172,265)	33,244	12,268	31,044	32,907	34,869	39,026
Light 21,421 21,500 13,665 20,700 19,600 Interest Common Fund Specific 36,906 24,000 12,500 32,500 35,000 Insurance Claims & Risk Management (15,485) (2,500) 1,165 (11,800) (15,400) Surplus 175,174 172,674 176,339 163,374 147,974		Balance of Funds	936,717	969,961	948,985	967,761	1,000,668	1,035,537	1,074,563
Interest Common Fund Specific 21,421 21,500 13,665 20,700 19,600 Insurance Claims & Risk Management 36,906 24,000 12,500 32,500 35,000 Surplus (15,485) (2,500) 1,165 (11,800) (15,400) Balance of Funds 175,174 172,674 176,339 163,374 147,974	Insuranc	0							
Interest Common Fund Specific 21,421 21,500 13,665 20,700 19,600 Insurance Claims & Risk Management 36,906 24,000 12,500 32,500 35,000 Surplus (15,485) (2,500) 1,165 (11,800) (15,400) Balance of Funds 175,174 172,674 176,339 163,374 147,974									
Insurance Claims & Risk Management 36,906 24,000 12,500 32,500 35,000 Surplus (15,485) (2,500) 1,165 (11,800) (15,400) Balance of Funds 175,174 172,674 176,339 163,374 147,974	1354	Interest Common Fund Specific	21,421	21,500	13,665	20,700	19,600	17,800	15,700
Insurance Claims & Risk Management 36,906 24,000 12,500 32,500 35,000 15,000 11,65 11,65 11,65 11,65 11,65 11,63 11,60	Payments	_							
(15,485) (2,500) 1,165 (11,800) (15,400) 175,174 172,674 176,339 163,374 147,974	2385	Insurance Claims & Risk Management	36,906	24,000	12,500	32,500	35,000		35,000
175,174 172,674 176,339 163,374 147,974		Surplus	(15,485)	(2,500)	1,165	(11,800)	(15,400)		(19,300)
		Balance of Funds	175,174	172,674	176,339	163,374	147,974	130,774	111,474

201,530 223,300 19,500 11,200 30,700 10,000 73,500 2.104 83,500 (52,800) 132,799 2018/2019 Projected 345,404 200,000 1,530 143,874 76,500 4,000,000 8,933,042 172,339 31,392 4,516,029 2,004,924 12% 120,000 207,900 2,104 (56,000)200,000 201,530 00 18,500 19,000 37,500 10,000 83,500 93,500 162,839 110,143 4,383,229 128,474 4,000,000 8,316,368 1,861,050 76,500 93,692 330,004 2017/2018 Projected 12% 105,000 193,100 175,000 1,530 4,000,000 176,530 123,674 17,600 41,400 59,000 10,000 228,500 (21,419) 2.104 0 0 (179,500) 158,192 4,273,087 76,500 154,339 Proposed 300,204 1,732,577 238,500 2016/2017 Approval Budget 12% fo (23,930)2015/2016 Projected 66,285 183,200 1.744 138,567 1,533 2,320 4,695 16,376 10,000 35,000 4,294,506 111,128 1,608,903 2,320 47,320 345,292 251,228 23,391 146,739 123,981 3,000,000 140,101 76,500 12% 46,674 120,637 872 (13,533)155,174 2,320 5,100 3,130 10,917 95,919 72,263 4,287,209 8 Months to 95,155 764 1,565,015 2,209,493 35,000 35,000 339,833 2,320 5,100 121,708 76,898 21,467 168,183 Feb-16 97,500 189,300 211,250 1,560 76,135 00 8,100 4,306,604 2.145 1,573,910 4,000,000 18,100 39,900 58,000 10,000 39,900 49,900 136,079 288,945 212,810 7,573,393 160,144 363,916 2015/2016 Budget 87,071 176,618 81,666 181,520 2,045 (136,386)18,672 41,161 9,169 10,000 77,314 39,555 4,170,525 1,543 265,232 9 1,497,775 27,359 48,847 96,483 363,916 265,232 77,945 2,432,671 136,039 152,044 2014/2015 Actual Other Specific Trusts - GAA, Overseas Visitors Interest on Loans to Congregations @ 3% Deposits from Congregations, PWMU etc Balance of Funds - Accrued Interest Balance of Funds - Pres-AID Funds Grant to Property Development Fund Grants Paid - Overseas Visitors Fund Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17 **Balance of Funds - O/S Visitors** Interest on Loans from TC @ 5% Interest Common Fund Specific Pres-Aid Donations - Christmas Pres-Aid Donations - Easter **Balance of Specific Funds** Interest - Overseas Visitors Interest paid to Depositors Break Even Loan Balance **Balance of Funds - GAA** Other Investment Income Surplus/(Deficit) Specific Trusts Total Expenditure Total Expenditure **Balance of Funds** Grants Paid - GAA Surplus / (Deficit) Grants - Pres-Aid Accrued Interest **Capital Fund Reserve General Assembly Total Income** Total Income Interest - GAA Description Specific Trusts Surplus Loans Account **Payments** ²ayments Income Income 1340 1355 1440 2295 2401 1163 1164 1350 1350 TOTAL 2402 2291 2290 2294 £

General Assembly	Assembly					Budget		
General C	General Operations					for		
Income & E	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
		Projected Co	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates	nterest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account De	Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Income								
	General Mission Program	165,061	177,350	165,334	173,803	158,563	150,000	150,000
1160 Dc	Donations & Gifts	250		480	480	,	,	•
1359&1358 Int	1359&1358 Interest Common Fund General and Assembly Hall	485,637	466,000	309,028	488,000	515,000	450,000	446,000
1359 Int	Interest Transfer ex Fraser Trust	46,061	35,600	30,274	41,562	41,200	40,200	40,600
1501 Ma	Management Fees	149,877	154,928	108,028	162,042	165,688	169,416	173,651
1601 Re	Rental Trusts Corporation	1,318	895	218	867	887	906	926
1120 Sa	Safe Church funding from congregations	65,965	66,320	66,299	66,239	77,376	77,790	79,735
1640 Sc	Scots Church Property Trust	97,456	100,400	54,632	80,000	81,600	83,200	84,900
1650 Su	Sundry Income	4,129	1,000	2,955	2,955	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total Income		1,016,054	1,002,493	737,638	1,016,008	1,042,314	973,513	977,815
Expenditure								
1. Personnel	. Personnel Related Expenses							
	Salaries & Wages	373,614	405,833	268,086	402,556	412,972	423,631	435,749
2245 Fri	Fringe Benefits (Employee)	47,299	47,700	31,800	47,700	47,700	47,700	47,700
2550 Lo	Long Service Leave	9,137	10,710	7,498	10,710	10,951	11,197	11,477
-	Superannuation	37,327	41,041	26,858	40,715	41,736	42,780	43,966
2830 Sta	Staff Amenities	1,090	1,000	707	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	Education & Training	0	1,000	877	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2250 Fri	Fringe Benefits Tax	21,942	22,212	14,664	22,212	22,212	22,212	22,212
2140 Cc	Consultancy	222		1	•			•
	Femporary Staff	9,300	1,600	260	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	WorkCover Levy	4,070	4,198	4,049	4,049	4,262	4,357	4,464
2955 Dis	Disability Insurance	1,858	1,914	2,562	2,562	2,639	2,719	2,800
2920 Tra	Travelling Expenses		1,000	•	500	500	200	200
Total Personr	Total Personnel Related Expenses	506,214	538,208	357,362	534,005	546,973	559,095	572,868

Genera	General Assembly					Budget		
Genera	General Operations					for		
Income	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
	,	Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	nterest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account No	Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
2. Office R	Office Related Expenses							
2010	Accounting & Audit Fape	31 884	27 300	18 200	32 841	34 483	36 207	38 017
2130	Computer & Software Costs	3,991	10.000	1,735	5.000	5,000	5,000	5.000
2180	Depreciation - Furniture & Equipment	4,225	5,000	3,596	5,000	5,400	5,000	5,000
2280	General Expenses	337	200	216	200	200	200	200
2399	Insurance Public Liability etc	3,751	4,014	3,904	3,904	4,177	4,469	4,782
2700	Postage Printing & Stationery	5,868	11,000	1,528	3,000	3,500	3,500	3,500
2760	Maintenance Office Equipment	52	200	1	200	200	200	200
2910	Telephone & Fax	7,654	8,500	4,985	7,800	8,000	8,200	8,400
Total Offic	Total Office Related Expenses	57,762	66,514	34,164	58,245	61,260	63,077	65,400
3. Grants								
2292	Grants PWMU	060'9	986'9	4,116	986'9	6,578	6,775	6,978
2310	General Mission Programme Distribution-outside PCV	43,900	44,850	44,850	44,850	46,100	47,137	48,316
2311	General Mission Programme Distribution-PCV	121,161	132,500	120,484	128,953	112,463	102,863	101,684
Total Grants	ıts	171,151	183,736	169,449	180,189	165,141	156,775	156,978
4. Propert	4. Property Related Expenses							
2120	Cleaning & Rubbish Removal	6,661	3,032	2,087	3,032	3,183	3,343	3,510
2391	Insurance Fire & General	78	100	71	71	100	100	100
2540	Light Power & Heating	2,289	2,835	1,686	2,835	2,977	3,126	3,282
Total Prop	Total Property Related Expenses	9,027	5,967	3,844	5,938	6,260	6,568	6,892
5. Assemb	5. Assembly Related Expenses							7
2048	Church Architect	4,084	2,000	1,863	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2285	Committee Expenses - Travel	1,314	009	1,668	1,668	2,000	2,000	2,000
2302	General Assembly - The Fellowship	134	2,500	•	200	200	200	200
2300	General Assembly week - Expenses	7,694	10,400	6,210	6,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
2300	Ministers Wives Dinner	1,485	1,600	1,785	1,785	1,800	1,800	1,800
2131	Website Hosting & Development	3,071	6,000	1,855	3,200	4,500	4,601	4,716
2350	Honoraria	3,505	3,505	3,590	3,590	3,671	3,753	3,847
2270	General Assembly Australia Expenses	10,764	40,000	33,235	40,000	80,000	40,000	40,000
2705	Printing, Postage & Stationery	20,260	20,000	14,338	20,000	20,450	20,910	21,433
2921	Travel Expenses - Assessors	662	2,000	294	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2925 2510	Clerk's Denominational Travel & Accomm	2,295	380,000	2,010	2,010	2,500	2,500	2,500
\$			111 005	200,000	1,100,000	200,000	200,021	100,000
otal ASSE	lotal Assembly Kelated Expenses	789,389	477,605	920,731	1,185,636	677,421	108,065	108,796

Genera	General Assembly					Budget		
Genera	General Operations					for		
Income	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
		Projected Co	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	nterest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account No	Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
6. Safe Ch	Safe Church Expenses							
2811	Salaries & Wades	35.822	39.136	25,234	38.212	38.336	39,294	40.276
2811	Admin Assistant Wages]))))] []	9,360	9,571	9,810
2871	Superannuation	3,583	3,914	2,523	3,821	4,770	3,929	4,028
2701	Printing, Postage & Stationery	5,873	6,500	4,139	6,500	7,000	7,175	7,354
2221	Training	1,499	1,200	841	1,200	1,600	1,640	1,681
2923	Travel	891	2,000	2,764	3,000	2,050	2,101	2,154
2911	Phone/Internet	1,510	1,500	794	1,500	2,200	2,255	2,311
2751	Office Rent	060'9	6,150	4,116	6,150	6,304	6,461	6,623
2542	Energy Costs	306	520	308	520	533	546	260
2141	Professional Services	•	4,000	0	4,000	4,100	4,203	4,308
2851	Professional Ass'n, Journals	155	400	510	400	009	615	630
2281	Contingency	300	1,000	301	1,000	0	0	0
2951	Workcover SCU	18		342	342	525		
Total Safe	Total Safe Church Expenses	56,046	66,320	41,871	66,645	77,376	77,790	79,735
Total Arch	Total Archive Related Expenses	49,510	53,932	34,721	53,909	54,487	55,282	56,235
Total Expenses	enses	1,639,100	1,392,282	1,562,141	2,084,567	1,588,917	1,026,651	1,046,904
Surplus/(L	Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	(623,046)	(389,789)	(824,503)	(1,068,558)	(546,604)	(53,139)	(680'69)
Capital Items	SW	•						
	Server/ws replacement	2,485	2,400		0	10,000	2,000	2,000
	Mail Exchange Software		2,000		0			
	Unice Furn & Equip - Sare Church Onice	1,965		66 040				
	Increase/(Decrease) III Current Assets			20,040				
	(Increase)/Decrease in Current Liabilities			(7.461)				
	(Increase)/Decrease in Variett Liabilities			(10+,1)				
	New Photocopier - Kvocera	12,491						
	Office Furniture	,	500		0	500		
	Total Capital Expenditure	16,941	4,900	49,611	0	10,500	2,000	2,000
General Funds	spun	3,062,548	2,684,569	2,192,030	2,004,039	1,464,086	1,425,945	1,372,183
Perpetual Funds	Funds	2,286,996	2,286,996	2,286,996	2,286,996	2,286,996	2,286,996	2,286,996

Genera	General Assembly					Budget		
Genera	General Operations					for		
Income ?	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
		Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates	nterest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account No	Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
ARCHIVES	20							
Income								
1652	Archival Fees ex Private Researchers	159	1	•		•	•	
Total Arch	Total Archival Income	159	0	0	0	0	0	0
Expenses								
2122	Cleaning & Preservation Costs	3	90	•	90	20	90	20
2132	Computer & Software Costs	96	250	1	250	250	250	250
2222	Education & Training	ı	150	ı	150	150	150	150
2282	General Expenses	285	400	230	400	350	350	320
2552	Long Service Leave	773	1,000	536	1,000	800	800	820
2702	Postage, Printing & Stationery	299	320	146	350	200	200	200
2703	Archival Boxes & Wallets	272	450	1	450	350	350	320
2704	Retrieval	1,400	2,300	824	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,300
2752	Rent	2,000	2,000	3,333	5,000	5,000	5,000	2,000
2812	Salaries	29,516	31,127	21,535	31,106	31,806	32,522	33,335
2835	Storage	8,387	8,400	5,608	8,400	8,400	8,400	8,400
2852	Subscriptions & Reference Books	162	150	82	150	100	100	100
2872	Superannuation	2,952	3,113	2,154	3,111	3,181	3,252	3,333
2912	Telephone & Internet		800	,	800	850	850	820
2922	Travelling Expenses	116	20	,	20	20	20	20
2952	WorkCover Levy	250	342	272	342	350	358	367
Total Arch	Total Archive Related Expenses	49,510	53,932	34,721	53,909	54,487	55,282	56,235
Surplus/(D	Surplus/(Deficit) on Archival Operations	(49,351)	(53,932)	(34,721)	(53,909)	(54,487)	(55,282)	(56,235)

Australian Presbyterian World Mission Vic Specific Trusts					Budget for		
	Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	nterest Rates:	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%
Account Description No	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Vanuatu Trusts	· -		-				
1352 Interest Common Fund	19,421	19,100	12,571	18,900	18,500	17,900	17,200
131							
2292 Grants	23,250	20,000	10,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
penditure	26,650	3,400 23.400	11.700	23,400	23.400	23.400	23.400
Surplus/(Deficit)	(7,229)	(4,300)	871	(4,500)	(4,900)	(5,500)	(6,200)
Specific Funds	116,950	112,650	117,821	112,450	107,550	102,050	95,850
Perpetual Funds	41,451	41,451	41,451	41,451	41,451	41,451	41,451
Beatty Trust							
-							
1353 Interest Common Fund	15,158	14,800	9,793	14,800	14,800	14,700	14,700
2293 Grants - APWM National Office	20,000	15,000	7,500	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Surplus/(Deficit)	(4,842)	(200)	2,293	(200)	(200)	(300)	(300)
Specific Funds	123,248	123,048	125,541	123,048	122,848	122,548	122,248
Bone MA Trust	. ,						
Income	•		•				
1351.19 Interest Common Fund	8,924	8,500	5,402	8,000	6,500	5,100	3,500
2300 10 Crosts Abericinal	c	15,000	7 500	45,000	0	0020	0 500
	20,000	10,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
	20,000	25,000	12,500	25,000	18,500	18,500	18,500
Surplus/(Deficit)	(11,076)	(16,500)	(7,098)	(17,000)	(12,000)	(13,400)	(15,000)
Specific Funds	71,250	54,750	64,152	54,250	42,250	28,850	13,850
Dehra Dun	Г						
Income	4 740	700	0200	009	7 000	009 7	400
Expenditure	t,	, , ,	3,0,5	1,000	1,000	1,000	, , ,
2294 Grants	2,825	5,000	6,159	6,159	6,200	6,200	6,200
Surplus/(Deficit)	1,885	(300)	(3,081)	(1,559)	(1,400)	(1,600)	(1,800)
Specific Funds	16,261	15,961	13,180	14,702	13,302	11,702	9,902
Perpetual Funds	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Sumine (Deficit) on Operations	(345)	(3.850)	42 089	15 354	(650)	750	250
Surplus/(Deficit) Specific Trusts	(245)	(21,300)	42,083	(23.259)	(630)	(20,800)	(23.300)
Total Surplus/(Deficit)	(21,607)	(25,150)	35,074	(7,905)	(19,150)	(20,050)	(23,050)
TOTAL Specific Funds	327,709	245,806	320,694	304,450	285,950	265,150	241,850
	66,451	66,451	66,451	66,451	66,451	66,451	66,451

Austral	Australian Presbyterian World Mission Vic					Budget		
Genera	General Operations					for		
Income {	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
		Projected Co	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates	nterest Rates:	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%
Account No	Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Income								
	General Mission Programme	40,746	30,000	27,279	30,000	15,000	10,000	10,000
	Mission Lunch Income	1,100	1,500	1,313	1,313	1,500	1,500	1,500
	Donations & Bequests	0 2	0	419	419	0 00 00	0 00	0 00
1339.19	Interest common Fund Other Investment Income	03,551	02,200	43,375	00,000	04,900	005,60	008,60
	Profit (Loss) on Sale of Asset	0	0	3,682	3,682	0	0	0
Total Income	me	105,513	93,700	76,192	101,538	81,400	76,800	77,300
Expenditure	re							
Grants								
	Grants - Mission Expenses	6,250	5,000	0	5,000	000'9	000'9	000'9
	Grants - Aboriginal		Now paid from	Now paid from Bone Bequest				
	Grants - General - detail below	39,846	41,000	14,664	33,000	28,000	23,000	23,000
	Grants - Christmas Gifts	8,100	8,500	8,500	8,500	000'6	9,000	000'6
	Grants - Re-entry Expenses	100	5,000	345	5,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
28/0.18	Superannualion - Missionaries	14,920	000,61	O	000,61	000,61	000,61	000,61
Total Gran	Total Grant Payments	84,246	74,500	23,509	66,500	62,000	57,000	57,000
Committee								
	Computer & Website Expenses	175	200	0	200	200	200	200
	Depreciation Motor Vehicles	6,707	4,800	3,481	4,800	3,800	3,800	3,800
	Mission Lunch Expenses	1,441	1,500	1,365	1,365	1,500	1,500	1,500
	General Expenses-Committee	250	200	196	200	200	200	200
	Motor Vehicle Expenses	10,499	13,000	5,294	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000
2705.19	Promotion - New Poster	1,025	0	0	0	1,000	0	1,000
	Postage & Stationery	24 6	250	0,	250	230	250	250
2020.19	Subscriptions Travolling Expanses	080	000 6	0	150	150	150	150
	WorkCover Levy	334	350	119	119	350	350	350
Total Com	Total Committee Expenses	21,613	23,050	10,594	19,684	20,050	19,050	20,050
Total Expenses	nses	105,859	97,550	34,103	86,184	82,050	76,050	77,050
Surplus/(D	Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	(345)	(3,850)	42,089	15,354	(059)	750	250
General Fu	General Funds (exc balance of Appeal Funds)	213,203	214,153	258,773	233,357	236,507	241,057	245,107
Perpetual Funds	Funds	307,671	307,671	307,671	307,671	307,671	307,671	307,671

Christi	Christian Education & Nurture					Budget		
Specif	Specific Trusts - Allan Trust					for		
Income	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
		Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	nterest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account	Account Description	2014/2015	2015/2016	8 months to	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019
8 N		Actual	Budget	Feb-16	Projected	Proposed	Projected	Projected
Income								
1060	Sales - See For Yourself	504		0				
1351	Interest Common Fund Specific	71,613	74,000	49,641	75,300	75,500	76,200	77,500
Total Income	ome	72,117	74,000	49,641	75,300	75,500	76,200	77,500
Expenditure	ure							
2071	Bursaries & Prizes	1,285	7,500	1,600	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500
	Production of Catechisms App					2,000	0	0
2281	General Expenses	318	328	0	328	350	350	320
2293	Contribution to Youth Worker	39,000	39,975	26,650	39,975	40,775	41,998	43,258
2781	Production - ebook version of SFY, New Jacket, Promo	0	4,000	0	4,000	4,000	0	0
2350	Honorarium - for Primary version of SFY	0	15,000	0	15,000	15,000	15,000	0
Total Expenses) enses	40,603	66,803	28,250	66,803	69,625	64,848	51,108
Surplus/(Surplus/(Deficit) on Specific Trusts	31,513	7,197	21,391	8,497	5,875	11,352	26,392
Specific Funds	Funds	592,608	599,805	613,999	601,105	086'909	618,332	644,724
Perpetual Funds	l Funds	27,852	27,852	27,852	27,852	27,852	27,852	27,852

Christ General	Christian Education & Nurture General Operations Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Budget for Approval		
		Projected	Common Func	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account No	Account Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Income								
1359	Interest Common Fund General	699'06	90,600	60,119	90,600	90,700	90,700	91,000
1032	18/30 Camp Income Women's Ministry Income	7.752	5,000	0 570	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Total Income	ome	98,311	009'66	689'09	99,600	104,700	104,700	105,000
Expenditure	ure							
•	Seminars							
2580	Conferences and Seminars	868		0	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2582 2584	Women's Ministry 18/30 Camp Expenditure	15,552 0	12,000 5,000	4,217 0	12,000 5,000	12,000 5,000	12,000 5,000	12,000
Total Ser	Total Seminar Expenses	16,450	18,000	4,217	18,000	19,000	19,000	19,000
Committee	ee							
2133	Website	645	200	345	700	800	800	800
2180	Depreciation	114	100	200	006	1,200	006	0
2280	General Expenses	109	009	552	009	800	800	800
2392	Insurances Professional Indemnity	400	404	400	400	420	440	460
2700	Postage Printing & Stationery Travelling Expenses	0 1 981	3 000	533	3 000	3 000	3 000	3000
Total Cor	Total Committee Expenses	3.249	5.054	2 3 2 9	5.850	6.520	6.240	5.360
	Grants to DVV	21.16	- 2262) i	2)	2126	2: 1:0	996
2205	Grams to PT V	49,000	50 22E	33 180	50 22E	K1 22E	52 762	5A 3AE
2292	PYV Camp Fees	24.230		15.230	10.000	12,000	12,000	12,000
2292	PYV Camp Leader Subsidies	,	12,360	0	12,360	13,000	13,000	13,000
Total Gra	Total Grants to PYV	73,230	72,585	48,710	72,585	76,225	77,762	79,345
Total Expenses	oenses	92,929	629'96	55,256	96,435	101,745	103,002	103,705
Surplus/	Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	5,382	3,961	5,433	3,165	2,955	1,698	1,295
General Funds	Funds	486,783	485,844	492,716	487,848	487,803	490,401	491,697
Perpetual Funds	ıl Funds	268,250	268,250	268,250	268,250	268,250	268,250	268,250
Capital Items	ems							
	WMV Office Equipment inc laptop PA equipment for CENC/PYV		2,000	3,000	3,000	1,200 3,000		
	Total Capital Exenditure		5,000		3,000	4,200	0	0

Presbyterian Youth in Victoria					Budget		
General Operations					for		
Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
	Projected (Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	Interest Rates:	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%
Account Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
(A)		2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	2	200000	popodo -	50000	5000
ם ר	E 46		C		002	640	202
1039 Income	246		1 059	1 059	900	510	525 725
	(1.644)		(1,059)	(1.059)	0	0	0
Ministers Family Camp (~Sep 2015)							,
1029 Income	1,500	1,500	86	1,500	400	408	420
2731 Expenses	954	700	88	89	300	306	315
Surplus/(Deficit) on Ministers Family Camp	546	800	6	1,411	100	102	105
Summer Camp (Dec 2015 - Jan 2016)							
	62,268	26,700	50,322	26,700	000'09	61,200	63,036
2725 Expenses	61,110	56,700	50,223	56,700	60,000	61,200	63,036
Surplus/(Deficit) on Summer Camp	1,158	0	66	0	0	0	0
Youth Leaders' Conference (~Jan 2016)							
1031 Income	19,552	17,000	17,962	17,000	17,340	17,687	18,217
2734 Expenses	16,570	17,000	15,308	17,000	17,340	17,687	18,217
Surplus/(Deficit) on Youth Leaders' Conference	2,982	0	2,654	0	0	0	0
West State Camp (~Apr 2016)							
	11,336	15,300	182	15,300	14,500	14,790	15,234
2736 Expenses	12,691	15,300	4	15,300	14,500	14,790	15,234
Surplus/(Deficit) on West State Camp	(1,355)	0	178	0	0	0	0
East State Camp (~June 2016)							
	8,642		(123)	12,600	11,500	11,730	12,082
2737 Expenses	9,833	12,600	95	12,600	11,500	11,730	12,082
Surplus/(Deficit) on East State Camp	(1,191)	0	(218)	0	0	0	0
Volleybali (~Oct 2015)							
	2,270	2,500	2,108	2,500	2,500	2,550	2,627
2720 Expenses	3,318	2,500	2,028	2,500	2,500	2,550	2,627
Surplus/(Deficit) on Volleyball	(1,049)	0	80	0	0	0	0
North State Camp (~Sep 2015)							
	6,607	9,400	8,834	8,834	9,400	9,588	9,876
2/40 Expenses	7,102	9,400	8,189	8,189	9,400	9,588	9/8/6
Surplus/(Deficit) on North State Camp	(494)	0	645	645	0	0	0

Presby General	Presbyterian Youth in Victoria General Operations Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Budget for		
		Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	Interest Rates:	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%
Account No	Account Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Bookstal	Bookstall & Tuckshop							1
1021	1021 Income	442	0	819	0	200	714	735
2724	Expenditure	514	0	881	0	700	714	735
	Surplus/(Deficit) on Bookstall & Tuckshop	(73)	0	(62)	0	0	0	0
Merchandising	dising							
1022	1022 Income	1,045	1,000	1,109	1,000	2,100	2,142	2,206
2722	Expenses	2,488	3,000	926	3,000	2,500	2,550	2,627
	Surplus/(Deficit) on Merchandising	(1,443)	(2,000)	133	(2,000)	(400)	(408)	(420)
Net Surp	Net Surplus/(Deficit) on all Events	(2,562)	(1,200)	2,458	(1,003)	(300)	(306)	(315)

Presby Genera Income	Presbyterian Youth in Victoria General Operations Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Budget for Approval		
		Projected C	common Fund	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%
Account No	Account Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Income								
1169	Donations Miscellaneous	1,105	009	750	750	1,000	1,020	1,051
1170	Donations to Subsidise Campers	1,500	1,000	0	1,000	1,200	1,224	1,261
1060	Equipment Hire	323	1,000	0	400	200	204	210
1065	Training Events	0	0	100	0	0	0	0
1241	CENC Funding - Youth Worker	51,000	50,225	33,480	50,225	51,225	52,762	54,345
1248	Allan Trust Funding - Youth Worker	39,000	39,975	26,650	39,975	40,775	41,998	43,258
1359	Interest Common Fund	48,083	48,700	33,840	51,300	51,700	51,300	50,800
Total Inco	Total Income (excl Camps & Events)	146,011	141,500	94,820	143,650	146,100	148,508	150,924
General Expenses	xpenses							
2150	Council expenses	32	200	48	200	250	255	263
2060	Bank Charges & Debits Tax	120	120	84	120	130	133	137
2130	Computer / Website / Software	1,886	2,500	2,128	2,500	4,500	4,590	4,728
2180	Depreciation - Furniture/Equip	1,540	1,000	1,202	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2220	Leader Training	1,518	1,500	1,762	1,500	1,700	1,734	1,786
2275	First Aid	724	750	25	750	780	962	819
2278	General Printing & Publicity	2,293	3,000	2,196	3,000	3,000	3,060	3,152
2279	Music Expenses	640	800	929	800	816	832	857
2280	General Expenses	813	200	0	200	450	459	473
2392	Insurances	2,460	2,625	2,400	2,400	2,520	2,646	2,778
2600	Motor Vehicle Expenses - Van	99	0	112	0	0	0	0
2281	PYV Mission Trip		1,000	0	1,000	1,000	1,020	1,051
2721	AGM Expenditure (~Dec)		100	0	100	09	61	63
2769	Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	257	1,000	0	1,000	900	918	946
Total Gen	Total General Expenses	12,339	15,395	10,644	15,170	17,106	17,504	18,052

Presbyterian Youth in Victoria					Budget		
General Operations					for		
Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
	Projected (Projected Common Fund Interest Rates	Interest Rates:	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%
Account Description	2014/2015	2015/2016	8 Months to	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019
ON ON	Actual	Buager	Leb-16	Projected	Proposed	Projected	Projected
Offlice			-				
-	225	400	114	400	400	408	420
2911 Internet access/usage	562	200	354	200	714	728	750
2752 Rent	5,200	5,200	3,467	5,200	5,300	5,406	5,568
2705 Office / Stationery	1,050	1,000	655	1,000	1,400	1,428	1,471
Total Office Expenses	7,037	7,300	4,589	7,300	7,814	7,970	8,209
Staff Related Expenses							
2812 Administrative Support	23,991	27,643	18,130	27,643	28,000	28,840	29,705
2872 Superannuation PYV Admin Officer	1,808	2,764	1,484	2,764	2,660	2,713	2,795
2811 Stipend Youth Worker	33,072	33,072	22,600	33,900	34,578	35,356	36,152
2640 NCB Youth Worker	17,460	17,460	11,928	17,892	18,250	18,660	19,080
	23,051	25,000	16,336	24,504	25,000	25,750	26,523
2550 Long Service Leave Levy	320	350	320	320	350	320	320
2870 Superannuation - PYV (Youth Worker)	7,580	7,580	5,179	7,769	7,924	8,102	8,285
2221 Training Expenses - Youth Worker	209	200	88	200	510	520	536
2282 Hospitality/books - Youth Worker	191	1,400	910	1,400	1,428	1,457	1,500
2955 Disability Insurance	937	1,200	2,050	2,050	2,091	2,133	2,197
2950 Workcover	902	800	795	795	816	832	857
2920 Travel	2,457	3,000	1,297	3,000	3,060	3,121	3,215
Total Staff Related Expenses	112,389	120,769	81,149	122,568	124,667	127,835	131,194
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	11,684	(3,164)	895	(2,390)	(3,787)	(5,107)	(6,846)
Deposits in Common Fund	162.654	161.584	167.844	162.358	159.571	155.464	149.618
Paypal	1,094	0	722	0	0	0	0
Total General Funds	163,748	161,584	168,565	162,358	159,571	155,464	149,618
Perpetual Funds	268,250	268,250	268,250	268,250	268,250	268,250	268,250
•							

Presbyterian Youth in Victoria					Budget		
General Operations					for		
Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
	Projected C	Common Fund	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%
Account Description No	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	2014/2015 2015/2016 8 Months to 2015/2016 Actual Budget Feb-16 Projected		2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected

Summary							
Camp Fees & Events	114,208	116,000	81,311	115,434	118,940	121,319	124,958
Income	146,011	141,500	94,820	143,650	146,100	148,508	150,924
Total Income	260,220	257,500	176,130	259,084	265,040	269,827	275,883
Camp & Event Costs	116,771	117,200	78,853	116,437	119,240	121,625	125,274
Other Costs	131,765	143,464	96,382	145,038	149,587	153,309	157,455
Total Expenses	248,536	260,664	175,235	261,474	268,827	274,934	282,729
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	11,684	(3,164)	895	(2,390)	(3,787)	(5,107)	(6,846)

Capital Items								
Camp Deposits	(902)	0	(2,720)	0	0	0		
Sundry Debtors								
Sound & Music Equipment	2,886	0		0	0	0		
Laptop	1,097	0		0	0	0		
Printer/Photocopier		0		534	0			
Office furniture		0		(534)	0	0		
Total Capital Expenditure	3.277	0	(2.720)	0	0	0	0	

Churc	Church & Nation Committee					Budget		
Gener	General Operations					for		
Income	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
		Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	nterest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account	Account Description	2014/2015	2015/2016	8 Months to	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019
8		Actual	Budget	Feb-16	Projected	Proposed	Projected	Projected
Income								
1030	Colloquium Registration Fees	0	12,000	29'9	6,657	0	12,000	0
1060	Colloquium Product Sales	0	500	0	0	0	500	0
		0	12,500	6,657	6,657	0	12,500	0
1068	Sales Booklets	0	0	14	14	0	0	0
1359	Interest Common Fund	46,336	46,600	31,625	48,000	49,400	52,500	54,100
1990	Gain/Loss on Sale of Asset	(44)	0	O	0	0	0	О
Total Income	ome	46,292	59,100	38,296	54,671	49,400	65,000	54,100
General E	Expenditure							
2130	Computer & Software Costs	323	1,150	684	1,150	092	750	750
2180	Depreciation	308	250	289	250	250	250	250
2289	General Expenses	114	1,400		200	200	200	200
2392	Insurance Professional Indemnity	400	420	400	400	420	441	463
2580	Conferences	0	850	0	850	200	200	200
2709	Postage Printing & Stationery	88	200	0	200	300	320	340
2748	Publications Cost	0	650	0	650	300	325	350
2752	Office Rental	1,170	0	0	0	0	0	0
2810	Researcher Wages	15,635	18,000	10,702	15,200	15,580	15,970	16,369
2870	Researcher Superannuation	1,564	1,800	1,070	1,520	1,558	1,597	1,637
2850	Journal Subscriptions (& Books)	451	650	266	650	029	650	650
2851	Books	0	1,200	0	1,200	400	400	400
2910	Telephone & Fax	0	800	0	800	200	200	200
2911	Researcher - internet, phone, office supplies	391	2,500	0	2,500	750	750	750
2920	Travelling Expenses	563	2,750	371	2,750	1,100	1,100	1,100
2950	Insurance W/Cover Premiums	197	200	157	157	200	200	200
Total Ger	Total General Expenditure	21,235	33,120	14,053	28,477	23,458	23,952	24,459

				for		
				Approval		
Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	nmon Fund li	nterest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
2	2015/2016	8 Months to	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019
Actual	Budget	rep-16	Projected	Froposed	Projected	Projected
0	2,000	1,778	1,778		2,000	
0	1,000	236	236		1,000	
0	4,000	5,054	5,054		4,000	
0	5,500	4,282	4,282		5,500	
0	1,500	200	200		1,500	
0	8,000	4,966	4,966		8,000	
0	6,000	2,295	2,295		6,000	
0	28,000	19,320	19,320	0	28,000	
21,235	61,120	33,373	47,797	23,458	51,952	24,459
25,057	(2,020)	4,923	6,874	25,942	13,048	29,641
21,235	61,12	0 6	3	33,373 4	33,373 47,797 4,923 6,874	33,373 47,797 23,458 4,923 6,874 25,942

Colloquium prepayments (6,000)	0) (6,211)	(6,211)	•		
			0	0	0
Enter Details Here 0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Capital Expenditure 0 (6,000)	(6,211)	(6,211)	0	0	0

481,053

451,162

437,864

411,672

409,760

402,567

398,337

General Funds

Church Planting Committee	Budget	
General Operations	for	
Income & Expenditure Budget - 2016/17	Approval	

Acct	Description	2014/2015	2015/2016	8 Months to	2015/2016	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
No.		Actual	Budget	Feb-16	Projected	Proposed	Projected	Projected
	Income							
1359	Interest Common Fund	57,645	46,300	26,894	40,700	24,700	11,600	6,100
1600	Rentals Received - Officer	26,627	27,100	18,424	27,100	27,600	28,200	28,000
1640	Scots Church Distribution	110,715	125,000	140,962	125,000	140,000	140,000	140,000
	Total Income	194,987	198,400	186,279	192,800	192,300	179,800	174,100
	Expenditure							
	Committee operations							
2220	Training of committee members	1,796	2,000		2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2221	Committee sponsored training of others	1,567	3,000		3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
2130	Website expenses		1,000	250	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2860	National conference subsidy	1,774	3,000	420	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
2285	Geneva Push	15,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	17,000	18,000	18,000
2700	Printing and Stationery	16						
2920	Travel reimbursements	200	3,000	434	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
	Total Committee Operations	20,654	28,000	17,104	28,000	29,000	30,000	30,000
	Church Planter Evangelist							
2810	Church planter evangelist - Stipend	33,072	33,648	22,600	33,900	34,663	35,529	36,595
2640	Non-Cash Benefit	20,471	17,765	12,896	17,910	18,165	18,619	19,178
2640	Childrens' Education NCB		3,000	1,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
2870	Superannuation	7,580	7,712	5,179	7,769	7,924	8,122	8,366
2752	Rental/Manse Allowance	23,400	23,400	15,600	23,400	23,400	23,400	23,400
2541	Manse Energy Expenses	3,662	4,000	1,954	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
2550	LSL Levy	320	320	320	320	320	320	320
2955	Disability Insurance/Workcover	1,438	2,100	2,297	2,297	2,297	2,297	2,527
2910	Telephone/Fax	1,168	1,400	718	1,400	1,450	1,450	1,450
	Total Church Planter Evangelist	91,140	93,376	62,594	94,026	95,249	96,767	98,865

Church Planting Committee	General Operations	Income & Expenditure Budget - 2016/17

Budget for Approval

Acct	Acct Description	2014/2015	2015/2016	8 Months to	2015/2016	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
o N		Actual	Buaget	Feb-16	Projected	Proposed	Projected	Projected
	Committee Grants							
	Startup Grants		1,175	1,175	1,175			
	Operating Grants	254,360	210,617	129,081	210,617	130,488	59,442	6,435
	Non Ordained Team Member Grants	15,400	30,566	17,917	30,566	27,390	19,011	4,620
	Total Committee Grants	269,760	242,358	148,173	242,358	157,878	78,453	11,055
	Property Expenses - Officer							
2390	Insurance - Fire & General	498	523	474	474	498	523	549
2711	Property Expenses	4,244	2,500	1,883	2,500	2,700	2,700	2,700
2750	Rates & Taxes	12,268	15,000	10,967	15,000	16,000	17,000	17,000
	Total Property Expenses - Officer	17,010	18,023	13,324	17,974	19,198	20,223	20,249
	TOTAL Expenses	398,564	381,756	241,195	382,358	301,324	225,443	160,169
	Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	(203,577)	(183,356)	(54,916)	(189,558)	(109,024)	(45,643)	13,931
	Balance on General Funds	395,203	211,847	344,496	205,645	96,621	20,978	64,909

	Church Planting Committee					Budget		
	Specific - Property Development Fund	int Fund				for		
	Income & Expenditure Budget - 20	2016/17				Approval		
					12%	12%	12%	12%
Account	Account Description	2014/2015	2015/2016	2015/2016 8 Months to	2015/2016	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
8		Actual	Budget	Feb-16	Projected	Proposed	Projected	Projected
	Income							
1162	Donations Property Development	23,383	14,500	14,852	22,278	14,500	14,500	14,500
1240	Grant from Capital Fund	87,071						
1350	Interest Property Development Fund	138,240	65,300	53,780	82,500	88,000	7,900	8,200
	Total Income	248,693	79,800	68,632	104,778	102,500	22,400	22,700
	Expenditure							
2140	Consultancy		20,000	0	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
2292	Grants Property Development	1,208,102	500,000	0	0	750,000		
	Total Expenditure	1,208,102	520,000	0	20,000	770,000	20,000	20,000
	Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	(929,408)	(440,200)	68,632	84,778	(667,500)	2,400	2,700

68,197

717,151

208,319

648,519

Property Development Fund

Health & Community Chaplaincy Committee	Specific Trusts	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/2017
Health & Community	Specific Trusts	Income & Expenditure B

Specii Income	Specific Trusts Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/2017					Budget for Approval		
P Burn	P Burnett Trust			•				
Account No	Account Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Income								
1245 1351	LSL Grant Received Interest Common Fund Specific	0 72,119	0 71,800	8,181	8,181 71,100	00E'02	008'89 0	000'.29
Total Income	ome	72,119	71,800	55,442	79,281	70,300	68,800	
Expenditure	ure							
Pastoral	Pastoral Support Worker	(ı	(i i
2142	Professional Supervision Pastoral Support Morker (Ministers' Wives) (Salary)	0 0	300	260	300	350 38 160	350	350
2872	Super PSW	3,689	3,723	2,577	3,723			4,009
2912	Pastoral Support Worker - Phone	360	360	220	360			480
2550	Long Service Leave	0	0	1,122	5,610			
2923	Pastoral Support Worker - Travel	4,000	4,000	2,769	4,000	4	4	4
2924	Pastoral Support Worker - Accomodation	327	400	24	400	400		400
2922	Workcover	331	495	381	381			529
	Total Pastoral Support Worker	45,601	46,510	33,128	52,003	4	7	49,860
2110	Chaplaincy Fees - Hospitals					6,000	6,000	6,000
2117	Chaplaincy Fees - Flisolis Chaplaincy Fees - Police					4 800		4 800
2116	Community Chaplaincy (Deaf)					20,000	.,	(1
2921	Travel - Corrections					2,000		
Kirkbrae	O							
2115	Stipend	14,931	16,949	11,300	16,950			
2641	NCB	9,730	9,973	6,631	9,948			
2791	Manse Allowance	8,615	8,787	5,858	8,784			
2871	Superannuation	3,790	4,038	2,590	4,035		i I	i i
2144	Professional Supervision	300	500	0 (500	900	200	200
777	Professional Development (ES & WG) Retirement	00 77	1,250	101	1,250		one	000
722	Long Service Leave Levy	6/1	090	1/5	175			
2320	Disability illsurarice	95/	900	020,1	1,023			
2053	Morkower	0	305	120	120			
2333	VVOINCOVEI Kirkhrae Stinnly Eees	730	303	074	47.0			
1	Total Kirkbrae Chaplaincy	38,841	43,389	28,760	43,717	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total Expenses	sesuec	84,443	89,899	61,887	95,721	82,712	84,273	85,873
Surplus/(Deficit)	(Deficit)	(12,324)	(18,099)	(6,445)	(16,439)	(12,412)	(15,473)	(18,873)
Specific	Specific Funds - Burnett	602,316	584,217	595,871	585,877	573,465	557,992	539,119

nealth & community chapiainty committee	-						
Specific Trusts					Budget		
Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/2017					for		
Harold Hughes Trust					Approval		
Account Description	2014/2015	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
ON.	Actual	nañana	01-09-1	nanafora	nasodota	LioJecied	nainaíoiu
Income			•			•	
	2,524		3,005	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
	64,095		29,516	110,600	108,400	102,600	96,300
1440 Management Fee - Separate Investments 1995 Gain / (Loss) on Investments	0 (7,490)	(21,300) 0	0 (15,099)	(21,300) $(15,099)$	(20,800) 0	(19,700)	(18,500)
Total Income	59,129	90,500	17,422	75,401	88,800	84,100	79,000
Expenditure							
2810 Western Health Chaplain Salary	29,716	30,375	20,249	30,372	31,131	31,910	32,707
2870 Superannuation	2,972	3,038		3,037	3,113	3,191	3,271
2811 North Health Chaplain Salary	19,736	20,250	_	20,249		21,274	21,806
2873 Superannuation	1,974	2,025		2,025		2,127	2,181
2814 RCH Chaplain Salary	18,286	.,	14,018	20,249	•	21,274	21,806
	1,729			2,025		2,127	2,181
	0	15,187		11,682	•	31,911	32,709
Superannuation	0	1,519		1,168		3,191	3,271
	0	15,187	Ψ,	11,682	(.)	31,911	32,709
	0			1,168		3,191	3,271
	300	1,000		1,000		2,000	2,000
	1,032			787	3,750	3,750	3,750
	226	1,995		1,995	2,000	2,000	2,000
	179	1,995	861	1,995	0	0	0 (
	797	2,985		2,985	0	0	0 00
2805 Paediatric Scholarships	2,482	6,000	2,364	6,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Total Expenses	78,897	125,349	60,251	118,419	162,147	165,857	169,660
Surplus/(Deficit)	(19,768)	(34,849)	(42,829)	(43,018)	(73,347)	(81,757)	(90,660)
	,		•			•	
Common Fund - Hughes	37,562	10,000	46,371	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Separately Invested Funds - Hughes	441,471	434,184	368,128	441,114	367,767	286,010	195,350
Perpetual Funds (Separately Invested) - Hughes	963,148	963,148	907,284	948,049	948,049	948,049	948,049
Total Hughes Funds	1,442,181	1,407,332	1,321,783	1,399,163	1,325,816	1,244,059	1,153,399

Health & Community Chaplaincy Committee

Specific Tru Income & Ex	Specific Trusts Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/2017 Walton Trust					Budget for Approval		
Account	Account Description	2014/2015	2015/2016	8 Months to	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019
No	No	Actual	Budget	Feb-16	Projected	Proposed	Projected	Projected
1352	1352 Common Fund Interest	411	340	171	270	250	140	10
2117	2117 Chaplaincy- Ballarat	1,000	1,200	800	1,200	1,200	1,200	124
Surplus/(Deficit)	Deficit)	(685)	(860)	(629)	(026)	(920)	(1,060)	(114)
Specific	Specific Funds - Walton	3,054	2,194	2,425	2,124	1,174	114	0
Surplus/(Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	11,750	(7,457)	(2,773)	(12,527)	96	2,392	1,793
Surplus/(Surplus/(Deficit) Specific Trusts	(32,680)	(53,807)	(49,903)	(60,388)	(86,709)	(98,290)	(109,646)
Total Sur	Total Surplus/(Deficit)	(20,930)	(61,265)	(52,676)	(72,915)	(86,613)	(95,898)	(107,853)

Health	Health & Community Chaplaincy Committee					Budget		
Gener	General Operations					for		
Income	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/2017					Approval		
		Projected Co	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates	nterest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account	Account Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Income								
1040	Family Camp Income	29,814	30,000	25,071	30,000	27,000	27,000	27,000
1160	Donations and Gifts	0	1,000		1,000	1,000		1,000
1161	Good Friday Appeal	17,383	22,000		22,000			
1249	Grant : HCCVI	29,236	25,500		25,500			27,865
1359	Interest Common Fund General	91,479	91,500	65,912	85,900	118,700	118,800	119,100
Total Income	ome	167,912	170,000	112,229	164,400	195,965	197,853	198,965
Expenditure	ture							
2030	Advertising (inc Good Friday Appeal)	949	200		200	1,500	1,500	1,500
2114	Tertiary Chaplains (AFES Workers)	30,000	30,000	_	30,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
2110	Chaplaincy Fees - Hospitals	12,000	7,800	7,800	7,800			
2111	Chaplaincy Fees - Prisons	2,200	1,200	800	1,200			
2112	Chaplaincy Fees - Police	1,200	2,400		2,400			
2116	Community Chaplaincy (Deaf)	20,000	20,000	13,	20,000			
2180	Depreciation Furniture/Equipment	384	400	250	377	377	374	29
2226	Pastors Renewal Retreats	894	4,500	50	4,500	6,000	6,000	000'9
2227	Chaplaincy Resources (Tracts,books,DVDs)	0	200	0	200	1,000	1,000	1,000
2228	Education & Training (Conferences/Seminars)	339	2,500	762	2,500	6,100	6,100	6,100
2229	Ministers & Family Support	720	0	0	0	11,800	11,800	11,800
2280	General Expenses	452	1,000	86	200	200	200	200
2282	Chaplains' Appreciation Luncheon	96	100	0	100	250	250	250
2283	Chaplains Commissioning Service	0	200	293	200	1,800	750	750
	Chaplaincy Co-ordinator	0						
2815	Salary	26,266	28,617	19,076	28,614	43,994	42,094	46,221
2875	Superannuation	2,627	2,862	1,908	2,861	4,399	4,509	4,622
2954	Workcover Levy - General	625	519	515	515	768	787	807
2911	Phone (co-ordinator) & Laptop	360	360	0	360	2,000	009	009
2392	Insurance Professional Indemnity	1,030	1,030		1,030		1,070	1,070
2752	Heathmont House office rental	3,640	3,650	2,427	3,650	3,900	4,160	4,368
2580	Ministers Family Camp (MFC) Expenses	49,260	46,500	39,601	46,500	45,000	45,000	45,000

Health	Health & Community Chaplaincy Committee					Budget		
Genera	General Operations Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/2017					for Approval		
		Projected Co	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	nterest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account No	Account Description	201 <i>4</i> /2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
	MFC Administrator							
2813	Salary	0	14,400	9,300	14,400	19,500	19,988	20,487
2877	Superannuation		1,440	930	1,440	1,950	1,999	2,049
2913	Telephone		480	255	480	480	480	480
2700	Postage Printing & Stationery & Secretarial Fees	881	1,500	587	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
2800	Professional Supervision(Development)	109	200	0	200	1,000	1,000	1,000
2921	Travel - Corrections	2,000	2,000	0	2,000			
2922	Travelling Expenses - Committee	436	2,000	0	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total Cor	Total Committee Expenditure	156,161	177,457	115,002	176,927	195,869	195,461	197,171
Surplus/(Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	11,750	(7,457)	(2,773)	(12,527)	96	2,392	1,793
General Funds	spun_	1,002,448	994,191	866'866	989,371	989,844	992,610	994,470
Capital Items	ems							
	Laptop/Software - MFC Administrator	0	1,200	927	927	0	0	0
	Enter Details Here		0		0	0	0	0
	Enter Details Here		0		0	0	0	0
	Total Capital Expenditure	0	1,200	927	927	0	0	0

Mainte Income	Maintenance of the Ministry Committee Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Budget		
Gener	General Operations	Projected Co	ommon Fund	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	12%	Approval 12%	12%	12%
Account	Account Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Income								
1440 1359 1240	Other Investment Income Interest Common Fund General Grant from Balfour Trust (Grants Received)	8,960 88,898 5,395	0 000,78 0	63,222 0	100,000	0 106,800 0	0 107,200 0	0 107,500 0
Total Income	:ome	103,253	87,000	63,222	100,000	106,800	107,200	107,500
Expenditure	ture						-	
2130	Computer & Software Costs	0	120	5 203	120	120	120	120
2700	Postage, Printing & Stationery	536	500,2	95	500	500	2000	2000
2881	Sustentation Travel Grants	0	5,000	0	5,000	5,000	2,000	5,000
2885	Superannuation Subsidy	5,395	0	0	0	0	0	0
2889	Sustentation Expense General Telephone/email Convenor	77,44,027 0	000,0001	34,680	000,000	88,000	90,000	92,000
2920	Travelling Expenses - meetings	926	900	368	900	900	006	006
Total Expenses	benses	59,944	116,120	40,435	115,120	103,120	105,120	107,120
Surplus/	Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	43,309	(29,120)	22,787	(15,120)	3,680	2,080	380
General Funds	Finds	862,707	833.587	885.494	847,587	851.267	853.347	853 727
Pepetual Funds	l Funds	42,466	42,466	42,466	42,466	42,466	42,466	42,466
Capital Items	tems							
•	Enter Details Here	0	0		0	0	0	
	Enter Details Here	0	0		0	0	0	
	Total Capital Exenditure				0	0	0	0
				1				

Maintenance of the Ministry Committee Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Budget for		
					Approval		
	Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	Interest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Long Service Leave Funds	-		-			•	
Account Description	2014/2015	2015/2016	8 Months to	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019
OZ.	Actual	Budget	Feb-16	Projected	Proposed	Projected	Projected
Income							
1130 LSL Levy	41,650	41,300	40,950	40,950	41,300	41,300	41,300
1358 Interest Common Fund General	103,918	103,000	78,228	128,000	146,800	147,800	148,900
Total Income	145,568	144,300	119,178	168,950	188,100	189,100	190,200
Expenditure							
2550 Long Service Accrual - not cash	251,129	151,847	49,675	151,847	156,619	164,678	168,320
Total Expenses	251,129	151,847	49,675	151,847	156,619	164,678	168,320
Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	(105,561)	(7,547)	69,504	17,103	31,481	24,422	21,880
Long Service Taken - cash	121,641	180,000	115,102	180,000	180,000	180,000	180,000
Provision for Long Service Leave	983,909	955,756	918,481	955,756	932,375	917,053	905,373
General Funds	1,234,799	1,199,099	1,238,875	1,223,749	1,231,849	1,240,949	1,251,149

METRO (METRO Committee	As adjusted by BIF	d by BIF			Budget		
General (General Operations	Two new tr	Two new trainees each year @ \$24,000 pa	ı year @ \$2	4,000 pa	for		
Income &	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
		Projected Cor	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	terest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account	Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/19 Projected
Income								
1359	Interest Common Fund	84,411	ω	58,397	91,700	97,400	95,200	92,800
1650	Youth Metro Income	1,400	1,500	1,100	1,500	1,100	1,500	1,500
0		100	000	>	000	000	000	000
Total Income	0	86,301	83,500	59,497	93,800	99,100	97,300	94,900
Expenditure								
2030	Advertising & Website	389	2,000	0	2,000	200	200	200
2221	Youth Metro Expenses	9,654	12,500	5,540	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500
2222	Adult Metro Expenses	1,804		928	3,000	2,500	2,500	2,500
2250	Events	1,274	2,500	200	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
2280	Convener Expenses		150	0	150	150	150	150
2225	Train the Trainer		3,000		3,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2289	General Expenses		200	0	200	200	200	200
2290	Grants for trainees	75,005	120,000	59,255	96,000	96,000	96,000	96,000
2350	Honorariums		5,000	5,000	5,000			
2709	Postage, Printing & Stationery	52	350	0	350	350	350	350
2850	Subscriptions, Books & Journals		250	0	250	250	250	250
2920	Travelling Expenses		300	0	300	300	300	300
2291	Grant Paid - Training Officer	17,500	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Comm	Total Committee Expenditure	105,680	149,550	71,459	125,550	117,550	117,550	117,550
Surplus/(Def	Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	(19,379)	(66,050)	(11,962)	(31,750)	(18,450)	(20,250)	(22,650)
General Funds	ds	843,521	777,471	831,559	811,771	793,321	773,071	750,421

METRO (METRO Committee	As propos	As proposed by committee	mittee		Budget		
General (General Operations	Four new tr	ainees per	Four new trainees per year @ \$24,000	,000	for		
Income &	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
		Projected Cor	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	terest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account	Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/19 Projected
Income								
1359	Interest Common Fund	84,411	81,400	(1)	91,700	97,400	92,300	80,900
1650	Youth Metro Income	1,400	1,500	1,10	1,500	1,100	1,500	1,500
1040	Events Income	491	009	0	009	009	009	009
Total Income	(1)	86,301	83,500	59,497	93,800	99,100	94,400	83,000
Expenditure								
2030	Advertising & Website	389	2,000	0	2,000	009	200	200
2221	Youth Metro Expenses	9,654	12,500	5,540	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500
2222	Adult Metro Expenses	1,804	3,000	928	3,000	2,500	2,500	2,500
2250	Events	1,274	2,500	200	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
2280	Convener Expenses		150	0	150	150	150	150
2225	Train the Trainer		3,000		3,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2289	General Expenses		200	0	500	200	200	200
2290	Grants for trainees	75,005	120,000	59,255	96,000	120,000	168,000	192,000
2350	Honorariums		5,000	5,000	5,000			
2709	Postage, Printing & Stationery	22	350	0	350	350	320	320
2850	Subscriptions, Books & Journals		250	0	250	250	250	250
2920	Travelling Expenses		300	0	300	300	300	300
2291	Grant Paid - Training Officer	17,500	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Comm	Total Committee Expenditure	105,680	149,550	71,459	125,550	141,550	189,550	213,550
Surplus/(Def	Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	(19,379)	(66,050)	(11,962)	(31,750)	(42,450)	(95,150)	(130,550)
General Funds	sp	843,521	777,471	831,559	811,771	769,321	674,171	543,621
		-						

Ministry Development Committee					Budget		
Specific Trusts					for		
Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17		12%			Approval		
	Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	nterest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account Description	2014/2015	2015/2016	8 Months to	2015/2016 Broingled	2016/2017	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019
ON.	Actual	Buager	rep-10	Projected	Proposed	Projected	Projected
	Church Exte	urch Extension - Victoria	toria				
Income 1351 Common Elind Interset Specific	16 801	34 900	10 360	078 600	25 800	16 900	12 000
∃ .≣	40,001	34,900	13,300	7,000	23,000	006,01	12,900
2291 Grants Paid	100.824	150.000	150,000	150,000	100.000	50,000	20.000
15	(54,023)	(115,100)	(130,640)	(122,400)	(74,200)	(33,100)	(37,100)
Specific Funds	310,580	195,480	179,940	188,180	113,980	80,880	43,780
Perpetual Funds	26,913	26,913	26,913	26,913	26,913	26,913	26,913
Ch.	Church Extension - Other States	sion - Other	States				
Income							
1352 Common Fund Interest Specific	830	008	415	200	800	800	800
Expenditure							
2292 Grants Paid	830	800	415	700	800	800	800
Surplus/(Deficit)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Specific Funds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Perpetual Funds	6,913	6,913	6,913	6,913	6,913	6,913	6,913
	Eva	Evangelism					
Income		ı					
1353 Common Fund Interest Specific	162,280	164,100	110,656	167,300	171,100	172,200	173,000
Expenditure						,	
	25,711	40,000	24,100	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
	19,125	20,375	11,288	17,841	15,698	20,000	20,000
	41,000	41,000	16,667	25,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
ZZ94 bundoora	20,000	73,000	13,333	Z0,000	26,000	20,000	20,000
2296 Additional Evangelism Project		20,000			20,000	46,000	46,000
	20,000	20,000	10,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Total Expenses	125,836	164,375	75,387	122,841	161,698	166,000	166,000
Surplus/(Deficit)	36,444	(275)	35,269	44,460	9,402	6,200	7,000
Specific Funds	1,341,299	1,341,024	1,376,568	1,385,759	1,395,161	1,401,361	1,408,361
Perpetual Funds	39,992	39,992	39,992	39,992	39,992	39,992	39,992

Ministr	Ministry Development Committee					Budget		
Specific	Specific if usts Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17		12%			Tor Approval		
	-	Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	nterest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account No	Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
		qoN	Noble Trust					
Income								
1355	Common Fund Interest Specific	52,218	51,700	35,189	53,000	53,000	51,700	49,900
Expenditure	ure							
2813	Salaries (inc NCB)	22,525	25,000	14,910	25,000	29,700	30,000	30,000
2281	General Expenses	334	1,000	448	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2873	Superannuation	21,646	25,000	18,576	25,000	28,000	30,000	30,000
2953	Workcover Levy	357	225	199	199	252	270	270
2586	Ministers Conference	460	1,200	0	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
2295	Grants Paid	37	5,000	0	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2923	Travelling / Training Expenses	1,329	1,000	0	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total Expenses	enses	46,687	58,425	34,133	54,399	64,152	66,470	66,470
Surplus/(Deficit)	Deficit)	5,531	(6,725)	1,056	(1,399)	(11,152)	(14,770)	(16,570)
	Specific Funds	318,437	311,712	319,493	317,038	305,886	291,116	274,546
	Perpetual Funds	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000
		ř –	TOTAL					
Surplus/(I	Surplus/(Deficit) Specific Trusts	(12,049)	(122,100)	(94,315)	(79,339)	(75,950)	(41,670)	(46,670)
Surplus/(Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	(293,182)	(742,028)	(45,615)	(337,261)	(424,516)	(84,328)	(184,230)
Total Sur	Total Surplus/(Deficit)	(305,231)	(864,128)	(139,930)	(416,600)	(500,466)	(125,998)	(230,900)
Total Spe	Total Specific Trusts	1,970,316	1,848,216	1,876,001	1,890,977	1,815,027	1,773,357	1,726,687
Total Per	Total Perpetual Funds	198,818	198,818	198,818	198,818	198,818	198,818	198,818

Minist	Ministry Development Committee					Budget		
Income &	& Expenditure Budget 2016/17					ror Approval		
		Projected Co	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	nterest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account	Account Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Income								
1359	Interest Common Fund	116,828	111,000	86,784	144,000	137,000	137,000	77,000
1640	Scots Church Property Trust	442,860	480,000	563,847	563,847	550,000	550,000	220,000
1660 1990	Training Income Profit/(Loss) on Sale of Asset	2,752		1,309	1,309			
Total Income	ome	562,440	591,000	651,939	709,156	687,000	687,000	627,000
Expenditure	ure							
1. Grants								
2860	Subsidies to Congregations	235,797	370,500	121,788	150,262	270,847	270,847	300,000
2864	Second Ministry Workers	57,375	61,125	33,863	53,522	47,094	47,094	000'09
73807	Cross Cultural Subsidies	114,500	138,000	77,341	92,415	136,000	136,000	130,000
Total Grants	oranical and Capital	662,266	1.077.625	561.324	831.515	857.816	553.941	290,000
2 Minist	2 Ministry Development Director	221(12)	2126.	106.00	0.06.00	26.26		996
2181	Development Discours	4785	4 785	3 100	4 785	4785	4 785	4 785
2280	General Expenses	957	1,000	372	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2790	Manse Allowance	24,000	24,000	16,000	24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000
2831	HM Director's Discretionary	492	1,000	357	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2850	Subscriptions	294	200	136	200	200	200	200
2922	Disability Insurance	984	1,033	2,152	2,152	2,260	2,260	2,373
2540	Light Power & Heating	3,556	4,500	2,564	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500
2550	Long Service Leave Levy	350	350	350	350	350	350	320
2640	Motol Vehicle Ruffilling Costs Non Cash Benefits	0,511	731	4,537	18,000	19.209	19 690	7,000
2810	Salary	34.726	37,373	23.730	35,595	36,396	37.306	38.238
2870	Superannuation	7,959	8,566	5,438	8,157	8,341	8,549	8,763
2141	Professional Supervision	140	009	140	009	009	009	009
2910	Telephone & Fax	3,679	4,000	2,180	4,000	2,400	2,400	2,400
2920	Travelling Expenses	2,843	6,000	3,357	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Total Mir	Total Ministry Development Director Expenses	109,986	120,831	77,649	118,738	118,723	120,331	122,093
3. Office								
2030	Advertising	320	1,000	440	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2060	Bank Charges	122 1 70E	100	82	100	100	100	7000
2282	Depleciation Office Equipment	076	2,000	1,164	2,000	2,000	2,000	7,000
2551	Gerreral Experises From Service Leave Accrual	1.099	1,000	928	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2752	Office Rental	17,548	18,250	11,699	17,548	18,250	18,250	18,888
2912	Telephone & Fax	1,407	1,400	938	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400
2130	Computer & Software Costs	358	1,000	1,040	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
2700	Postage Printing & Stationery	1,940	4,000	1,809	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
2700	Publicity brochure	75 807	70.050	31 015	47 873	2,500	78 950	50 177
2102	Odalles	43,604	49,030	3 187	787	46,930 A 805	46,930	50,174
2952	WorkCover Levy	797	486	907	797, + 907	485	4,635	497
Total Off	Total Office Expenses	76,167	84,369	54,205	82,794	86,755	84,255	86,337
								1

Minist	Ministry Development Committee					Budget		
Genera	General Operations					for		
Income	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
		Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	nterest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account No	Account Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 Months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
4. Committee	ittee							
2830	Staff Amenities Travelling Expenses	1,286	1,200	650	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Total Con	Total Committee Expenses	1,799	1,800	825	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800
5. District	5. District Interim Moderator Expenses							
2815	Stipend - District Interim Moderator		28,475	0		13,865		
2645	Non Cash Benefits		15,033	0		7,318		
2552	LSL Levy		320	0		320		
2875	Superannuation		6,526	0		3,177		
2795	Manse Allowance		18,424	0		9,212		
2225	District Interim Moderator		2,000	0		1,000		
	Budget for 6 months only		(35,404)					
Total Dist	Total District Interim Moderator Expenses	0	35,404	0	0	34,922	0	0
6. Miscellaneous	laneous							
2140	Consultancy	0	1,000	02	20	0	0	0
2220	Education & Training	4,790	3,000	272	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
2230	Evangelistic Materials	0 7	1,000	0	500	500	0	0
Total Mis	ZOOI ITAITIITI III.C. ETITUELS TO FIAITIE, EOL, FEACEWISE Total Miscellaneous Expenses	5.405	0,000	3.551	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
Total Expenses	n n n n n n n n n n n n n n n n n n n	855 622	1 333 028	697 554	1 046 417	1111516	771 328	811 230
Surplus/(Surplus/(Deficit) Operations	(293,182)	(742,028)	(45,615)	(337,261)	(424,516)	(84,328)	(184,230)
Balance (Balance of General Funds	1,466,842	730,977	1,425,587	1,138,643	722,087	645,720	469,535
Capital Items	ems							
	Computer O+ber		1,800	1,798	(1,000)	0 0	c	C
	Motor Vehicle (less trade in)	17,588	0	(000:1)	000,17	0	0	0 0
	Total Capital Expenditure	17,588	1,800	669	(1,099)	0	0	0

KIRKBRAE PRESBYTERIAN HOMES BUDGET FOR 2016/2017

Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	7 Months to Jan-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed
Income				-	-
Commonwealth Funding	6,671,117	7,011,000	3,879,136	7,011,000	6,982,400
Resident Fees	2,155,733	2,346,893	1,259,115	2,346,893	2,312,692
Interest Received	26,679	2,400	6,003	2,400	2,400
Catering Income	5,213	3,840	3,984	3,840	5,000
Other Operating Income	8,231	3,000	3,131	3,000	9,200
Total Operating Income	8,866,972	9,367,133	5,151,369	9,367,133	9,311,692
Commonwealth Subsidy - Capital	18,820	28,000	44,444	28,000	0
Accomodation Charge	818,896	759,000	399,289	759,000	487,200
Retentions on Bonds	244,547	258,815	136,985	258,815	382,274
Interest Received on Investments	889,979	1,036,150	682,550	1,036,150	1,140,000
Other Income	42,671	40,600	0	40,600	63,500
Total Non-Operating Income	2,014,913	2,122,565	1,263,268	2,122,565	2,072,974
Total Income	10,881,885	11,489,698	6,414,637	11,489,698	11,384,666
Expenditure					
Catering Costs	333,341	371,100	202,787	371,100	368,600
Administration Expenses	236,128	268,072	142,621	268,072	298,569
Motor Vehicle & Transport Expenses	17,547	26,760	13,891	26,760	28,676
Maintenance - Hand Tools & Equipment	1,688	1,000	776	1,000	1,000
Committee Expenses	873	2,000	10,222	2,000	2,000
Chemist & Medical	56,771	69,220	35,886	69,220	106,700
Continence Costs	87,032	93,000	46,361	93,000	90,000
Cleaning, Laundry, House & Infection Control	371,356	403,002	207,449	403,002	382,100
Consultants Fees	121,967	155,800	72,717	155,800	150,034
Contract Therapy	535,919	552,100	314,014	552,100	522,000
Insurance	92,847	98,160	57,260	98,160	96,105
Rates, Taxes & Utilities	277,982	294,846	166,790	294,846	258,000
Occupational Health & Safety	2,351	16,500	5,717	16,500	5,000
Maintenance Costs	355,864	395,873	167,520	395,873	432,851
Total Security Costs	28,744	35,955	16,554	35,955	33,000
Staff Costs	7,352,764	7,876,328	4,513,762	7,876,328	8,356,042
Depreciation Depreciation	749,314	741,700	400,918	741,700	887,694
SSC Non Operating Costs	7,000	7,250	4,083	7,250	17,825
Total Expenses	10,629,488	11,408,666	6,379,329	11,408,666	12,036,196
Surplus//Deficit) on Operations	050.007	04.000	25 202	04.000	(654.500
Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	252,397	81,032	35,308	81,032	(651,530)

Capital Items	
Village Redevelopment	1,251,300
Furniture & Fittings - Admin	116,879
Fences, Concreting	69,777
Furniture & Fittings - Residential Care	225,820
Computer Equipment - Admin	38,605
Furniture & Fittings - Catering	74,900
Total Capital Items	1,777,28

State General	State News Committee General Operations					Budget		
Income	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
		Projected Co	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	Interest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account	Account Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	8 months to Feb-16	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Income								
1080	General Mission Programme	0	1,500	1,364	1,500	1,500	1,500	2,000
1359	Advertising Revende Interest Common Fund General	00 6,797	6,700	5,334	7,700	7,000	6,700	6,700
Total Income	ome	6,847	8,200	869'9	9,200	8,500	8,200	8,700
Expenditure	ture							
2130	Software & Website Costs		0	0	0	1,000	200	200
2180	Depreciation	0	533	0	533	200	200	200
2350	Honorarium for editor		2,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2630	Newsletter Production Costs	8,746	11,000	8,308	13,847	11,500	12,000	12,000
1004	Less Contribution recouped	(4,3/3)	(000;0)	(4,134)	(0,924)	(0c7,c)	(0,00)	(0,000)
Total Expenses	benses	4,373	8,033	5,154	9,457	9,450	8,900	8,900
Surplus/	Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	2,475	167	1,544	(257)	(026)	(200)	(200)
General Funds	Funds	58,159	57,259	59,703	58,435	56,085	56,085	56,585
Capital Items	tems							
	Computer		1,600	0	0	2,100	0	0
	Enter Details Here Enter Details Here				0 0	0	0 0	0 0
	Total Capital Exenditure	0	1,600	0	0	2,100	0	0

Theological Ed Specific Trusts	Theological Education Committee Specific Trusts					Budget for		
Income &	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
		Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	nterest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account No	Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	6 Months to Dec-15	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Building Fund	Fund							
Income								
1160	Donations & Gifts	35,404	20,000	14,421	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
	Total Income	53,599	39,200	24,500	40,300	39,700	37.200	35.300
Expenditure	9.							
2061 E	Bank Charges	285	270	120	270	270	270	270
2390	Insurance Fire & General	4,350	4,568	4,144	4,144	4,351	4,568	4,797
	Library Extension planning costs				5,000	10,000		
2710 F	Property Maintenance Property Maintenance - Gardening	35,909	31,500	11,761	31,500	40,000	42,000	44,100
	Total Expenses	43,893	42,338	19,330	46,914	60,621	53,338	56,167
0,	Surplus/(Deficit) Building Fund	9,706	(3,138)	5,171	(6,614)	(20,921)	(16,138)	(20,867)
	Specific Funds	170,831	167,693	170,065	164,217	143,297	127,158	106,291
Library Fund	und							
Income							,	
	Donations & Gifts	11,965	3,000	6,700	15,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
1351	Interest Common Fund	11,8/6	11,900	5,938	11,900	11,900	11,900	11,900
Total Income	ne	23,841	14,900	12,638	26,900	21,900	21,900	21,900
itu	e						•	
	Bank Charges	285	240	120	240	240	240	240
	Depreciation Library Equipment	7,088	3,700	3,473	3,700	400	400	400
2521	Library Books Library Magazines & Journals	18,739 21,626	20,000	9,490	28,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
	Postade Printing & Stationery	1,097	1,000	1,239	1,400	6,000	1,000	1,000
	Library Wages	24,014	25,218	13,978	28,000	40,560	41,574	42,613
2871 L	Library Superannuation	2,401	2,522	1,398	2,800	4,056	4,157	4,261
Total Expenses		75,251	72,680	45,285	84,140	106,256	102,371	103,515
Surplus/(D	Surplus/(Deficit) Library Fund	(51,410)	(57,780)	(32,647)	(57,240)	(84,356)	(80,471)	(81,615)
2535 E	Expenses paid from General Budget	(43,473)	(54,080)	(28,942)	(53,540)	(83,956)	(80,071)	(81,215)
0,	Specific Funds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u></u>	Perpetual Funds	98,964	98,964	98,964	98,964	98,964	98,964	98,964

Theological Education Committee					Budget		
Specific Trusts Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					for Approval		
	Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	nterest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	6 Months to Dec-15	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Fernside Trust							,
Income							
1353 Interest Common Fund	140,317	146,000	72,357	145,000	150,000	154,000	159,000
Total Income	140,317	146,000	72,357	145,000	150,000	154,000	159,000
Expenditure							
2793 Manse Allowances	70,200	008'09	23,400	008'09	51,480	51,480	51,480
	27,120	27,934	13,560	27,934	57,543	59,270	61,048
2283 Relocation Costs	0	15,000		15,000			
Total Expenses	97,320	103,734	36,960	103,734	109,023	110,750	112,528
Surplus/(Deficit) Fernside Trust	42,997	42,266	35,397	41,266	40,977	43,250	46,472
Specific Funds	30,810	43,076	56,522	48,076	59,053	71,304	86,776
Indexation of Capital	32,938	30,000	9,685	24,000	30,000	31,000	31,000
Perpetual Funds	1,172,582	1,202,582	1,182,267	1,196,582	1,226,582	1,257,582	1,288,582
Bursary Trusts							
Income							
1051 Bequests	100,667	0	0	0	0	0	0
1162 Donations & Gifts	210,369	27,000	24,900	27,000	27,000	27,000	27,000
	63,551	101,017	84,259	97,987	95,653	103,170	90,185
1352 Interest Common Fund	79,918	106,300	52,652	106,100	105,500	108,300	113,700
Total Income	454,505	234,317	161,811	231,087	228,153	238,470	230,885
Expenditure							
	24,170	25,000	15,180	25,000	45,000	25,000	25,000
Scholarships -	226,498	187,607	123,220	184,916	127,201	122,765	118,378
2074 Scholarships - Categories 2 to 5	15,354	16,143	7,038	16,694	32,176	45,720	47,107
Total Expenses	266,021	228,749	145,438	226,610	204,377	193,485	190,485
Surplus/(Deficit) Bursaries	188,484	5,568	16,373	4,477	23,776	44,986	40,400
Specific Funds	116,943	122,511	133,316	121,420	145,196	190,182	230,581
Perpetual Funds	757,682	757,682	757,682	757,682	757,682	757,682	757,682

Theological Education Committee					Budget		
Specific if uses Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					ror Approval		
	Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	Interest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account Description No	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	6 Months to Dec-15	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Prizes Trusts							
Income							
1164 Donations & Gifts 1354 Interest Common Fund	500 15,558	15,900	8,110	0 16,600	16,800	0 17,300	0 18,000
Total Income	16,058	15,900	8,110	16,600	16,800	17,300	18,000
Expenditure							
2084 Prizes Specific	9,855	10,000	0	10,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
Total Expenses	9,855	10,000	0	10,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
Surplus/(Deficit) Prizes	6,203	2,900	8,110	6,600	4,800	5,300	6,000
Specific Funds	102,648	108,548	110,758	109,248	114,048	119,348	125,348
Perpetual Funds	30,515	30,515	30,515	30,515	30,515	30,515	30,515
Diaconal Fund							
Income							
1357 Interest Common Fund	18,547	19,200	9,854	20,000	21,100	22,700	24,400
Total Income	18,547	19,200	9,854	20,000	21,100	22,700	24,400
2075 Scholarships	6,059	9,500	3,760	7,520	7,941	8,386	8,855
Total Expenses	6,059	9,500	3,760	7,520	7,941	8,386	8,855
Surplus/(Deficit) Diaconal Fund	12,488	9,700	6,094	12,480	13,159	14,314	15,545
Specific Funds	163,651	173,351	169,745	176,131	189,290	203,604	219,149

Theological Education Committee					Budget		
Specific Trusts					for		
Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
	Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates	Interest Rates:	12%	12%	12%	12%
Account Description	201 <i>4</i> /2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	6 Months to Dec-15	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Miscellaneous Trusts - Hopkins, Oliver, Overseas Students	Students						
Income							
1356 Interest Common Fund 1358 Interest O/S Student Fund	19,508 10,587	30,700	16,436	33,600	33,800	32,500	31,400
Total Income	30,095	30,700	16,436	33,600	33,800	32,500	31,400
Expenditure						-	
2076 Bursaries (Oliver)		12,000	0	12,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
2076 Scholarships (Overseas Students)		7,500		7,500	15,000	15,000	15,000
2813 Lectures on Preaching (Hopkins)					7,620	5,000	2,000
2296 Ministers' Conference Expenses (Oliver)		2,000	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total Expenses	0	21,500	0	21,500	44,620	42,000	42,000
Surplus/(Deficit) Miscellaneous	30,095	9,200	16,436	12,100	(10,820)	(9,500)	(10,600)
Specific Funds	217,653	226,853	234,089	229,753	218,933	209,433	198,833
Perpetual Funds	52,225	52,225	52,225	52,225	52,225	52,225	52,225
Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	51,511	(51,517)	(14,039)	(22,565)	5,231	30,072	61,311
Surplus/(Deficit) Specific Trusts	282,035	65,797	83,875	609'99	50,571	81,812	76,550
Total Surplus/(Deficit)	333,546	14,279	69,836	44,045	55,802	111,884	137,861
Total Specific Funds	802,536	842,033	874,494	848,845	869,816	921,028	966,978
Total Perpetual Funds	2,111,968	2,141,968	2,121,653	2,135,968	2,165,968	2,196,968	2,227,968

Theolo	Theological Education Committee					Budget		
Genera	General Operations					for		
Income	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					Approval		
		Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	nterest Rates:	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%
Account No	Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	6 Months to Dec-15	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Income								
1702	Tuition Fees (non-candidates)	185,852	200,000	91,706	200,000	185,240	200,000	200,000
1700	Tuition Fees (Candidates)	230,677	251,381	123,220	246,612	254,402	245,530	236,755
1704	Tuition ex Bursaries (Cat 2-5)		16,143	11,718	16,694	32,176	45,720	47,107
1704	Tuition ex Bursaries (Diaconal)	17,234	17,000	0	7,520	7,941	8,386	8,855
1703	Tuition Fees Short Courses	4,340	6,000	2,434	6,000	000'9	000'9	6,000
	Israel Study Tour	39,053		0	0	42,140		
1705	Study Tour expenses	(21,260)		0	0	(24,150)		
	TOTAL Tuition Fees	455,895	490,523	229,078	476,826	503,749	202'632	498,718
1709	Ministers Conference Income	4,644	6,000	0	6,000	000'9	000'9	000'9
2586	Ministers' Conference Expenses	(6,182)	(000'9)	(1,263)	(0000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)
1168	Bequests, Donations and Gifts	3,031	5,000	498	15,000	5,000	2,000	2,000
	MDC Evangelism grant					26,000		
	Grant re staff costs - Walters trust			15,000	15,000			
1080	General Mission Programme	16,865						
1243	METRO Funding re Training Officer	17,500						
1359	Interest Common Fund-General	239,831	239,000	119,117	275,000	326,000	340,000	354,000
1600	Rental of TEC Manse	14,069	15,148	7,540	15,148	15,451	15,451	15,451
1601	Rental Income Accomm Units	70,760	72,320	35,830	72,320	73,767	75,980	78,259
1650	Sundry Income			200	200			
1990	(Loss) on sale of Asset			(3,554)	(3,554)			
Total Income	ome	816,413	821,992	402,446	865,941	948,967	941,066	950,428
Expenditure	ure							
Australia	Australian College of Theology Affiliation and Admin Fees							
2045	ACT Admin Fees	43,349	45,138	21,012	45,138	48,819	49,964	49,272
2020	ACT Allinguol I des	0,0,0	0,130	501	0,130	0,0,0	700,0	0,,0
Total AC	Total ACT Affiliation and Admin Fees	49,359	51,328	21,467	51,328	55,195	56,531	56,036

Theold Genera	Theological Education Committee General Operations					Budget		
Income	Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17	Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates	nterest Rates:	12.0%	Approval 12.0%	12.0%	12.0%
Account	Account Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	6 Months to Dec-15	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
Staff Related	ited							
2810	Salaries	200.004	243.346	126.634	261,607	276.528	264.788	252,289
2640	Non Cash Benefits	50,543	68,991	29,750	68,974	80,130	72,289	64,005
2600	Motor Vehicle Running Expenses	6,765	7,000	2,475	7,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
2830	Staff Amenities	989	800	163	800	800	800	800
2870	Superannuation	35,963	39,355	19,954	43,041	47,263	44,170	40,893
2950	WorkCover Levy	4,622	4,759	4,024	4,024	4,144	4,269	4,397
2955	Disability Insurance	4,104	4,207	6,826	6,826	086'9	7,155	7,333
2550	Long Service Leave Levy	5,356	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,400	1,400	1,400
2550	Long Service Leave accrual (non cash)		5,991	1,494	2,988	3,137	3,294	3,459
2840	Study Leave accrual (non cash)	11,285	40,377	17,406	40,630	47,637	44,722	46,048
2848	Study Leave Travel Expenses (non cash)	1,096	7,000	1,500	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
2181	Depreciation Motor Vehicle	4,397	1,111	1,111	1,111	0	0	0
2541	Lighting & Heating - Manses	8,000	11,000	3,778	11,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
2911	Telephone & Fax-Manses	5,438	7,000	2,593	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
2490	Lecturers' Fees	52,100	74,250	24,340	54,920	44,800	44,000	44,000
2240	Lecturers' Fees - Exam Marking	6,323	13,750	15,055	15,055	006'6	10,000	10,000
2920	Travelling Expenses	16,059	12,500	9,510	25,021	22,000	22,000	22,000
2229	Education & Training	4,735	6,000	974	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Total Sta	Total Staff Related Expenses	417,476	548,487	268,637	564,046	584,720	558,886	536,624
Total Sta	Total Staff Related CASH Expenses	466,113	495,119	248,237	513,428	526,946	532,368	538,537
2520	Total Library Related Expenses	43,473	54,080	28,942	53,540	83,956	80,071	81,215
Office Related	lated							
2910	Telephone & Fax	10,162	8,500	3,938	8,500	8,500	8,500	8,500
2060	Bank Charges, FID & Debits Tax	1,846	1,800	664	1,800	1,872	1,947	2,025
2180	Depreciation - Furniture and Equipment	12,363	7,350	5,294	9,675	8,650	8,000	8,000
2700	Postage Printing & Stationery	15,297	15,000	6,874	15,000	21,000	21,000	21,000
2540	Light Power & Heating	11,985	19,250	7,244	17,400	18,096	18,820	19,573
2760	Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	202	200	160	200	200	200	200
2130	Computer & Software Costs	6,782	6,000	1,785	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
2850	CCLI, Copyright Insurance Professional Indemnity	2,084	2,000	214 4.501	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2007 F		04.120	0000	100,00	0.000	74.044	002,1	000 01
Ioral	Total Office Related Expenses	04,739	04,230	30,074	075,00	11,344	11,129	7,000

Theological Education Committee					Budget		
General Operations Income & Expenditure Budget 2016/17					for Approval		
	Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates	nterest Rates:	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%
Account Description	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	6 Months to	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
			2	50006	50000	5000	
riopeity Kelateu							
2183 Depreciation Plant & Equipment	4,149	2,800	1,563	2,800	2,200	2,200	2,200
	14 262	17,000	6.090	15,000	15,000	15,000	15 000
	9.926	10,000	6.572	10,000	0	0	0
	9,383	13,000	3,889	10,000	10,500	11,000	11,500
2820 Security Costs	1,275	1,500	1,026	1,500	1,700	1,800	1,900
Total Property Related Expenses	72,328	77,900	35,943	72,900	63,000	63,600	64,200
Training Officer	60,436	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous Expenses							
2010 Audit Fees			5,784	5,784	5,000	2,000	2,000
	6,748	7,000	764	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
2032 Marketing	7,590	6,500	932	6,500	12,000	12,000	12,000
2227 Combined Colleges Conference		5,000		5,000	5,000		
2927 College Mission Support (Travel Expenses)	377	9,000	0	6,000	000'9	6,000	6,000
2290 Graduation Ceremony	2,803	4,500	0	4,500	5,000	5,000	2,000
	3,422	2,000	1,903	6,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
	1,543	2,000	669	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
2280 General Expenses	245	5,000	2,895	5,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Total Miscellaneous Expenses	22,728	38,000	12,977	47,784	52,000	47,000	47,000
Residential Units							
2185 Depreciation (Residential Units)	27,657	27,730	13,942	27,730	27,730	27,730	27,730
2391 Insurance	996	1,014	920	920	996	1,014	1,065
2712 Maintenance & Cleaning	4,106	4,000	1,715	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
2751 Rates	182	2,000	210	210	225	232	239
Total Residential Units	32,911	34,744	16,788	32,860	32,921	32,976	33,034

Theological Education Committee					Budget		
General Operations					for		
	Projected C	Projected Common Fund Interest Rates:	interest Rates:	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%	12.0%
Account Description No	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Budget	6 Months to Dec-15	2015/2016 Projected	2016/2017 Proposed	2017/2018 Projected	2018/2019 Projected
PTC Media Income							
1065 Book Shop Sales 1066 Less: Purchases (enter as negative)	8,111 (6,769)	20,000 (16,000)	3,506 (3,115)	20,000 (16,000)	20,000 (16,000)	20,000 (16,000)	30,000 (24,000)
Total PTC Media Income	1,343	4,000	391	4,000	4,000	4,000	000'9
PTC Media Expenses							
2184 Depreciation	269	470	235	470	400	0	0
2708 Printing & Stationery- Media 2918 General Expenses		200 5.000	33	200	200	1.000	200
┨	2,226	3,000	1,181	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Total PTC Media Expenses	2,794	8,670	1,449	4,670	4,600	4,200	4,200
PTC Media Surplus(Deficit)	(1,452)	(4,670)	(1,058)	(670)	(009)	(200)	1,800
Total Expenses	764,902	873,509	416,485	888,505	943,736	910,994	889,117
Surplus/(Deficit) on Operations	51,511	(51,517)	(14,039)	(22,565)	5,231	30,072	61,311
Capital Items / Balance Sheet Payments							
Study Leave Payments	1,112	0		0	0	32,772	33,592
Computer Equipment & IT		12.000		2,000	12.000	5.000	5.000
Photocopier / Asset purchases	8,441	15,000	13,517	13,517			
Accounting/Student Records Software		5,000		0			
Book Value assets written off/sold	(1,751)		(6,554)	(6,554)			
Increase (decrease) in debtors	(12,065)		6,954	0			
Total Capital Exenditure	(4,263)	34,000	13,917	13,963	12,000	37,772	38,592
Non-Cash Items							
Depreciation	82,468		38,947	75,386	72,580	71,530	71,530
Long Service Leave Accrual	(33,151)	5,991 35,035	1,494	2,988	3,137	3,294	3,459
Total Non-Cash Items	61,698	114,087	59,347	119,004	123,354	119,546	121,037
Cash Movement	117.472	28,570	31,391	82,476	116,585	111.846	143,757
General Funds	1,603,061	1,631,631	1 634 452	1.685.537	1,802,122	1.913.968	2 057 725
Dernetijal Finds	965 159	965 159	965 159	965 159	965 159	965 159	965 159
	200,100	200,	200,100	200,	200,	200,	200,

CODE AND GENERAL ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (Min. 16)

In response to the direction of the General Assembly, GAV BB 2015, Min. 105.8, the Committee has prepared a comprehensive list of all duties, functions, obligations, expectations and positions which the Moderator and Immediate-past Moderator fulfil, as follows:

Duties of the Moderator:

5:6	Preside for the duration of all sittings of the General Assembly, and the Commission of Assembly (5:40).
Induction of new Moderator	In particular, put moderatorial questions to the incoming moderator, induct him into his office with prayer and, with the other ex-moderators, give him the right hand of fellowship.
Sign Assembly Bible	Sign the Assembly Bible upon induction.
Adjournments	Close each sitting of the Assembly with benediction.
5:7	Continue to function as Moderator, after the dissolution of Assembly: a) to perform certain ecclesiastical functions; b) to discharge certain civil legislative functions. Constitute the next General Assembly.
5:15	Sign all PCV property transactions in accord with the Presbyterian Trusts Acts, 1890.
5:35	(may) Attend any or all committee meetings.
5:39(g)	Determine the time and place for any extra Commission meetings.
5:45	Convene any urgent meetings of the General Assembly.
5:52	Announce the date and place of the next meetings of Assembly before dissolving it.
C and N Committee	a) compose and issue pastoral letters and public statement if required; b) represent the church before the government, the media or other outside bodies
Clerkship Committee	Take his place as a member of this Committee.
TEC	Engage in an official annual visit to the Presbyterian Theological College on behalf of the church.
Visitation	Visit between 16-19 churches during the year according to the schedule set out in GAV 2014, Min 28.3.
Missionary letters	Write on behalf of the General Assembly to all serving PCV missionaries during the year.

Mission visit	Visit at least one missionary family <i>in situ</i> during the year.
Assessors	Appoint assessors to presbyteries upon request.
Royal and Loyal Addresses	Send signed letters of royal address to the Queen and of loyal address to the Premier and Prime Minister.
Commission for Church Institutions	Chair the Commission for Church Institutions (GAV 2015 Min 31).
Commission to confirm minutes	Take his place as a member of this Committee (to scrutinise and correct if necessary the minutes of the Assembly).
Lord's Supper	Lead worship and conduct the Lord's Supper at the annual Assembly communion service.

Duties of the Immediate-past (i.e. preceding) Moderator:

5:8	Take the chair and function as Moderator in the temporary absence of the Moderator during the Assembly or the Commission (5:40).
5:9	Assume the office of Moderator upon the death of the Moderator.
5.10	Take the chair and function as Moderator in the temporary absence of the Moderator due to illness.
Clerkship Committee	Convener of the Committee (GAV 2015 Min 105).
Conciliation Committee	Convener of the Committee.
Report to Assembly	Report to the Assembly regarding the past year as moderator.
Take the chair	Take the chair during the report of a committee or presbytery which the Moderator belongs to (e.g. see GAV 2015, Min 23, 107)
Ad Hoc Sites Reserve Committee	Convener of the Committee – though this is once-off (GAV 2011 Min 91.6).

John Wilson CONVENER

EXIT STUDENTS COMMITTEE (Min. 60)

Membership of the committee varies each year with three permanent members: Convener MDC, Director MDC and Principal PTC and the remaining members coming from presbyteries who have exiting students for that year.

Appointments of the 2015 Exit Students were made in October last year after the 2015 GAV. They were as follows:

Brett Cummins to Wangaratta Regional Parish in Benalla Presbytery

Daniel Dixon to Williamstown in Melbourne West Presbytery

Stephen McDonald to Benalla Regional Parish in Benalla Presbytery

The committee received a commitment from the Presbytery of Melbourne East that they would take responsibility for Daryl Jackson according to Code 4A:51 (Ordination of Missionaries).

The committee is keen that parishes and presbyteries indicate at the earliest opportunity that they intend to apply for an exit student. To that end, the committee wrote to ministers and presbyteries several times early in the year to provide information and a timeline for the 2016 year. Applications are generally due by late May. If applications are slow or late in being received, the process of appointments is at risk of delay.

This year, the committee consists of Rev Ian Hutton (as MDC Convener), Rev Peter Hastie (as PTC Principal), Rev Dr Robert Carner (as MDC Director) and 4 representatives of candidates' sending presbyteries; Rev Michael Wishart (Flinders), Rev Gerald Vanderwert (Maroondah), Rev Chris Siriweera (Melbourne East) and Rev Nello Barbieri (Melbourne North). The ESC is dealing with the placement of 4 candidates; Andy Buchan, Cameron Griffiths, Greg Matthews and Joel Mestry. Appointments have not yet been finalised at the time of writing.

Ian Hutton CONVENER

MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (Min. 12)

At the 2015 GAV the Ministry Development Committee was authorised to bring a report of the review of the MDC Director's position to the May 2016 Commission of Assembly.

Min 88.13

Grant permission to the MDC to bring a report of the Review of the MDC Director's Position to the May 2016 Commission of Assembly.

The need for a review of the Director's position was part of his terms of appointment in 2011 when he was appointed by the Assembly for seven years from 1 January 2012. It should be emphasised that this review is simply part of the Director's terms of settlement and should not be interpreted as if the Director's position was in doubt.

The GAV gave no guidelines or instructions as to how the review was to be done. The MDC began to formulate how it would conduct this review after extensive consultation across the church and para-church organisations. Because this was the first review of this nature, no benchmarks or indicators had been set and so the key aim of the review was to gain information as to whether the Director's Role Description and the Committee's regulations were being fulfilled by the Director. The Director was asked to complete written answers to various questions aligned with his role.

The MDC made a decision early in the process that it wanted to receive feedback from outside of the Committee as well. Our presbyteries were surveyed with two questions which were intended to leave the 'field open' for presbyteries to have a say in a reasonable and godly way. Instructions were included on what type of feedback was appropriate. We received feedback from nine presbyteries. The Director also had the opportunity to choose a colleague in ministry to provide feedback and two members of the Committee were also surveyed confidentially.

A panel consisting of Convener MDC (Rev Ian Hutton), one other member of the MDC (Elder Dr Bruce Ellis) and one from outside the MDC (Rev John Wilson) was formed to receive the completed questionnaires. This panel then conducted an interview with the Director on 11 November 2015 with the aim of providing a report to the MDC meeting on 25 November 2015.

The timing for the review in 2015 was delayed because of the Director's operation and health concerns in February 2015 and his subsequent return to work in early May 2015. These delays had an impact on the timeline later in the year and resulted in there being minimal time between the panel interview and when a report was due to the MDC. Also there was a significant amount of material received and a number of matters that needed a more considered approach. Subsequently the MDC received a report from the panel which among other things recommended that the MDC form its own sub-committee to have further discussions with the Director in 2016. I can report to you that this sub-committee has met and the MDC will continue discussions with the Director upon his return from leave in April 2016.

It will be of no surprise that some of the issues raised include the Director's Role Description and the aims and purpose of the Committee as set out in its regulations. The process has been drawn out but we believe it will be beneficial to the Committee, the Director and the wider Church.

MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE (Min. 13)

The Committee reports the following matters to the Commission of Assembly 2016:

1. COMMITTEE

Your Committee continues to meet in Melton following the October 2015 General Assembly and notes that there are no changes of membership:

- Mr Reg Butcher continues as our Registrar.
- Annual Parish Report forms should be transmitted to Mr Butcher in the first instance.
- Continuing members are Rev Keith Allen, Rev Mark Crabb, Mr Reg Butcher, Robert Taylor and Dennis Wright (Convener).
- Your Committee has met regularly throughout the year.

2. DECLARATION OF TERMS OF SETTLEMENT

Again your Committee notes that there are many parishes who are yet to submit Annual Parish Report forms as at 31 March 2016. In order to have Terms of Settlement declared, parishes are reminded that the last date for lodgment is 28 February. We continue to remind presbyteries to be more vigilant in following up outstanding Annual Parish Reports and in checking their accuracy.

3. ANNUAL PARISH REPORTS

Parishes and presbyteries should be aware that approval of Grants and Subsidies is dependent upon the lodgment of the Annual Parish Report, which is a requirement for all Parishes, Appointment Parishes and Home Mission Stations. The overall quality of figures presented is improving slowly, though some confusion still occurs with Federal Parishes. We note that there is still some difficulty in the presentation and verification of budget figures. We urge all presbyteries to be more pro-active and rigorous in the collection and assessment of Annual Parish Reports, and again ask that presbyteries appoint a Registrar/Committee whose task it is to facilitate this. Your Committee recognises that many parishes do not have suitably qualified Treasurers and Administrators and require assistance from the Presbytery and this Committee. Our Registrar and Convener are available to assist parishes. We are continuing to endeavor to produce a more user friendly Annual Parish Report in paper and electronic form.

4. LONG SERVICE LEAVE (and LSL LEVY)

Your Committee stated in its report to Assembly that the LSL Fund was in crisis and had lost \$105,561 in the 14/15 year, and that we would report back to this Commission regarding the outcome of our efforts, since the end of the Assembly, in seeking compliance to the PCV's rules and regulations regarding the taking of LSL. We report that the same problems continue to exist, thus exerting the same pressures on the LSL Fund as previously reported.

Your Committee recommends the continuance of the LSL Levy at \$350 per parish per minister per annum, but we refer you to our previous comments in regard to presbyteries not giving enough consideration to minister's LSL entitlements and the proper taking of that leave. In view of those comments and claims made on the LSL Fund for persons not previously advised to our Committee, we believe that the LSL Levy will need to be increased sooner rather than later, and to a figure approximating \$1,000 per minister per parish!

5. NON CASH BENEFITS (NCB's) and REPORTING to the ACNC

Your Committee reminds Assembly that, even though the current Federal Government intends to take no action on the Non Cash Benefits exemption and the charitable definition of churches, we should appreciate these benefits and adhere to the spirit of the laws of the land that allow us these concessions. In particular, each congregation must ensure that it has lodged its Annual Information Statement (AIS) to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) in order to maintain charitable tax benefits which include the tax exemption on the minister's NCB's.

6. SUPERANNUATION

Your Committee recommends that the rate of parish contribution to the PCV Superannuation Fund remains at 15% of actual remuneration.

7. MINISTER'S REMUNERATION

Your Committee submits the following to the Assembly:

An increase of 2.0% of base stipend (not including NCB) bringing total base remuneration up to \$52,824, with NCB balancing:

STIPEND: \$34,572.00 NCB: \$18,252.00 TOTAL: \$52,824.00

8. FUEL PRICES

Your Committee believes there are continuing positive effects for oil prices in Australia. We note that fuel costs have not increased, and in fact have decreased over the past six months. We recommend no increase in excess travel, the rate remaining at 49 cents per kilometer.

9. SUPPLY PREACHING FEES

In accordance with the above we recommend:

- Supply preaching fees increase by 2.0%; and
- Travel reimbursement for Supply preachers remains at 49 cents per kilometre.

Our grateful thanks go to the PCV General Manager and the Office Staff for all their assistance given to the Convener and the Committee.

Dennis K Wright CONVENER

NOMINATIONS FOR MODERATOR-DESIGNATE (Min. 6)

The following nominations for the position of Moderator-Designate 2016 have been received:

Rev Kyung Rae Ee (minister, Shepparton): presbyteries of Melbourne East and Flinders;

Rev Robert Weymouth White (retired minister): presbyteries of Geelong and Melbourne North.

John P Wilson CLERK OF ASSEMBLY

SELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT (Min. 15)

The Selection Committee has continued to work. The Committee was tasked with the following:

That the Assembly:

- Call for volunteers for the position of Presbyterian representative on the Victorian Government's Multifaith Advisory Group (MAG) to make their desire known to the Selection Committee.
- 2. Direct the Selection Committee, on behalf of the Assembly, to make the appointment and notify the Department of Premier accordingly.
- 3. Direct the attention of the appointed Presbyterian representative to MAG to Assembly resolutions GAV 2001, Min 47.6-8, and also GAV 2009, Min 27.6.
- 4. Direct the appointed Presbyterian representative to MAG to report annually to the General Assembly through the Church and Nation Committee.

The motion was seconded and approved. Min 123 (GAV 2015)

The Selection Committee has appointed Rev G Bradbeer as the Presbyterian representative to the Victorian Government's Multifaith Advisory Group (MAG).

General Assembly of Australia 2016

This year the General Assembly of Australia (GAA) will meet in September. The GAV is required to elect one minister and one elder for every sixteen 'Sanctioned Charges' or portion thereof. The definition of 'Sanctioned Charges' in the GAA code was sought from the GAA Clerk.

[GAA CODE 1.4] Each State Assembly shall elect one minister and one elder for every sixteen *Sanctioned Charges* or portion thereof within its bounds. A State Assembly may elect alternates to take the place of a member who may be unable to attend. The Clerk of the State Assembly shall notify the Clerk in writing prior to the opening of the General Assembly of the commissioners from that State Assembly

After consultation with the Clerk of Assembly it was determined that the PCV is entitled to 4 Ministers and 4 Elders as we have 61 'Sanctioned Charges' according to the definition provided by the GAA Clerk.

Nominations for GAA Commissioners

Ministers [4]: Moderator, Moderator Designate, Deputy Clerk, Business Convener Alternates [4]: Rev D Palmer, Rev Dr R Carner, Rev D Brown, Rev A Bray

Elders [4]: Mr D Wright, Mr R Butcher, Mr E Papajcsik, Mr B Nelson Alternates [4]:

Cameron Garrett CONVENER

THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE (Min. 7)

Throughout the first months of this year, the Committee has dealt mainly with matters of budgetary design for 2017 and beyond, has sought to bring the Strategic Review of the College to a conclusion, and is bringing forward plans and costs for the College Library additions.

Consultations with the General Manager and the Board of Investment and Finance have resulted in a substantially more satisfactory budget for College operation. The Committee records its appreciation to the BIF for the increased distributions from income. We believe the new arrangements will make the administration of the wide range of College events and activities much less fraught with financial anxiety.

With respect to bursaries, the funds available for distribution to candidates are now at a level where the Committee feels more confident that students' living arrangements will be less pressured, and, we trust, with favourable results in their ability to concentrate on the long-term matters of rewarding studies.

The Strategic Review process reached its conclusion in February, under the guidance of facilitator Mr Stuarte Kerdell. The review has involved a comprehensive look at many functions of the College, including governance, clarification of goals and directions, and financial administration. The review involved surveys of faculty, students, and over 50 ministers and various church bodies. The comments helped to provide a view of how the College is seen by stake-holders and how well the church at large understands the role of the College and relates to its ministry.

The Committee has canvassed ideas for how the College can better assist students from outside our Presbyterian denomination, as well as our potential for training students from overseas, especially Asia. We have also given thought as to how we can assist other ministries such as overseas mission work and cross-cultural mission. The surveys revealed a desire in some areas of the state for the College to consider assistance in ministries such as eldership training, teacher training, women's ministries and others.

This review has involved many hours of meetings and discussion. The Committee has adopted the review report, and is now engaged in interacting with its recommendations. It has proven impracticable, in terms of the time available, to be able to shape the recommendations into deliverances that we could bring to this Commission. Potential deliverances require further consultations with the Clerk of Assembly, the Church Office, and the BIF/Trusts Corporation. It is proposed that the Strategic Review report will be circulated, and brought to the October Assembly, with at least some policy and program deliverances for consideration by the church. The Committee requests prayer as proposals are shaped, so that benefit and blessing may result for the church in the future.

The need for Library extension has been a major matter of Committee business since the last Assembly. Three architects have been engaged to submit proposals and estimates, and this has involved fairly extensive consultation with these parties. The Committee is now in possession of various ideas about use of the site, but has felt the need to consider the entire site before adopting any particular plan, so as to avoid compromising ways in which the site might be developed in future. A master plan for the site is currently in development. The Committee hopes to be in a position to bring developed plans and impressions to the Assembly in October.

In discussions with the General Manager, a proposal has emerged to at least partially fund the project through an appeal. In view of the fact that bursary funds are now adequately provided for from within the church, an appeal for the Library rather than bursaries seems a sensible approach. Donations to such an appeal would be tax deductible, and therefore clear of the deductibility issues that so vexed the Committee in dealing with the bursary matter.

We are pleased to report that the College Graduation and Commencement Service was held on Friday 4 March, in the Assembly Hall, Collins Street. We are indebted to Scots' Church for their generosity and hospitality for the occasion. The Moderator-General, Rt Rev David Cook, was the guest preacher on the evening. Ten students graduated with various ACT awards, and five Presbyterian candidates received the PTC Diploma. Four students were placed in exit appointments: Brett Cummins (Wangaratta-Yarrawonga), Daniel Dixon (Williamstown), Daryl Jackson (Reservoir) and Stephen McDonald (Benalla).

The Ministry Conference was held from 15-17 March. It was based on the theme *Preaching Matters*. Our guest speakers were David Cook, Simon Manchester (St Thomas Anglican Church, North Sydney) and Charlie Skrine (St Helen's, Bishopsgate, London). Over one hundred guests attended. The survey information we received on the conference was very positive. The 2017 Conference will also be held in March and is organised around the theme *Preaching Evangelistically*.

We are still waiting for the Department of Immigration & Border Protection to advise us on the success of Dr Trevor Burke's application for a 457 Visa. The application, which is quite complicated and requires considerable information, was lodged in mid-December 2015. The Department advised us on Monday 21 March, that they had approved the Presbyterian Church of Victoria as a sponsor. There are several other stages that must be processed first before Dr Burke receives confirmation that he is eligible for a 457 Visa. Please pray that there will no further unnecessary delays.

Neil Benfell CONVENER

Presbyterian Church of Australia

COMMUNICATION 1 (Min. 14)

To:

The Clerks of State Assemblies

From:

The Clerk of Assembly

Subject:

Commissioners to the 2016 General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia

Date:

15 January 2016

The Forty-Ninth Session of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia will commence in Sydney on Monday 12th September 2016 at 7.00 pm.

Under Article 1.3 of the Articles of Agreement, membership of the Assembly consists of:

- (a) An equal number of ministers and elders elected pursuant to Articles 1.4 and 1.5;
- (b) The Officers of the General Assembly as appointed pursuant to Article 1.7 (anyone who is not a minister or elder does not have the power to vote);
- (c) Past Moderators of the General Assembly.

Article 1.5 further prescribes:

Each State Assembly shall elect one Minister and one Elder for every sixteen Sanctioned Charges or portion thereof within its bounds. A State Assembly may elect alternatives to take the place of a member who may be unable to attend. The Clerk of the State Assembly shall notify the Clerk in writing prior to the opening of the General Assembly of the commissioners from that State Assembly.

Would you please advise me of the names of the Commissioners AND their addresses before Thursday 30th June, 2016.

Brain Weller

Bruce Meller Clerk of Assembly

OVERTURE 1 (Min. 8)

From: Presbytery of Maroondah Re: Acceptance and Oversight of Candidates for the Ministry

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

In the light of:

- a) the responsibility given to each presbytery to exercise every care in the matter of a candidate's application for the ministry, and to satisfy itself as to the applicant's Christian character and conviction (TEC Regulations 5.b.);
- b) the presbytery's responsibility of ascertaining on all grounds whether an applicant is a suitable person to become a candidate for the ministry (GAV Code 4:33);
- c) the presbytery's duty of care towards the whole church and the applicant as it considers how it might assess the applicant's capacity to appropriately deal with the stresses of local church ministry, and if married, their ability to cope with that stress as a couple;
- d) the presbytery's duty of care towards each applicant as it considers how it might care for and mentor that person as they progress through college and out into ministry;
- e) the considerable resources that are expended in the training of each candidate;
- the distinct advantages of a psychosocial assessment being undertaken by an appropriately qualified Christian that takes into account the applicant's and his wife's faith journeys, mental health, personal and family history;

Now therefore the Maroondah Presbytery humbly overtures that the Assembly:

Take these premises into consideration and form an ad hoc committee called the Assessment of Candidates Committee consisting of the Principal, Presbyterian Theological College (Convener), a member of the Theological Education Committee (not a faculty member) and a representative of each presbytery to investigate suitable assessment options of the potential candidates and bring a preliminary report to the 2016 Commission of Assembly and recommendations and funding proposals to the 2016 General Assembly

or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

Signed:

Douglas Fraser PRESBYTERY CLERK

Dated: 12 August 2015

Rev Matt James and Rev Dean Carroll were appointed to state the overture.

OVERTURE 2 (Min. 17)

From: Presbytery of Melbourne North Re: PCV and honorific titles

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

In the light of:

- a) the general custom within the PCV to use special titles for moderators, such as the RIGHT REV during their term of office;
- b) the general custom that moderators of the General Assembly of Australia are addressed as the VERY REV after their term of office;
- c) presbytery research noting that these extra honorific titles are inherited from the Church of Scotland, noting especially:

a reliable polity reference for the Church of Scotland (Cox's Practice and Procedure), p. 795...

'In 1895 Her Majesty Queen Victoria issued an order that, in the English Table of Precedence, the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland should take his place after the Bishops of the Church of England and before barons. Consequential on this the title "Right Reverend" seems to have been informally adopted.

In 1904, on the recommendation of the Secretary of State for Scotland, His Majesty King Edward VII granted to the Moderator of the General Assembly precedence, in Scotland and during his term of office, next after the Lord Chancellor of Great Britain.

In 1910 the Scottish Office decided that the designations "Right Reverend" for Moderators and "Very Reverend" for ex-Moderators should be officially recognised.'

- d) presbytery's conclusion drawn from this research that the origin for these titles comes from within the context of seating preferences at royal banquets; that it was introduced so that Presbyterian moderators would not be seated too far 'down the line' from Church of England bishops;
- e) Christ's teaching and warning to be careful how we address people and how we attribute honorific titles (the warning of Jesus concerns the love of places of honour and honorific titles like Master, Father and Teacher);
- f) presbytery's questions: What does that mean to have such titles in front of our name?; and, What does it convey to those outside the church, or outside Presbyterianism?;
- g) the words of Christ in Matthew 23:6,7 that seem to speak to this matter.

Now therefore the Presbytery of Melbourne North humbly overtures the General Assembly, to take these premises into consideration, and declare that:

it should not be considered obligatory for moderators to accept the gratuitous honorific titles given to Moderators and past-Moderators such as *Right* Reverend and *Very* Reverend

or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

Signed:

John Wilson PRESBYTERY CLERK

Dated: 19 May 2015

Rev John Wilson and Rev Don Elliott were appointed to state the overture.

PETITION 1 (Min. 18)

Presbytery of Geelong St George's Geelong Presbyterian Church

To the Commission of Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

This petition shows that:

- a) No worship services or church activities have been held at St George's Geelong Presbyterian Church since 31 January 2015.
- b) The dissolution of St George's Geelong Presbyterian Church is an emergent matter that the Presbytery considers to be urgent, and in need of executive action in accordance with rule 5:39c.
- c) The issues leading to the assessment of emergent and urgent status are as follows:
 - i) Security of the premises
 - The property is on the most major open corner site in Geelong but has considerable blind spots that cannot be seen from the roads or footpaths.
 - It does not have fencing around the entire property, in particular the Church and the Hall.
 - It is prone to vagrants locating themselves in doorways to sleep, with potential for break-ins and hostility.
 - Due to its vacant state, insurance costs are approximately \$15,000 per annum, with a huge \$10,000 excess.
 - A security company has been engaged to carry out random inspections. If anything is highlighted, the two assessor elders with access need to travel from Bannockburn (25 kilometres each way to deal with the issue).
 - The manse currently has a young family in residence for a nominal donation and their presence is recognised by the Insurance Company, however we cannot expect them to put themselves at risk to protect the property.
 - ii) The need for major restoration and upkeep
 - The Stonemason's report indicated a minimum restoration cost for the church alone at \$2.6 million. It is estimated that the manse could be another \$330,000-500,000 plus for restoration. The Hall has not been quoted but could easily be another \$500,000 plus for renovations.
 - With the type of stone involved and Heritage requirements, this restoration may well be required again in about 30 years.
 - To prevent further needless deterioration in accordance with the Stonemason's report, immediate make safe works to an amount of approximately \$7,500 are required for the church (a more extensive and longer lasting version of the make safe works would cost \$138,000).
 - Immediate make safe works are also required to a heritage listed fence bordering the manse and council footpath to prevent it falling.
 - Annual stone inspections are required of the church and manse with any immediate remedial work to be done to ensure safety.
 - The Insurance Company has completed a full assessment and determined that considerable works should be undertaken to minimise risk.

- Ongoing maintenance repairs to maintain the interior of the buildings which are showing signs of ageing (windows, electrical, plumbing, sewerage, etc).
- Garden and manse maintenance is also a constant and costly issue.
- iii) The ongoing need for Assessor elders
 - The continued need of five assessor elders with one local elder who carry out the full requirements of the eldership and the Board of Management.
 - In a presbytery with soon to be only two inducted ministers and several ministers emeritus, a combination of age, sickness and busy parish and presbytery work makes the St George's assessor work very onerous.
 - They have an ageing non-elder Session and Board Clerk, now attending another parish, graciously undertaking these duties, but who desires to be released from these roles and no-one with the time capacity to take it on.
 - A local Board of Management is not possible as most members preferred to disperse to non-Presbyterian churches and even when there was a Board they could not provide many active workers, with most of the load falling on the Elders and the Clerk.
 - Assessors being Rev Andrew Bray, Rev Darren Middleton, Mr Bert Stasse and Mr Alan Helyar with Mr Peter Anderson as the local elder, with only two of these men below the age of 70.

Now therefore the Presbytery of Geelong humbly petitions the Commission of Assembly to take these premises into consideration and to dissolve the St George's Geelong congregation based on the following:

- In February 2016, more than 12 months will have elapsed since a regular authorised service was held on the property.
- To prevent needless deterioration.
- The continuing need for security surveillance on a vacant property.
- The heavy draw on manpower which could be directed to more meaningful ministry.
- The cost of maintaining the vacant buildings.

Furthermore, if this request is agreed to, the Presbytery of Geelong seeks permission to sell the property of the dissolved St George's Geelong congregation, namely the site contained in Certificate of Title Volume: 3299 Folio: 659786, the land on which stands church, hall, manse and car park, being two acres bounded in part by Little Malop Street, Latrobe Terrace and Ryrie Street, Geelong, in accord with BIF regulations, the proceeds of such sale to be used for the furtherance of gospel ministry as the Presbytery shall determine

or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

Signed:

Bert Stasse
PRESBYTERY CLERK

Dated: 9 December 2015

Rev D Middleton and Rev A Bray were appointed to present the petition.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA OCTOBER 2016

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

of the

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA 1st Sitting: Monday 3 October (pm)

At Melbourne, and within The Scots' Church, Monday 3 October 2016 at 7:30pm.

1. Constitution

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria met by appointment of the last Assembly (BB 2015 min. 129).

The Moderator, Rev David Brown, 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 sitting.

The motion was seconded and approved.

3. Apologies

The Clerk noted the apologies as follows:

Ministers:

For all sittings: Keith Allen, Keith Bell, Anthony Bird, Robert Boan, Graham Bradbeer, Ken Brown, Dallas Clarnette, James Playfoot; Paul Ridgewell, Gary Stephens, Andrew Venn.

For this sitting: Chris Dean, Neil Harvey, Grant Lawry, Andrew Slater, Andrew Vines.

Elders:

For all sittings: Rob Herweynen, Ralph Kop, Norm Sharp, Robert Taylor, Maitland Vertigan, Peter Winstanley, Anton Zirngast.

For this sitting: Tom Guilford, Endre Papajcsik, Bert Stasse.

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 Papers 4 and 5, and Assembly Paper C, together with the agenda for the 2nd sitting.

5. Election of Moderator

The Clerk intimated that Rev Robert Weymouth White, retired minister, had been elected as Moderator Designate of this General Assembly by the Commission of Assembly in May 2016. (min. 9)

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Appoint Rev Robert Weymouth White, retired minister, as Moderator of the 2016 General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The Moderator put the moderatorial questions to Mr White, 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, Rev Robert White, conducted public worship, and preached the occasional sermon, 'Who Do You Think You Are', based on 1 Peter 2:4-10.

7. Adjournment

The Assembly adjourned to meet at 9:30am on Tuesday 4 October 2016 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 sitting with the benediction.

CLERKS: J P Wilson P W Phillips

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

of the

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA 2nd Sitting: Tuesday 4 October (am)

At Melbourne, and within The Scots' Church, and afterwards in the Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall, Tuesday 4 October 2016 at 9:30am.

8. Communion Service and Constitution

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria met pursuant to adjournment. The Moderator, Rev Robert White, constituted the Assembly with prayer, led Assembly in worship and conducted the Lord's Supper. The Assembly Expositor, Rev Peter Adam, led the Assembly in the first of his Assembly expositions, 'Paul's message to the Colossians', based on Colossians 1:1-29.

9. Roll

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Declare that the names recorded in the Roll of Assembly, compiled from the certified rolls of presbyteries, be the Roll of the 2016 General Assembly.

The motion was seconded and approved.

10. Apologies

The Clerk noted the apologies as follows:

Ministers:

For this sitting: Chris Duke, Neil Harvey.

Elders:

For this sitting: Endre Papajcsik.

The Clerk moved: That the Assembly:

Sustain the apologies.

The motion was seconded and approved.

11. Associations

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Associate the following for all sittings:

- Rev Kevin Murray, member of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in New South Wales.
- 2. Rev David Cook, member of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in New South Wales.

The motion was seconded and approved.

12. Welcomes

The Moderator welcomed members of the Assembly.

13. Business Committee

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

The Convener, Rev Dean Carroll, moved the deliverance.

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause.

Clauses 1-7 were approved.

The Clerk moved a new clause 8 as follows:

That the Assembly:

8. Permit the Privacy Officer to be present in the Assembly and give advice (including when meeting in private) whenever an issue of privacy is to be discussed.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Clauses 9-11 (new numbering) were approved.

Clause 12 (new numbering) was approved.

The deliverance as a whole as amended was moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Determine that the hours of meeting be:

First Sitting Monday 3 October, 7:30pm

Second Sitting
Third Sitting
Tourth Sitting
Fifth Sitting
Tuesday 4 October, 9:30am to 5:30pm
Tuesday 4 October, 7:00pm to 9:00pm
Wednesday 5 October, 9:30am to 5:30pm
Wednesday 5 October, 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Sixth Sitting Thursday 6 October, 9:30am to the finish of business

- 2. Determine that lunch be taken daily from 12:30pm to 2:00pm, that refreshments be taken daily from 3:30pm to 3:50pm, and that a dinner break be taken on Thursday from 5:30pm to 6:30pm, as necessary.
- 3. Determine the time for speakers to be as follows:

20 minutes in total for:

Conveners and seconders moving deliverances as a whole

Petitioners—stating the petition

Appellants—stating the appeal

Respondents to appeals

Question time

15 minutes in total for:

Overturists—stating the overture

5 minutes for:

Appellants in reply

Movers of substantive motions and amendments

All other speakers.

4. Appoint a Ballot Committee for the Assembly consisting of:

Ministers: Andrew Vines (Convener), Luke Brownley, Adam Humphries

Elders: Bert Stasse. Doug Fraser

- 5. 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.
- 6. Permit the General Manager to be present in the Assembly (including when meeting in private) and to answer questions during any question time that relates to his areas of management.
- 7. Permit the Law Agent to remain in the Assembly during all sittings, including when meeting in private, so that he may give legal advice as required.
- 8. Permit the Privacy Officer to be present in the Assembly and give advice (including when meeting in private) whenever an issue of privacy is to be discussed.
- 9. Permit Mr Les Oliver, Church Architect, to be present in the Assembly and to answer questions during the report of the Building and Property Committee.

- 10. Encourage Assembly members to attend the remaining Assembly prayer meetings on Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 8:30am in the Robert White Meeting Room.
- 11. Approve generally the outline of business as given in the report.
- 12. Approve the Order of Business for the second sitting, Tuesday 4 October, 2016. The motion was seconded and approved.

14. Minutes of the Previous Sitting

The Clerk laid on the table the minutes of the 1st sitting.

15. Minutes of the May 2016 Commission of Assembly

The Clerk laid on the table the minutes of the Commission of Assembly, held Tuesday 3 May 2016, and moved that they be received.

The motion was seconded and approved.

16. New Members

New members of the Assembly were introduced to the Moderator.

The Moderator welcomed the new members to the Assembly and led the Assembly in prayer for them.

17. Ministerial and Elders' Jubilees

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

- Note with appreciation, and place on record, the faithful service of Mr Colin Baker as an elder within the parish of Moorabool, serving the church for 50 years since ordination, and noting his status as elder emeritus due to health reasons.
- 2. Note with appreciation, and place on record, the faithful service of Rev John M Cromarty as an ordained minister for 40 years since his ordination by the Southern Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia in 1976.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The Moderator led the Assembly in prayer.

18. Ministerial and Elders' Deaths

The Clerk reported that Rev Henry Arthur Stamp and Elder Rex Hughston McCarron had died since the last meeting of Assembly.

(1) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Note the passing of Rev Arthur Stamp, and place on record the following as a tribute:

Arthur Stamp (1919–2016)

Henry Arthur Stamp was born September 1919, in Cairns. Arthur left school early and worked at cabinet making in the Queensland Railways, and then the next six years as an accountant and a commercial studies school teacher.

Arthur credited his introduction to Christian faith to his mother's gentle teaching and her reading to him books by scholars on biblical topics. Both parents were Christian and Arthur attended Sunday school every Sunday from Kindergarten to Bible class and later leadership positions in the PFA. In 1941, he responded to God's call to the ministry.

Following a BA in Qld, he then moved to Victoria to study at Ormond College for a BD. Further studies took place at Cambridge University where he studied Church History, Hebrew, Aramaic and Syriac.

Arthur Stamp served the Presbyterian Church of Victoria as minister to Port Fairy Presbyterian Church, lecturer in Old Testament, language and exegesis at Ormond College, Ringwood Scots church until 1977, and then minister at Heathmont Presbyterian church from which he retired in 1985.

Arthur was always interested in people. He had a phenomenal memory and extraordinary eye for detail.

Underpinning Arthur's ministry were themes of justice, kindness, Christian love, the gospel, freedom, and basic human dignity, education and health for every human being.

He loved God's beauty in nature and adored the innate beauty of nature as created by God.

Arthur Stamp's ministry touched many lives. He loved the Presbyterian Church and worked diligently for this General Assembly on many committees and also served as its Moderator.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Dissent:

Rev Mark Crabb (see also min 29)

(2) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Note the passing of Elder Rex McCarron and place on record the following as a tribute:

Rex McCarron (1933–2016)

Rex Hughston McCarron died peacefully at the age of 83, his Lord graciously sparing him from further struggles with cardiac problems and cancer.

Rex was raised in a Christian home with strong Presbyterian and Covenanter connections. The McCarron family were founding members of the Caringbah Presbyterian Church near Sydney, where Rex ministered for 38 years as a Sunday school teacher, youth leader and, from 1963, as an elder.

After retiring from radiography he moved to Rosebud where he tirelessly served as Session Clerk in the Dromana/Mornington parish until his death (serving altogether for 53 years as an elder). During this time, he also faithfully served in the Flinders Presbytery and as GAV and GAA representative.

Rex never married but spent his energies caring for others: the brethren, the poor and needy, and the Lord's creation especially his German Shepherd dogs. Like Nathanial, Rex was a man without guile.

We thank the Lord for Rex's earthly life of devoted, humble service to His Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The motion was seconded and approved.

19. Royal and Loyal addresses

The Clerk moved the Royal and Loyal addresses, as follows:

(1) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Send the following address through the Governor of Victoria to her majesty, Queen Elizabeth 2:

"To the Queen's most excellent majesty. May it please your majesty: We, the members of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, now convened in Melbourne on 3 October 2016, 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 General Assembly, in our local congregations and in our private devotions, pray that the Sovereign Triune God will by his Holy Spirit grant your majesty every grace needful for discharging the duties of your office.

We congratulate you that you have now served longer than any previous English monarch. The prayer of the Royal Anthem is being answered: "Long to reign over us ..."

We give thanks to God that you have not shrunk back from Christian witness, especially during your Christmas broadcasts. We humbly ask that you join with us in praying for the work of the Christian gospel in this land - that we will be able to "live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness" (1 Timothy 2:2).

We, the ministers and elders of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, representing the congregations of our people, pledge ourselves to continue to work under your leadership for the common good in Australia and for the glory of God, through Christ Jesus our Lord."

The motion was seconded and approved.

(2) Rev Ivan Barker moved:

That the Assembly:

Following the Royal Address, sing two verses of God Save the Queen.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(3) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Send greetings to the Victorian Premier, Hon Daniel Andrews, to the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council, with assurances of the regular prayers of the members of this General Assembly, and also of the people of our congregations, for our parliamentary representatives in the exercise of their responsibilities.

The motion was seconded and approved.

20. Board of Investment and Finance

The report of the Board of Investment and Finance was laid on the table and received. The Chairman, Elder lain Bramley, moved the deliverance.

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause.

Clauses 1-3 were approved.

Rev David Palmer moved an additional clause 4.

That the Assembly:

4. Request that the BIF, in making recommendation to the 2017 Commission of Assembly for the GMP program, will give consideration, in consultation with the Rev David Palmer, to the inclusion of an item to fund a faculty chair at Presbyterian Theological Seminary (PTS), Dehra Dun, India at a cost of \$10,000 to be adjusted annually according to movement in exchange rate and CPI

The motion was seconded and approved.

The deliverance as a whole as amended was moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Approve the following honoraria:

Deputy Clerk \$2,800 Business Convener \$870

- 2. Approve that an Assembly Rate of zero be set for the 2016/17 year.
- 3. Commend those parishes and presbyteries which have fully subscribed their allocations for the 2015/16 General Mission Program.
- 4. Request that the BIF, in making recommendation to the 2017 Commission of Assembly for the GMP program, will give consideration, in consultation with the Rev David Palmer, to the inclusion of an item to fund a faculty chair at Presbyterian Theological Seminary (PTS), Dehra Dun, India at a cost of \$10,000 to be adjusted annually according to movement in exchange rate and CPI.

The motion was seconded and approved.

21. Communication 3 – from Hawthorn Board of Management, re: building insurance

Communication 3 was laid on the table and received.

22. Communication 4 – from The Scots' Church Board of Management, re: Assembly Hall litigation

The Business Convener moved that the communication be received.

The motion was seconded.

Rev Allan Harman asked the Moderator to rule on the competence of the communication.

The Moderator ruled that the communication was competent.

Rev Adam Humphries moved:

That the Assembly:

Depart from the Moderator's ruling.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

The motion (to receive the communication) was approved.

23. Petition 4 – Chalmers (Auburn) Presbyterian Church, re: selling the manse

The petitioners were brought to the bar.

The petition was taken as read and received.

The petitioners stated the petition.

Questions were asked.

(1) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Grant the prayer of the petition.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(2) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Noting congregational approval, agree to the sale of the Auburn Presbyterian Church manse property at 15 Rathmines Road, East Hawthorn, subject to presbytery approval.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(3) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Agree that that part of the proceeds necessary may be applied for the purchase of another suitable property to act as a manse, subject to all necessary congregational and presbytery approvals.

The motion was seconded.

(4) Elder Colin Morrow moved:

That the Assembly:

Amend the motion by deleting the word 'may'.

The amendment was seconded.

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

The Moderator ruled that the amendment was competent.

The amendment was disapproved.

The motion was approved.

(5) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Agree that a further part of the proceeds may be applied to fund the necessary renovation of the Auburn Church property at 14 Rathmines Road, subject to all necessary congregational and presbytery approvals.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(6) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Following the Board of Investment and Finance placing the remainder of the proceeds, after deduction of costs, in Sites Reserve Fund, authorise payment of interest earned to the Auburn Board for the costs of ministry for the five year period, 2017–2021, subject to presbytery approval of the Auburn Presbyterian Church's five-year strategic plan for revitalisation.

The motion was seconded.

(7) Rev Bob Thomas moved:

That the Assembly:

Amend the motion by replacing the word 'interest' with the word 'income'.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(8) Rev Kevin Maxwell moved:

That the Assembly amend the motion by the replacement of the words 'costs of ministry' with the words 'revitalisation costs of the parish'.

The amendment was seconded and approved.

(9) Elder Colin Morrow moved:

That the Assembly:

Amend the motion by the omission of the words 'for the five year period, 2017–2021' and the insertion in their place of the words 'for a five year period'.

The amendment was seconded and approved.

The motion as amended was seconded and approved.

Announcement of Final Decision

The Moderator advised the petitioners of the Assembly's decision as follows:

That the Assembly had resolved to:

- 1. Grant the prayer of the petition.
- 2. Noting congregational approval, agree to the sale of the Auburn Presbyterian Church manse property at 15 Rathmines Road, East Hawthorn, subject to presbytery approval.
- 3. Agree that that part of the proceeds necessary may be applied for the purchase of another suitable property to act as a manse, subject to all necessary congregational and presbytery approvals.
- 4. Agree that a further part of the proceeds may be applied to fund the necessary renovation of the Auburn Church property in 14 Rathmines Road, subject to all necessary congregational and presbytery approvals.
- 5. Following the Board of Investment and Finance placing the remainder of the proceeds, after deduction of costs, in Sites Reserve Fund, authorise payment of income earned to the Auburn Board for the revitalisation costs of the parish for a five year period, subject to presbytery approval of the Auburn Presbyterian Church's five-year strategic plan for revitalisation.

The Moderator advised the petitioners of their right of appeal.

The Moderator removed the parties from the bar.

24. Trusts Corporation

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

The Business Convener moved that it be received.

The motion was seconded.

The business was adjourned to take up the fixed order of the day. (min 27)

25. Christian Education and Nurture Committee

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

The Convener, Rev Matt James, moved the deliverance.

That the Assembly:

- 1. Give thanks to God for the harmonious working relationships evident within the committee.
- 2. Thank Mrs Mairi Girgis and the Women's Ministries Victoria team for their work organising the National Presbyterian Women's Conference.
- 3. Thank Mrs Lilly Suraj for her work as the PYV administration officer over the last year.
- 4. Give thanks to God for the work of the PYV council and its convener Mr Nic Bilyj.
- 5. Give thanks to God for the work of the Youth Ministries Director, Rev Brian Harvey.
- 6. Pray for Rev Brian Harvey as he provides direction for youth ministries in the PCV

The motion was seconded and approved.

The Moderator's Chaplain Rev Rod Waterhouse led in prayer for the work of CENC and especially the work of PYV.

26. Ad hoc Committee on Development of Presbyterian Christian Schooling in Victoria

The report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Development of Presbyterian Christian Schooling in Victoria was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Mr James Bligh, addressed the Assembly.

The Business Convener moved:

That the Assembly:

Thank and discharge the ad hoc Committee on Development of Presbyterian Christian Schooling in Victoria, noting the work done to date is to be retained for possible future use.

The motion was seconded and approved.

27. Trusts Corporation (min. 24)

The business was resumed.

The motion to receive the report was approved.

The Convener, Elder lain Bramley, moved the deliverance.

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause.

Clauses 1-4 were approved.

Clause 5 was seconded and disapproved.

Rev Graham Nicholson moved:

That the Assembly:

- 5. Note the response from the Hawthorn Board, that it believes that it has sufficient insurance cover for the Church building in the event of either a partial loss or a total loss
- 6. Note that in arriving at its insurance valuations for the Hawthorn Church Building, the Board has taken into consideration the following:
 - a. that a total loss would release the congregation from the requirement to meet Heritage regulations; and
 - b. that the existing church stands on land of approximately 2,000 square metres and has a seating capacity of 600; and
 - c. that when rebuilding after a total loss, the current building regulations would need to be met; and
 - d. that the current regulation on parking requirements for a new church building would require the congregation to construct a building considerably smaller than the existing one; and
 - e. there can be no prior assurance taken by the Church or any other party that the Council would vary the parking requirements if the church was to erect a new building on the site;

so that in the event of a total loss, the congregation would be required to build a church that seated only as many people as it would be able to provide on-site parking for. This would clearly require a much smaller building.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The business was adjourned to take up the fixed order of the day (min 36).

28. Archivist

The Archivist's report was laid on the table and received.

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Chris Palmer, PCV Archivist, to the Assembly.

Mrs Palmer addressed the Assembly on the work of the Archive.

Moderator's Chaplain Rev Rod Waterhouse led the Assembly in prayer for the Archivist and the work of the Archive.

29. Reasons for Dissent – minute 18(1)

It was agreed to sit in private.

The Clerk read the reasons submitted by Rev Mark Crabb at the time of his dissent.

It was agreed that the reasons be kept in a record apart.

It was agreed to resume sitting in open court.

30. Adjournment

The Assembly adjourned to meet at 7:00pm on Tuesday 4 October 2016, which, having been duly intimated, the Moderator closed the sitting with the benediction.

CLERKS: J P Wilson P W Phillips

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

of the

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA 3rd Sitting: Tuesday 4 October (pm)

At Melbourne, and in the Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall, Tuesday 4 October 2016 at 7:00pm.

31. Constitution

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria met pursuant to adjournment. Moderator's Chaplain, Rev Stuart Withers, led the Assembly in worship with a reading of Revelation 14:1-4 and constituted the Assembly with prayer and the singing of a hymn.

32. Apologies

The Deputy Clerk noted the apologies as follows:

Ministers:

For this sitting: Marvin Hagans, Neil Harvey, Andrew Slater.

Elders:

For this sitting: John Angelico, Geoff Cross, Tom Guilford, Endre Papajcsik.

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the apologies.

The motion was seconded and approved.

33. Business Committee

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

The motion was seconded and approved.

34. Minutes of the Previous Sitting

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

35. Building and Property Committee

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

The Convener, Rev Peter Phillips, moved the deliverance.

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause.

Clauses 1 and 2 were approved.

Clauses 3 and 4 were approved.

Clauses 5-7 were approved.

The deliverance as a whole was moved:

- 1. Thank the Church Architect, Mr Les Oliver, for his valued service to the committee and to the congregations and boards of the church.
- 2. Thank Mrs Jenny Bell for her much appreciated contribution to the work of the committee both as a member of the committee and as an advisor to it.
- 3. Approve the 'Checklist Survey for Existing Manses' document.
- 4. Approve the 'Maintenance and Upgrade of Existing Manses 2016' document.
- Commend the 'Maintenance and Upgrade of Existing Manses 2016' document and the 'Checklist Survey for Existing Manses' documents to boards as useful

- helps to their fulfilling their responsibilities in regard to both their manses and their ministers.
- 6. Approve the committee continuing to assist the Exit Committee and the Ministry Development Committee with the assessment of manses in connection with exit and home missionary appointments, on the same basis as previously approved (GAV 2014, min 48.3(a) and GAV 2015 min 108.5).
- 7. Request the committee to report to the 2017 General Assembly on its experience in assisting the Ministry Development Committee with the assessment of manses in connection with exit and home missionary appointments, seeking any changes to its regulations that it may consider appropriate in the light of that experience.

The motion was seconded and approved.

36. Trusts Corporation (min 27)

The business was resumed.

Clause 6 was disapproved.

Clause 7 was moved and seconded.

Elder Colin Morrow moved the previous question in relation to clause 7.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

Clause 7 was approved.

Rev Douglas Robertson moved an additional clause 8:

That the Assembly:

8. Direct the Trusts Corporation to accept the Board of Management's offer as expressed in numbered paragraphs 1-6 of Communication 4, and cease all litigation against the Trustees of the Scots' Church Properties Trust and the Board of Management of Scots' Church.

The motion was seconded.

It was agreed to adjourn the debate (min 53).

37. Adjournment

The Assembly adjourned to meet at 9:30am on Wednesday 5 October 2016, which having been duly intimated, the Moderator closed the sitting with the benediction.

CLERKS: J P Wilson P W Phillips

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

of the

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA 4th Sitting: Wednesday 5 October (am)

At Melbourne, and in the Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall, Wednesday 5 October 2016 at 9:30am.

38. Constitution:

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria met pursuant to adjournment. Moderator's Chaplain, Rev Rod Waterhouse, constituted the Assembly with the reading of scripture and prayer.

39. Assembly Expositor

The Assembly Expositor, Rev Peter Adam, led the Assembly in the second of his Assembly expositions, based on Colossians 3:1-17, 4:2-6.

40. Apologies

The Deputy Clerk noted the following apologies:

For this sitting:

Ministers: Ken Brown, Graeme Weber, Michael Wharton.

Elders: John Lagerwey.

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the apologies:

The motion was seconded and approved.

41. Business Committee

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

The motion was seconded and approved.

42. Minutes of Previous Sitting

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

43. Elder Bill MacRae, Moderator, Presbyterian Church of Western Australia

The Moderator welcomed Mr MacRae to the Assembly and invited him to speak.

Mr MacRae addressed the Assembly.

Moderator's Chaplain Rev Rod Waterhouse led the Assembly in prayer.

The Moderator thanked Mr MacRae and asked him to take the Assembly's greetings to his home church.

44. 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.

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause.

Clauses 1-4 were approved.

Clause 5 was moved and seconded.

Rev Philip Court sought leave to move an amendment without notice to add words to clause 5.

Leave was not granted.

Clause 6 was moved and seconded.

It was agreed to adjourn the debate to take the fixed order of the day. (min 51)

45. PCA 500th Anniversary of the Reformation

The Moderator welcomed Rev David Cook to the Assembly.

Mr Cook addressed the Assembly on the GAA Committee's plans to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation: the publication of a book, *Truth Matters*; a national evangelistic outreach to our nation in 2017, *Taking God Seriously*, and, to support this outreach, four evangelist tracts, one for children, three for adults; a Reformation Tour to Europe and Scotland, mid-October to early November 2017, and commissioning Rev John Wilson to prepare a series of videos for use by study groups and congregations. Rev John Wilson addressed the Assembly on the importance of historical reflection and the right understanding of what the church is celebrating in marking the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, and the place of the videos he is producing in this.

46. Presbyterian Ladies College

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

47. Scotch College

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

48. 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, Phil Daffy, Luke Isham, 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:

- 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.

49. Records

The report was laid on the table and received.

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Note that the records of the presbyteries of Flinders, Geelong, Gippsland, Kilnoorat, Maroondah, Melbourne East, Melbourne North, North Western Victoria and the committees APWM Vic, Church Planting, Health and Community Chaplaincy and Ministry Development have been examined.

The motion was seconded and approved.

50. Australian Presbyterian World Mission (Vic) Committee

Rev Philip Burns introduced the following missionaries to the Assembly:

Mr Douglas and Mrs Jeanette Bennett

Rev Kevin and Mrs Julie Murray

Mr David and Mrs Lisa Pearce

Mr Dennis Tranter

Mr Michael Graham

The Moderator welcomed the missionaries and led the Assembly in prayer.

Mr David Pearce addressed the Assembly on his work with MAF and the importance of missions

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

The Convener, Mr Douglas Bennett, addressed the Assembly on the work of the Committee.

The report of the Australian Presbyterian World Mission (Vic) Committee was laid on the table and received.

Rev Philip Burns 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. Express its gratitude to the Rev Phil Simmonds, the Rev Dean Carroll and Miss Elspeth Slater for their dedicated and faithful service to God and his Kingdom through their contributions to the work of the committee over many years.
- 3. Encourage all churches to pray regularly for our APWM missionaries serving in Australia and overseas, asking the Lord of the harvest to send out more labourers, and that his church may be enabled to set them aside and fully support them.
- 4. Request the Moderator to give the greetings of the Assembly to all our serving missionaries.
- 5. Praise God for his blessing upon Coins for Mission program, the 45 participating churches and the extra support provided for our missionaries in times of need.
- 6. Praise God for strengthened relationships with PTS India and the partner churches of South Sudan, Myanmar, Malawi, Zambia, Vanuatu and Japan.
- 7. Remind the church that partner churches will greatly benefit from regular financial gifts and donations.
- 8. Encourage ministers, sessions and mission committees to seriously consider a short-term mission trip as a method of increasing interest and involvement in world mission.
- 9. Encourage all congregations to extend financial and prayerful support for our missionaries who minister to the Aboriginal community, especially Rev Rick and Mrs Kayleen Manton, Dennis and Glenys Tranter and Surendra and May'an Wesley (c/- PIM).
- 10. Praise God for the work of the PWMU State Council and branches in the support of missions.
- 11. 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 all our missionaries within Australia and overseas.
- 12. Commend the regular APWM Vic and APWM National publications to the wider church
- 13. Give praise to God for the ministry of the Youth partners and Trades partners short-term mission trips, and commend these to the Victorian church.

- 14. Pray for our new Moderator and his wife who will visit and encourage one or more of our mission team in the field during their moderatorial year.
- 15. Encourage PCV congregations to prayerfully review their giving to the wider work of cross-cultural mission, both locally and overseas.
- 16. Approve a variation in the Committee's 2016/17 budget to allow an expenditure of up to \$30,000 from APWM Vic General Funds for the purpose of purchasing a second 'people mover' for use by Victorian missionaries on Home Assignment.

The motion was seconded and approved.

51. Church and Nation Committee (min 44)

The business was resumed.

Clause 6 was approved.

Dissent:

Rev Philip Court

Clause 7 was approved.

Clause 8 as amended was approved.

Clause 9 was approved.

The deliverance as a whole as amended was moved:

That the Assembly:

- 1. Commend the 2017 'Religion in the Public Square' colloquium to the congregations of the PCV.
- 2. Commend the plight of persecuted Christians to the church by requesting frequent, specific prayer, both private and public.
- 3. Encourage congregations to seriously consider diaconal support of particular communities or people groups in distress, whether domestic or abroad.
- 4. Encourage presbyteries, sessions, and congregations to continue actively engaging with governments, and their communities, to uphold what is morally good, especially including the common good of marriage.
- 5. Write to the Premier and Health Minister outlining our continued concerns and prayers for both mothers and their babies, including our long-standing opposition to abortion as a solution to unwanted or unhealthy babies.
- 6. Declare the PCV's opposition to the new exclusion zones around Victorian abortion clinics and commend to the PCV the annual Melbourne 'March for the Babies' for prayer and consideration.
- 7. Commend the CaN Committee report 'Thinking about Transgenderism and the Gospel' to the PCV, encouraging all sessions to make their congregations aware of its availability.
- 8. Declare that the Presbyterian Church of Victoria believes:
 - a. All people are image-bearers of God, and, as such, find their worth and purpose in Him (Gen 1:27; Psa 8; Isa 43:7).
 - b. In creation, it is self-evident that there are two distinct and complementary biological sexes, male and female, which are designed, among other things, to reproduce (Gen 1:27; Matt 19:4-6).
 - c. These distinct and complementary biological sexes manifest in complementary masculine and feminine expressions (Gen 2:18; Eph 5:22-33; Col 3:18-21; 1 Tim 2:12-14).
 - d. Due to the fall of man, sin and brokenness affect biological sex, gender identity and gender expressions (Gen 3; Mark 7:21; Rom 1:18-28; 1 Cor 6:18-20).

- e. Biologically-ambiguous sex (intersexuals) may be treated by surgery if desired.
- f. Psychological ambiguity should not be treated with surgical intervention.
- g. We are opposed to any harassing, insulting or bullying of those who suffer gender dysphoria, and are always committed to loving and seeking the good of our neighbour, while offering the hope we have in Christ (Gal 5:14; 1 Pet 3:15).

9. Declare the following:

- a. Gender identity is tethered to and determined by one's biological sex not self-perception (Gen 1:27; Matt 19:4).
- b. Gender dysphoria results from the sin, brokenness and confusion of living in a fallen world, and yet there is hope of healing, restoration and grace held out to all in the gospel of Christ (Gen 3; Luke 9:11, 24:47; Col 1:3-6).
- c. Genuine anguish and confusion felt by those struggling with the conflict between their biological sex and their gender identity should be met with love, truth, compassion, and wisdom.
- d. Counselling offered should be consistent with the biblical teaching of two sexes with complementary masculine and feminine expressions, by holding out the hope of the gospel to heal, forgive and restore (1 Cor 6:9-11; 1 Thess 5:23-24; 1 Tim 1:15-16).
- e. As far as marriage, church membership and church office are concerned, the Presbyterian Church of Victoria holds that the biological sex (notwithstanding the law) is determinative of gender, and should guide all ministers dealing with this issue in complex pastoral situations.
- f. We are opposed to puberty-delaying hormones or cross-sex hormones for children, and gender-reassignment surgery for adults to alter sex to match 'perceived' gender.
- g. We are opposed to any harassing, insulting or bullying of those who suffer gender dysphoria, and are always committed to seeking the good of our neighbour, while offering the hope we have in Christ (Gal 5:14; 1 Pet 3:15).
- h. While God does not necessarily promise the healing of our sexual brokenness, or other bodily healing in this life, He does promise that, as His chosen, redeemed and sanctified children, His grace will be sufficient for us in all our trials (2 Cor 12:9).
- i. Attempts by the State to indoctrinate our children with gender theory that posits a fluidity of gender predicated on self-perception (e.g., Safe Schools) are unbiblical, unhelpful and unwanted. The Presbyterian Church of Victoria is rightly opposed to all such efforts.

The motion was seconded and approved.

52. Appeal 1 – Rhonda Aubert, re: Decision of the Presbytery of Maroondah

(1) It was agreed to sit in private while permitting the appellant's advisor to be present.

The parties were called to the bar.

(2) It was agreed to receive the appeal.

The record of the case in the presbytery was taken as read.

The appellant was heard.

The respondents were heard.

The appellant was heard in reply.

Questions were asked.

The parties were removed from the bar.

It was agreed to permit the parties to hear the discussion of the case.

The Assembly heard from its Special Judicial Committee.

(3) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the appeal.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(4) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Instruct the presbytery to take up the petition afresh.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(5) Rev Neil Chambers moved:

That the Assembly:

Advise the Presbytery of Maroondah to request the Moderator to appoint four assessors to assist it in dealing with this matter.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(6) Rev Adam Humphries moved:

That the Assembly:

Advise the Presbytery of Maroondah the appeal was sustained as it was thought to satisfy rule 6:72(b).

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

Announcement of Final Decision

The Moderator advised the appellant of the Assembly's decision as follows:

That the Assembly had resolved to:

- 1. Sustain the appeal.
- 2. Instruct the Presbytery of Maroondah to take up the petition afresh.
- 3. Advise the Presbytery of Maroondah to request the Moderator to appoint four assessors to assist it in dealing with this matter.

The Moderator advised the appellant of her right of appeal.

The Moderator removed the parties from the bar.

It was agreed to resume in open court.

53. Trusts Corporation (min 36)

The business was resumed.

The motion for additional clause 6 (Rev Douglas Robertson's motion) was disapproved.

Rev Graham Nicholson moved an additional clause 7:

That the Assembly:

Advise the Trusts Corporation that this Assembly does not seek any remedy in the resolution of the dispute with the Scots' Church Properties Trust that requires the sale of the Assembly Hall beyond the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, and request the Trusts Corporation to present this view to the court determining relief.

The motion was seconded.

It was agreed to adjourn the debate (min 75).

54. Adjournment

The Assembly adjourned to meet at 7:00pm on Wednesday 6 October 2016, which having been duly intimated, the Moderator closed the sitting with the benediction.

CLERKS: J P Wilson P W Phillips

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

of the

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA 5th Sitting: Wednesday 5 October (pm)

At Melbourne, and in the Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall, Wednesday 5 October 2016 at 7:00pm.

55. Constitution:

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria met pursuant to adjournment. Moderator's Chaplain, Rev Rod Waterhouse, constituted the Assembly with the reading of Romans 8:26-30, prayer and the singing of a hymn.

56. Apologies

The Deputy Clerk noted the following apologies for this sitting:

Ministers: Rob Duncanson, Marvin Hagans, Michael Jensen, Grant Lawry, David Palmer, Andrew Slater, Graeme Weber.

Elders: John Angelico, Geoff Cross, John Lagerwey.

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the apologies.

The motion was seconded and approved.

57. Business Committee

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

The motion was seconded and approved.

58. Minutes of the Previous Sitting

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

59. Ministry Development Committee

The report of the Ministry Development Committee was laid on the table and received. The Convener, Rev Ian Hutton, moved the deliverance:

- 1. Give thanks to God for Ministry Development Director Rev Dr Robert Carner and the extensive (often behind the scenes) work he does across the church.
- 2. Pray for Rev Dr Robert Carner, that he will be strengthened and encouraged in his work for the committee and for his ongoing health needs.
- 3. Give thanks to God for the extensive and reliable work performed by Mr Ben Palmer in the Ministry Development Committee office.
- 4. Thank Mrs Michelle Brennan for her nine years of diligent service as she retires from the committee.
- 5. Pray for the ongoing work of the gospel in regional and rural areas.
- Praise God for those churches which continue to grow and become selfsupporting.
- 7. Praise God for those churches involved in sister church relationships and urge other churches to consider how they might support the work of the kingdom in this way.
- 8. Urge all aid-receiving churches to prayerfully and faithfully seek the Lord's provision for his church.
- 9. Praise God for the provision of the Thompson Trust for the work of evangelism.

- 10. Praise God for the many capital projects for which funds have been made available and which are underway or about to commence.
- 11. Urge churches to familiarise themselves with their local demographics, and if at all possible use ESL type programs to create gospel opportunities.
- 12. Encourage presbyteries to partner with the Ministry Development Committee in planning and making decisions that will promote the health of congregations within their bounds.
- 13. Direct all presbyteries to collect and submit their Statistical Returns to the Ministry Development Committee by the stated deadline of 30 April.

The motion was seconded and approved.

60. Exit Students Committee

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

The Convener, Rev Ian Hutton, moved the deliverance:

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause.

Clauses 1-3 were approved.

Rev Stuart Withers moved an additional clause:

That the Assembly:

4. Request the Exit Students Committee to bring a report to the 2017 General Assembly providing recommendations for improving the exit process.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The deliverance as a whole as amended was moved:

- 1. Pray that recent exit student appointments will lead to fruitful ministries in God's kingdom.
- 2. Pray for the current exit students as they finalise their studies and prepare for their future ministries.
- 3. Urge presbyteries to annually consider where an exit student can be placed within their presbytery.
- 4. Request the Exit Students Committee to bring a report to the 2017 General Assembly providing recommendations for improving the exit process.

The motion was seconded and approved.

61. Privacy Officer

The Privacy Officer's report was laid on the table and received.

The Clerk reported on the work of Mrs Fiona Bligh, Privacy Officer of the General Assembly during the year past.

Mrs Bligh addressed the Assembly on privacy requirements and processes.

The Moderator thanked Mrs Bligh for her address and her work with the Safe Church Unit.

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

- Thank the BIF and the various PCV committees and organisations who have worked diligently to implement the new Privacy Policy and training in the Church.
- 2. Recommend that all PCV congregations and organisations continue to familiarise themselves with the impact of the Privacy Policy upon the activities of the Church, and make an ongoing commitment to operate in a Privacy Policy compliant fashion.
- 3. Recommend all PCV congregations and organisations make use of the privacy training and many privacy related resources available to the Church, including the compliance checklist for Sessions.

4. Require all current ministers, home missionaries and office bearers who receive and send emails containing personally identifiable and/or sensitive information about individuals in the course of fulfilling their roles to use an email address that is not accessible to anyone other than themselves (for example, no shared email addresses with spouses are to be used by current ministers, home missionaries, and office bearers when using email relating to personally identifiable and/or sensitive information about individuals). (For a definition of "personally identifiable and/or sensitive information" see section 1 of the PCV Privacy Policy.)

The motion was seconded and approved.

62. Adjournment

The Assembly adjourned to meet at 9:30am on Thursday 6 October 2016, which, having been duly intimated, the Moderator closed the sitting with the benediction.

CLERKS: J P Wilson P W Phillips

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

of the

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA 6th Sitting: Thursday 6 October and Friday 7 October

At Melbourne, and in the Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall, Thursday 6 October 2016 at 9:30am.

63. Constitution:

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria met pursuant to adjournment. Moderator's Chaplain, Rev Stuart Withers, constituted the Assembly with the reading of scripture, prayer and the singing of a hymn.

64. Assembly Expositor

The Assembly Expositor, Rev Peter Adam, led the Assembly in the third of his Assembly Expositions, 'Pray for the gospel team', from Colossians 4:7-18.

The Moderator thanked Rev Peter Adam for his expositions.

65. Thanks to Assembly Expositor

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Convey to its Assembly Expositor, Rev Peter Adam, its sincere thanks for his timely, soul searching and thoroughly practical exposition and application of God's word to us from Colossians.

The motion was seconded and approved.

66. Apologies

The Deputy Clerk noted the following apologies for this sitting:

Ministers: Marvin Hagans, Hui Lim, Hugh Price, Peter Roberts, Graeme Weber.

<u>Elders</u>: Doug Butcher, Geoff Cross, George McConaghie, Stewart McKerrow, Russell Mawson, Peter Prendergast.

The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the apologies.

The motion was seconded and approved.

67. Business Committee

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

The motion was seconded and approved.

68. Minutes of the Previous Sitting

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

69. St Andrews Christian College

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

The Business Convener moved that it be received.

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Catriona Wansbrough, Principal of St Andrew's Christian College.

The Moderator invited Mrs Wansbrough to address the Assembly.

Mrs Wansbrough addressed the Assembly.

The Moderator thanked Mrs Wansbrough for her address.

Moderator's Chaplain Rev Rod Waterhouse led the Assembly in prayer.

The motion (to receive the report) was seconded and approved.

70. Belgrave Heights Christian School

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

The Business Convener moved that it be received.

The Moderator welcomed Mr Andy Callow, Principal, to the Assembly.

Mr Callow addressed the Assembly.

The Moderator thanked Mr Callow for his address.

Moderator's Chaplain Rev Stuart Withers led the Assembly in prayer.

The motion (to receive the report) was seconded and approved.

71. Theological Education Committee

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

The Convener, Rev Neil Benfell, moved the deliverance.

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause.

Clauses 1-2 were approved.

Clauses 3-4 were approved.

Clause 5 was moved and seconded.

The Clerk sought leave to move an amendment to Clause 5 to add the words 'and give permission to the Commission of Assembly 2017 to deal with such appointment should it be presented' so that it would read:

5. Endorse the steps being taken by the committee to pursue the appointment of a New Testament lecturer and give permission to the Commission of Assembly 2017 to deal with such appointment should it be presented to the Commission.

Leave was granted.

Clause 5 as amended was approved.

Clauses 6-7 were approved.

The business was adjourned to take up the fixed order of the day. (min 73)

72. Home Mission Workers Association

The report of the HMWA was laid on the table.

The Business Convener moved that it be received.

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Carolyn Wentworth and Miss Barbara Firth to the Assembly, and invited Mrs Wentworth to address the Assembly.

Mrs Wentworth addressed the Assembly.

The Moderator thanked Mrs Wentworth and expressed appreciation for the work of the HMWA.

Moderator's Chaplain Rev Rod Waterhouse led the Assembly in prayer.

The motion (to receive the report) was approved.

73. Theological Education Committee (min 71)

The business was resumed.

Rev David Palmer moved an additional clause 8:

That the Assembly:

8. Require the committee to bring its decisions in relation to Ends (including Mission), Governance Process, Committee-Staff Linkage, and Executive Limitations to the 2017 General Assembly for its approval (Appendix One, 2015 Strategic Review, pages 26-34).

The motion was seconded and approved.

The deliverance as a whole as amended was moved:

That the Assembly:

- 1. Affirm the committee's assessment that there is a need to expand the library.
- 2. Encourage the committee to advance plans and proposals to meet the need to expand the library.
- 3. Request the committee to consult with the Board of Investment and Finance and seek a number of different funding proposals that will raise the necessary finance for the proposed library within a period of two years, and report to the 2017 Commission of Assembly.
- 4. Encourage the committee to undertake a review of the library technology, and to include funding for this in its consultation with the Board of Investment and Finance, referred to in clause 3 above.
- 5. Endorse the steps being taken by the committee to pursue the appointment of a New Testament lecturer and give permission to the Commission of Assembly 2017 to deal with such appointment should it be presented to the Commission.
- 6. Request the committee to bring a proposal to the 2017 General Assembly in relation to the number of faculty required in order to provide a quality theological education and ministry training program that will prepare candidates properly for service in the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.
- 7. Request the committee to bring a plan to the 2017 General Assembly for consideration that identifies realistic pathways that would enable Presbyterian ministers to attain suitable tertiary teaching qualifications for future ministry in theological education in the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.
- 8. Require the committee to bring its decisions in relation to Ends (including Mission), Governance Process, Committee-Staff Linkage, and Executive Limitations to the 2017 General Assembly for its approval (Appendix One, 2015 Strategic Review, pages 26-34).

The motion was seconded and approved.

74. State News Committee

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

The Convener, Rev Neil Harvey, moved the deliverance.

That the Assembly:

- 1. Thank and commend Mrs Chiara Bilyj for her dedication and expertise in editing and producing each quarterly issue of the church's magazine 'fellow workers'.
- 2. Continue the payment of an honorarium of \$2,000 per year to the editor.
- 3. Thank those who, on behalf of sessions, boards, congregations, parishes, presbyteries, committees and other organisations, have contributed articles that have resulted in a magazine that is full of interest and colour.
- 4. Urge ministers and elders to promote the use of 'fellow workers' as a resource for informed and prayerful interest in the work of the church locally, nationally and internationally.
- 5. Request the committee to work with the Board of Investment and Finance to investigate ways of financially supporting an expanded magazine.

The motion was seconded and approved.

75. Trusts Corporation (min 53)

The business was resumed.

The debate was resumed on Rev Graham Nicholson's motion for an additional clause 5. The motion was disapproved.

Rev Bob Thomas moved additional clauses 1-3:

That the Assembly:

- 1. Request the Trusts Corporation, the Scots' Church Trustees and the Rev Douglas Robertson to meet together in a spirit of goodwill under the chairmanship of the Moderator of the General Assembly not later than Saturday 15 October 2016:
- 2. Request them to present to the Assembly not later than Saturday 22 October 2016 either an agreement between them for the resolution of matters presently before the courts of law for ratification by the Assembly, or a proposal from the Trusts Corporation and a proposal from the Scots' Church Trustees representing the position of each body which each body believes to be a satisfactory resolution of the differences between them;
- 3. Defer its dissolution at the completion of ordinary business until after it has met and either ratified the agreement foreshadowed above (which is its preferred option) or adjudicated between the proposals foreshadowed above.

Rev Bob Thomas sought leave to amend clause 1 by replacing the words 'the Rev Douglas Robertson' with the words 'the Board of Management of The Scots' Church'. Leave was not granted.

Rev Michael Jensen sought leave to move that the Assembly amend the motion by deleting clause 3.

Leave was granted.

Rev Michael Jensen moved:

That the Assembly:

Amend the motion by deleting clause 3.

The amendment was seconded and disapproved.

The previous question on Rev Bob Thomas' motion was moved, seconded and approved.

Rev Daniel Combridge moved an additional clause 7:

That the Assembly:

7. Request the Trusts Corporation to investigate the possibility of some or all churches insuring for an agreed value instead of replacement value, including the ramifications for those churches (particularly in the event of a partial loss) and the wider church, and report to the 2017 General Assembly of Victoria.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The deliverance as a whole as amended was moved:

That the Assembly:

- 1. Approve the sale of the property described as Lot 1 on Title Plan 080411P Lake Mundi (Vol 942 Fol 245) for \$1,000 plus legal costs with the proceeds to be applied to the General Assembly for its general purposes.
- 2. Note that The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation wishes to be discharged as trustee of the Karnkendi Campsite property.
- 3. Resolve that the property known as Karnkendi Campsite (Vol 8060 Fol 979 and Vol 8386 Fol 202) be transferred from The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation to the South Australian Trusts Corporation subject to such trusts as attached to it.
- 4. Request The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation to effect the above transfer upon receiving notification that the General Assembly with oversight for the Presbytery of South Australia has similarly resolved to effect the transfer.

- 5. a. Note the response from the Hawthorn Board that it believes that it has sufficient insurance cover for the Church building in the event of either a partial loss or a total loss.
 - b. Note that in arriving at its insurance valuations for the Hawthorn Church Building, the Board has taken into consideration the following:
 - i. that a total loss would release the congregation from the requirement to meet Heritage regulations; and
 - ii. that the existing church stands on land of approximately 2,000 square metres and has a seating capacity of 600; and
 - iii. that when rebuilding after a total loss, the current building regulations would need to be met; and
 - iv. that the current regulation on parking requirements for a new church building would require the congregation to construct a building considerably smaller than the existing one; and
 - v. there can be no prior assurance taken by the Church or any other party that the Council would vary the parking requirements if the church was to erect a new building on the site;

so that in the event of a total loss, the congregation would be required to build a church that seated only as many people as it would be able to provide on-site parking for. This would clearly require a much smaller building.

- 6. Instruct the Moderator of the Assembly to call upon the Hawthorn congregation and the Presbytery of Melbourne East to appoint trustees in accordance with the provisions of the Section 9 of the Presbyterian Trusts Act 1890, to act in respect of the properties Vol 390 Fol 3964, Vol 9495 Fol 336 and Vol 10538 Fol 005, or otherwise appoint The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation.
- 7. Request the Trusts Corporation to investigate the possibility of some or all churches insuring for an agreed value instead of replacement value, including the ramifications for those churches (particularly in the event of a partial loss) and the wider church, and report to the 2017 General Assembly of Victoria.

The motion was seconded and approved.

76. ACCESS Ministries

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

Rev Grant Lawry moved:

That the Assembly:

Request the Selection Committee to bring to the Commission of Assembly one or more names of members of the PCV with suitable skills who are willing to serve on the Board of ACCESS ministries with a view to the Assembly recommending them to the ACCESS Ministries' Board Nominations Committee.

The motion was seconded and approved.

77. Communication 2 – from Presbyterian Inland Mission, re: work of the mission

Communication 2 was laid on the table and received.

The Moderator welcomed Mr Andrew Letcher to the Assembly and invited him to address the Assembly.

Mr Letcher addressed the Assembly on the work of PIM.

The Moderator thanked Mr Letcher and led the Assembly in prayer.

78. Selection Committee

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

The Convener, Rev Cameron Garrett, moved the deliverance:

That the Assembly:

- 1. Thank Almighty God for the operations of the Assembly's Committees, Boards and Councils in the 2015/2016 Assembly year.
- 2. Thank all committee members who have served in the past year.
- 3. Confirm the appointment of those members appointed by the Selection Committee to fill casual vacancies on committees since the 2015 Assembly.
- 4. Confirm the following exceptions:
 - a. The Nine Year Rule (rule 5.28)
 Mr R Butcher Maintenance of the Ministry Committee (additional 12 months)
 - b. The Seven Year Rule (rule 5.27)Mr R Lowe Social Services Committee (additional 12 months)
- 5. Appoint all those nominated to committees, boards, councils and other bodies and positions as presented in the Selection Committee's Report.
- 6. Remind all committees that the Selection Committee must be notified of changes to committees, together with nominations for filling casual vacancies (see rule 5.32).

The motion was seconded and approved.

79. Communication 5 – from Rev Bruce Meller, Clerk of the GAA, re: Presbytery of Melbourne West Reference

Communication 5 was laid on the table and received.

80. METRO Committee

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

The Convener, Elder Andrew May, moved the deliverance:

That the Assembly:

- 1. Pray for the ministry of METRO and youthMETRO.
- 2. Pray for the METRO and youthMETRO trainees presently engaged and all those who will be training, God-willing, in 2017 and beyond.
- 3. Pray for God to raise up more trainees and to provide the accompanying resources and wisdom in training them for God's glory.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The Moderator led in prayer for the work of METRO.

81. Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union (PWMU)

The report of the PWMU was laid on the table.

The Business Convener moved that it be received.

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Esther Vayne, President of the PWMU, and the other ladies of the PWMU to the Assembly.

The Moderator invited Mrs Vayne to address the Assembly.

Mrs Vayne addressed the Assembly on the work of the PWMU.

The Moderator thanked Mrs Vayne for her address and spoke in appreciation of the work of the PWMU.

The motion (to receive the report) was seconded and approved.

The Clerk reported on the PWMU Cookbook and its value to the church, mentioning in particular the history of the Cookbook written by Mrs Fiona Bligh.

82. Overture 5 – Presbytery of Gippsland, re: privacy and emails

It was agreed to sit in private.

The overture was laid on the table and received.

The overture was stated by Rev Cameron Garrett.

Questions were asked of the overturists.

(1) Rev Cameron Garrett moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the overture.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Rev Cameron Garrett withdrew clause 3 of the notice of motion.

(2) Rev Cameron Garrett moved:

That the Assembly:

- 1. Declare the email:
 - To have breached the PCV News Network Protocol (p201, 2013 PCV Code).
 - b. To have infringed the rights of the Assembly.

Rev Peter Phillips raised a matter of privilege.

The Moderator ruled that there was a breach of privilege.

Rev Cameron Garrett sought leave to fall from his motion.

Leave was granted.

Rev Cameron Garrett fell from his motion.

(2) Rev Cameron Garrett moved:

That the Assembly:

Disband the present PCV News Network and replace it with separate email lists where the recipients are known to the Assembly for:

- a. Ministers
- b. Session clerks
- c. Board secretaries
- d. Committee conveners and/or secretaries
- e. The general public.

The motion was seconded.

(3) Rev David Brown moved:

That the Assembly amend the motion as follows:

Alter the present PCV News Network such that there are separate email lists where the recipients are known to the Assembly, for example:

- a. Ministers
- b. Session clerks
- c. Board secretaries
- d. Committee conveners and/or secretaries
- e. The general public.

The amendment was seconded and approved.

The amended motion was disapproved.

It was agreed to resume in open court.

83. Code and General Administration Committee

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

The Convener, Rev John Wilson, moved the deliverance.

That the Assembly:

1. Regarding the PCV Code Revision Project:

- a. Replace PCV Rules (chapters 1 7) October 2013 edition with PCV Rules (chapters 1 7) October 2016 edition.
- b. Authorise printing of the October 2016 GAV Code Book in sufficient supply so that each member of the General Assembly, each employee of an Assembly committee, the PCV Law Agent, each member of the BIF/TC, each committee office bearer, each session clerk and deputy clerk, each board of management secretary and treasurer, each presbytery office bearer, and every member of the PCV who requests it may have a copy free of charge up to the end of January 2017.
- c. Approve any budget variation necessary (from the appropriate Assembly account) to pay for the printing approved under clause (b) above.
- d. Authorise that copies of the October 2016 GAV Code Book shall be available from 1 February 2017 onwards at cost.
- 2. Replace the regulations of the Board of Investment and Finance with the following:

Board of Investment and Finance

Title

1. There shall be a committee of the General Assembly entitled the Board of Investment and Finance, hereafter referred to as the BIF.

Membership

- a) the BIF shall consist of ten persons elected and appointed by the General Assembly and such appointees shall form the membership of The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation;
 - b) members of the BIF shall be appointed for a five year term initially and be eligible for re-election for a second consecutive five year term:
 - c) as vacancies arise and after consultation with the BIF, the Selection Committee shall bring nominations to the General Assembly each year for the election of new BIF members.

Chairman

3. The BIF shall elect one of its members as chairman at its December meeting who shall hold office for a 12 month term and be eligible for re-election.

Meetings

4. The chairman shall convene a meeting of the BIF at least once a month except in the month of January.

Duties

5. Subject to the powers, duties and functions of The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation under the Presbyterian Trusts Act 1890 as amended by the Presbyterian Trusts (Common Fund) Act 1965 and the regulations thereunder and subject to the rules of the Church and the Resolutions and directions of the Assembly, the Board shall carry out the duties described in regulations 6-17 of these regulations.

Financial administration

- 6. The BIF shall:
 - a) administer the financial affairs of and act as Treasurer of the General Assembly; and
 - b) be responsible for the maintenance of all accounting records; and
 - c) publish audited accounts for the General Assembly and The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation annually.

General Assembly office

- 7. The BIF shall:
 - a) maintain an office of the General Assembly;
 - b) engage such staff as may from time to time be deemed necessary for the work of the General Assembly, including a General Manager, who shall manage that office and control the staff and shall be responsible to the BIF. If required, the General Manager shall attend meetings of the Board;
 - c) determine the salaries and conditions of employment of the General Manager and other staff and make adjustments thereto from time to time.

Committee staff appointments

- 8. The BIF shall:
 - a) consider all proposed appointments of office and other staff by committees of the General Assembly; and
 - b) determine, after consultation with the committee, the proposed salary and conditions of employment of such staff; and
 - c) approve the appointment provided that it is satisfied that the proposal is:
 - i) in accordance with the committee's regulations; and
 - ii) financially viable.

General Assembly budget

- 9. The BIF shall:
 - a) present to the Commission of Assembly each year for its approval a recommended budget for the forthcoming year disclosing:
 - the estimated expenditure of all General Assembly committees, including a division between capital expenditure and non-capital expenditure;
 - ii) the estimated receipts of all General Assembly committees.
 - b) carry out its duties with respect to the preparation of the budget by:
 - i) requiring from each General Assembly committee in the prescribed form, not later than February, its proposals and estimates for the budget for review and advice prior to submission to the Commission of Assembly in May, provided that the BIF may thereafter require any General Assembly committee to provide such additional

- information in relation to any item as the BIF shall consider necessary to assist in its review;
- ii) requiring any General Assembly committee wishing to undertake work or initiate a project involving expenditure not included in the budget approved by the Commission of Assembly or General Assembly to submit its proposal to the BIF which:
 - 1) In the case of expenditure not exceeding 10% of the committee's total budgeted expenditure as approved by the General Assembly or \$20,000, whichever is the greater amount, and consistent with the committee's regulations and which would be financed from trust income available within the terms of the trust in question, shall have authority to approve or disapprove such expenditure and shall report any expenditure so approved to the subsequent General Assembly.
 - 2) In the case of expenditure which does not fall within the terms of sub-clause (1) hereof may present such proposal to the Commission of Assembly or subsequent General Assembly for approval.

General Assembly Rate

10. The BIF shall present to each Assembly a proposal to fix an Assembly Rate payable by congregations to assist in defraying the costs of the Assembly.

Committee expenditure

- 11. The BIF shall:
 - a) oversee the expenditure of all General Assembly committees to the end that the committees shall exercise proper budget controls and not engage in expenditure that has not been submitted to the BIF under clause 9(b)(ii) and approved in accordance with the provisions of that clause;
 - b) take steps to prevent committees from incurring expenditure beyond their means or in unauthorised ways.

General Mission Program

- 12. The BIF shall:
 - a) present to the General Assembly or to a Commission thereof each year for approval a mission program for the church for the ensuing financial year, to be known as the General Mission Program 'GMP', which shall include the following recommendations:
 - the total amount of money to be sought from charges through presbyteries during the relevant year to fund the program;
 - ii) an equitable formula for the allocation to presbyteries of the total amount of the program, such formula

- remaining in operation for such period as the General Assembly or the Commission may determine:
- iii) the allocation to presbyteries of amounts based on the formula referred to in regulation 12(a)(ii), which in total equal the amount of the program referred to in regulation 12(a)(i);
- iv) the distribution of the total amount of the GMP to the relevant committees of the General Assembly and/or to any other organisations within or outside the church which the General Assembly has approved for financial support;
- b) for the purpose of determining its recommendations to be submitted to the General Assembly or Commission of the Assembly, the BIF:
 - shall require each committee of the General Assembly which desires to apply for a distribution from the GMP to prepare in a form approved by the BIF a budget for the ensuing year clearly indicating the amount sought by that committee from the GMP, supplemented by a submission supporting the application, such budget to be provided to the BIF by a specified date:
 - ii) shall receive a copy of the budget for the ensuing year of each committee of the General Assembly which desires to apply for a distribution from the GMP, clearly indicating the amount sought by that committee from the GMP, where necessary supplemented by a submission supporting the application;
 - iii) may confer with any General Assembly committee or its convener for the purpose of clarifying any item in the budget submitted by that committee;
 - iv) may reduce or increase the amount sought by any General Assembly committee, or decline to include any amount for that committee;
 - v) may from time to time, require each presbytery to supply to it by a specified date, such financial and other information relating to the several charges or a specific charge within its bounds, as it may deem necessary for it to prepare the formula referred to in regulation 12(a) (ii);
- c) encourage presbyteries and charges to fully subscribe the amounts allocated to them under the GMP;
- d) include in its report to the General Assembly each year a table listing all charges and their respective annual contributions to the GMP during the preceding financial year.

Capital Fund

13. The BIF shall administer the Capital Fund.

Purpose

a) The purpose of the Capital Fund is to:

- i) lend money to congregations seeking funds for capital projects including the purchase of property and erection, extension or renovation of buildings;
- ii) lend money to organisations associated with the Presbyterian Church of Victoria such as Christian Schools for capital projects including the purchase of property and erection, extension or renovation of buildings, providing that first priority is accorded to congregations;
- iii) make any such loans at a rate of interest more favourable than the prevailing rate of bank interest;
- iv) use any surplus that may be generated in the fund to make rebates of interest and/or grants for loan reduction purposes to borrowers from the fund and/or make contributions to the property development fund.

Resources

- b) The Capital Fund may be resourced from:
 - i) transfer of the funds administered by the Capital Fund Committee up to 31 March, 2006;
 - ii) deposits and/or grants by any congregation or other church body minded to help the wider church by this means.

Administration

- c) The BIF may do all things it considers necessary to promote the purposes of the Capital Fund, including:
 - i) setting interest rates to be paid on deposits in the fund;
 - ii) setting interest rates on loans from the fund;
 - iii) assessing the financial viability of potential borrowers and declining to lend money if considered prudent to do so:
 - iv) assessing any amount which may be available for grants and determining an equitable basis for distribution of same:
 - v) determining conditions that may be applied to loans from the fund.

Property management

14. The BIF shall manage property held in trust for the purposes of the church, the management of which has not been vested by the General Assembly in some other committee or body.

Deceased congregation

15. The BIF shall take steps to see that any monies held for all or some of the purposes of a congregation that has ceased to exist be forwarded to The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation to be dealt with by it according to law.

Sale, mortgages, leases, transfers etc.

16. a) a sale, lease or mortgage shall not be effected without the consent of the General Assembly or Commission of Assembly, provided that the BIF may give consent to any application

- which in the opinion of the presbytery and the BIF is urgent and the BIF shall report the action taken to the General Assembly or the Commission of Assembly, as the case may be:
- b) where, in the opinion of the presbytery, it is desirable that buildings or furnishings which are depreciating in value because the congregation has ceased to exist be transferred to serve another congregation, such transfer may be approved on such terms and conditions as the BIF may decide.

Sites Reserve accounts

17. Existing Congregations

- a) when any land owned by or vested in trustees for the church is sold on behalf of a congregation, either as vacant land or with buildings erected thereon, the whole of the proceeds shall be paid to the General Assembly Treasurer, who shall hold such moneys in trust in a Sites Reserve account until the congregation defines the purpose for which it desires such money to be expended and applies to the BIF through the presbytery for consent to expend the whole or portion thereof. The interest earned may be paid to such congregation if the BIF so decides:
- b) moneys held in Sites Reserve Accounts by operation of clause 17(a) may be applied by the congregation for which they are held in trust:
 - i) with the approval of the presbytery for:
 - 1) the purchase of land or the erection, purchase or extension of buildings for its own use; or
 - 2) the liquidation or partial liquidation of its existing debts; or
 - ii) with the approval of the presbytery and the BIF, for any other purpose within the church that will serve the cause of the gospel and the building up of the church provided that, if the congregation determines to apply such moneys to other than its own needs, presbytery and the BIF are satisfied that reasonable account has been taken of the congregation's own foreseeable capital needs.

Deceased congregations

- c) where a congregation has ceased to exist and when, as a result, land owned or vested in trustees for the church is, on the recommendation of the presbytery sold on behalf of the General Assembly either as vacant land or with buildings erected thereon, the whole of the proceeds shall be paid to the General Assembly Treasurer, who shall hold such money in trust until the General Assembly otherwise directs;
- d) when moneys are held in a Sites Reserve account by operation of clause 17(c), the BIF:
 - shall notify the amount to the presbytery of the deceased congregation, which shall in turn notify all congregations within its bounds. After considering any

- submissions those congregations may make for local use of the money, presbyteries may refer any such proposals to the BIF, which may approve them and then notify the General Assembly;
- ii) shall, if in the opinion of the BIF no reasonable proposal emerges after the operation of the preceding clause, give opportunity by similar procedure to all other presbyteries and congregations of the church. After considering any further submissions received in this way, the BIF shall consider them and make recommendations to the General Assembly.
- 3. Replace the heading to Regulation 16 and Regulation 16(a) of the Ministry Development Committee with the following:

16. Ministry development grants

To the limits that funds are available, the committee may make grants from its funds to:

- a) supplement the local income of a home mission or appointment charge that is unable, after a systematic and sacrificing effort is made, to provide for a home missionary, licentiate, or minister, as the case may require;
- 4. Approve the proposed PWMU Constitution, October 2016 (as attached to the PWMU Report).
- 5. Approve the document: 'PCV Internet Presence and Email Use Policy, Guidelines, Protocols', October 2016, as follows:

POLICY

Preamble

God created the world and made us stewards of its resources. Then, during the history of redemption, he gives some of us certain resources to share the good news of his rescue plan with others. One historical incarnation of this allocation of resources is the Presbyterian Church of Victoria (PCV), including, for example, its office bearers, computers, websites and social media. In God's sovereignty, he has placed the PCV into 21st century Australia, where most people have some sort of access to the Internet and social media. In order to better present the good news of Jesus Christ online and in order to be better stewards of the various resources he has blessed us with, we have this policy governing our online presence.

- 1. The purpose of this policy is to govern our online presence and direct resources to that end.
- 2. The ultimate aim of this policy is to have an online presence that brings glory to God through making Jesus Christ known and being good stewards of our technological resources.
- 3. Online resources should be curated and organised in such a way that outsiders form a positive impression of the Presbyterian Church,

- while those inside the church have easy access to all necessary information.
- 4. An Online Coordinator is delegated by the Assembly to be responsible for implementing this policy, setting guidelines and protocols.
- 5. These guidelines include the PCV website, the PCV email news network, email addresses, social media and all the associated design and technical support requirements as well as job descriptions.
- 6. The protocols cover privacy, security and appropriate use of email addresses.
- 7. The Online Coordinator sets a budget and determines the content of the PCV website and social media.
- 8. The Online Coordinator is responsible for bringing that budget or any changes to this policy to the Assembly for approval.
- 9. The Online Coordinator works with the PCV Safe Church Facilitator and Privacy Officer to ensure these PCV protocols are up-to-date and appropriate.

GUIDELINES

The Online Coordinator, the Clerk of Assembly (GAV, 2014, Min 66):

- 1. requests and allocates the budget (initial setup, annual maintenance, logo refresh, photography, design etc.);
- 2. has overall supervision of all tasks outlined below;
- 3. is finally responsible for implementation and adherence to the 'Policy' and 'Protocols';
- 4. may select and convene a task-force working group to advise and assist him.

Members of the task-force working group advising and assisting the Online Coordinator may be, from time to time:

1. Network Administrator:

the technical behind-the-scenes person;

- a) manages:
 - i) the email system;
 - ii) PCV domain names and associated hosting:
 - iii) troubleshooting of website and email;
 - iv) security controls and procedures;
- b) reports regularly to the Online Coordinator.

2. Website and Social Media Publisher:

- a) updates the PCV website;
- b) organises for items to be published on Social Media by:
 - keeping an events calendar up to date as information arises or as requested by the Clerks of Assembly;
 - ii) updating the news section of the website with news and events relevant to the PCV:
 - iii) ensuring all contact details and links are current;
 - iv) soliciting and organising the publishing of content to social media;

c) reports regularly to the Online Coordinator.

3. **PCV Email Network Operator:**

- a) operates the PCV Email Network according to the PCV Email Network protocol;
- b) reports regularly to the Online Coordinator.

Additional persons, not necessarily part of the task-force working group:

1. Social Media Moderators:

There are currently four channels of Social Media, namely: Facebook, Twitter, You Tube and Google Plus:

- a) the Online Coordinator designates a responsible person for each channel (this person could be a staff-member, minister or volunteer);
- b) this person is then responsible for monitoring comments, publishing material as directed and referring inquiries or problems as they arise to the Online Coordinator.

2. Photographer, video editor, designer etc:

There will be persons who are requested to complete specific tasks, from time to time, as directed by the Online Coordinator.

Further Aspects and Definitions

Websites

Domain names owned by the PCV or connected to the PCV pcv.org.au pcvic.org (owned by Michael Wharton, currently pointing to pcv.org.au)

Email

Office bearers are given exclusive access to an appropriate email address for the duration of their service. e.g. officeholder@pcv.org.au

All current ministers or home missionaries automatically receive a pcv.org.au email address, which either redirects to their current email address or is connected, if they have so requested, to a mailbox. e.g. fred.nurks@pcv.org.au

It is a requirement that office bearers and ministers / home missionaries by virtue of their role agree to and adhere to the Safe Church Policy and Privacy Policy of the PCV while using a pcv.org.au email address. All current ministers, home missionaries and office bearers who receive and send emails containing personally identifiable and/or sensitive information about individuals in the course of fulfilling their roles must use an email address that is not accessible to anyone other than themselves (for example, no shared email addresses with spouses are to be used by current ministers, home missionaries and office bearers when using email relating to personally identifiable and/or sensitive information about individuals). For a

definition of 'personally identifiable and/or sensitive information', see section 1 of the PCV Privacy Policy.

Simple step by step set up instructions for those using a mailbox will be provided, on request:

- 1. that explain how Outlook or Mail can use the PCV email address:
- 2. that explain how users of Gmail or Yahoo can use the PCV email address

Social Media

Facebook = the main portal of interaction for most people online;

Twitter = a rolling journalistic feed of information, useful during events;

You Tube = a place for posting training videos;

Google Plus = a less used and more technical social media feed.

Because these social media channels officially represent the PCV it is best for the content to come from a single source. However comments will need moderation and inquiries will need responding to, so volunteer moderators will be needed to monitor each channel.

PCV Email network

- 1. to receive and distribute information relevant to the PCV;
- 2. the Network Operator makes decisions as to whether submitted content is relevant and appropriate for distribution according to the PCV Email network Protocol, consulting with the Clerk of Assembly when necessary.

PROTOCOLS

- 1. **Protocol for PCV Email Network** (amended from GAV 2003, Min. 82):
 - a) The PCV email network list is open to anyone, anywhere in the world, upon request. Users should remember this when submitting material. Sensitive information is to be strictly avoided.
 - b) The operator shall ensure that the email distribution list is kept strictly private.
 - c) When a person joins the list, the operator shall send him or her a copy of this protocol by email.
 - d) Members can unsubscribe at any time by clicking on 'click here to unsubscribe' at the bottom of a list email.
 - e) The purpose of the list is to distribute information of general interest to members and friends of the church, including news from congregations, presbyteries and assembly committees concerning ordinations, inductions, special meetings and events etc.
 - f) Persons submitting items of a personal nature relating to other persons (for example, prayer requests, or change of contact details) must first obtain the prior approval of any persons named (or, if they are unable to give that consent, of their next of kin), and must then advise the operator that this approval

- has been obtained when submitting such items for distribution. Without this advice such items will not be distributed.
- g) When posting a submission, users should include a summary description in the 'subject' heading; for example, 'PCV Ministry Conference, 8-10 April' or 'Statement by the Barnabas Fund concerning Pakistan'.
- h) Users are requested to avoid posts that are likely to be controversial. The network is for dissemination of information, not for debate.
- i) No copyrighted material may be posted without the consent of the original author or website. Material in the public domain must include a link to the original site with attribution to the original author.
- j) All items must be approved by the operator. If the operator is in doubt concerning the legitimacy of material submitted, or of the wisdom of publishing it, he will consult with the Clerk of the Assembly, who shall have the final say in what is posted.
- k) Users should send messages as plain, unformatted text. If files are attached, they should be in a widely readable format, such as Adobe PDF, and kept as small as possible. Users must ensure that such attachments do not contain viruses.

2. PCV Email Protocol (for users of a PCV Email address)

User Responsibilities

When using the email or Social Media users must at all times:

- a) Respect the privacy and personal rights of others.
- b) Take all reasonable steps to ensure copyright is not infringed
- c) Take all reasonable care not to plagiarise another person's work; or defame another person.
- d) Not forward or otherwise copy a personal email (except with permission of the author) or an email which contains personal information or an opinion about a person whose identity is apparent (except with permission of that person).
- e) Not send forged messages, or obtain or use someone else's email address or password without proper authorisation.
- f) Not send mass distribution bulk messages and/or advertising without direct approval of the Online Coordinator.
- g) Not send SPAM (refer Relevant Australian Legislation). The user must ensure that the recipient(s) of the intended email have consented to receive such email(s).
- h) Not harass, intimidate or threaten another person/s.
- Not send sexually explicit material, even if it is believed that the receiver will not object. Remember, the intended receiver may not be the only person to access the communication.
- j) Adhere to the PCV Safe Church practices as set out in PCV Safe Church Policy, Guidelines and Protocols document.

Standards Required When Using Email

Appropriate standards of civility should be used when using your official PCV email address to communicate with your colleagues,

congregation or members of the public, or any other message recipients. When using the email or messaging system users must not send emails that violate PCV Safe Church practices. Email should not be assumed to be a private medium. Be conscious that anything you write in email can be forwarded (accidentally or otherwise), misaddressed or otherwise accessed by people it was not intended for

Forwarding of Emails - Privacy and Ownership of Copyright

The PCV owns copyright in all email correspondence created by office holders in relation to their employment duties.

Copyright in work-related email will not be infringed by forwarding a message to another office holder or interested party on a need-to-know basis. However, care must be taken if an email contains personal information. Under the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 No.60 (VIC), "Personal Information means information or an opinion, whether true or not, about a person whose identity is apparent". This kind of information must not be forwarded or copied without prior permission from the person who is the subject of the personal information.

Copyright in a personal/non-work related email belongs to the writer of the message. A personal email must never be copied or forwarded without permission of the writer.

Copyright will be infringed if you send, without permission of the copyright owner, an audio or video file, music charts/lyrics, commercial photographs, journal article or report to another person using email.

Commercial Usage Prohibited

The private commercial use of your official PCV email address for email and messaging is not allowed. Email must not be used for private commercial purposes unless permission is granted by the Online Coordinator.

Forwarding of emails after contract expiry or end-date

Your official PCV email access will cease on expiration of employment with the PCV or office. An option to forward email to another external email account for professional or work-related reasons must be authorised by the Online Coordinator and shall not exceed 6 months.

PCV Social Media Protocol

The protocol that describes what type of content is posted and how comments are moderated on PCV Social Media Channels:

a) Appropriate content posted by PCV (e.g. articles, videos, links etc.) for social media is determined according to the PCV Internet Policy, Guidelines and Protocols document.

- b) Comments are moderated according to PCV Safe Church and Privacy Policy and will be deleted if they are determined by the appointed Social Media Moderator as not upholding the ethos of the PCV.
- c) Privacy written permission (in either digital or paper format) from persons concerned is required before posting a public photo or video of them on social media. Personally identifiable and sensitive information relating to individuals (i.e. residential addresses, email addresses, phone numbers, date of birth, etc.) should not be made public without written permission (in either digital or paper format).
- d) For further guidance, see the safe Church Social Media Guidelines.
- 6. Replace the word 'six' with the word 'seven' in clause 2 of the METRO Committee Regulations.
- 7. Regarding the Clerkship Committee regulations:
 - a. insert the wording of GAV 2013 Min. 66(3.1)(b), so that regulation 4(h) will read, as follows:
 - h) perform the role of the Clerkship Review Committee as specified in the terms of settlement for the Assembly Clerk; this review shall include:
 - i) the roles and specific duties of the Clerk;
 - ii) the performance of the Clerk during his time in office;
 - iii) the terms of settlement of the Clerk; and
 - iv) the reappointment of the Clerk.
 - b. amend the regulations to provide for the appointment by the Assembly of a past moderator of the Assembly for a three year term so that regulation 2 will read:

2. Membership

The committee shall consist of:

- a convener (who shall be a past-moderator of the General Assembly) appointed by the General Assembly for a three year term; and
- b) the immediate past moderator, the Moderator, the Law Agent, the Convener of the Business Committee, the Convener of the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee, and the Chairman of the Board of Investment and Finance.
- 8. Replace regulation 9 and 10 of the Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee with the following:

9. Special Collections

The committee shall recommend to Boards of Management the taking of a special collection on Good Friday each year (or such other date as is convenient to the charge) to support the work of the committee.

10. Tertiary Chaplaincy

The committee shall:

- Receive reports from Tertiary Chaplains/Campus Workers who are communicants or adherents of the PCV and deal with all matters relating to their work.
- b) Support and contribute to the funding of Tertiary Chaplains/Campus Workers who are communicants or adherents of the PCV.
- c) Report to the General Assembly on the work of the Tertiary Chaplains/Campus Workers.
- 9. Appoint the Selection Committee, as follows:

Metro:

H Lim (18), R Carner (19), D Carroll (17), R Butcher (19), J

Angelico (17)

Non-metro:

C Garrett (Convener) (19), N Harvey (17)

The motion was seconded and approved.

84. Overture 1 – APWM (Vic), re: renaming of the Assembly's General Mission Program

The overture was laid on the table and received.

The overture was stated by Rev Philip Burns.

Questions were asked of the overturists.

(1) Rev Philip Burns moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the overture.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(2) Rev Philip Burns moved:

That the Assembly:

Change the name of the 'General Mission Program' to the 'Gospel Advancement Program'.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

85. Overture 3 – Health and Community Chaplaincy and Social Services Committees, re: proposed merger of the committees

The overture was laid on the table and received.

The overture was stated by Rev Miles Fagan.

Questions were asked of the overturists.

(1) Rev Miles Fagan moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the overture.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(2) Rev Miles Fagan moved:

That the Assembly:

- 1. Agree to prepare a proposal for the merger of the Social Services Committee and the Health and Community Chaplaincy.
- 2. Appoint an Ad Hoc Committee for the Merger of the SSC and HCCC to develop a proposal for merging the two committees, consisting of Rev Philip Court (Convener), Rev Miles Fagan, Mrs Kathy James, Mr Robert Lowe and Rev Peter Phillips.

3. Request the ad hoc committee to submit this proposal to the 2017 General Assembly.

The motion was seconded and approved.

86. Overture 4 – Presbytery of Gippsland, re: responding to moral failure

The overture was laid on the table and received.

The overture was stated by Rev Cameron Garrett and Rev Heath Easton.

Questions were asked of the overturists.

(1) Rev Cameron Garrett moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the overture.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(2) Rev Cameron Garrett moved:

That the Assembly:

- Endorse the PCNSW document 'Responding to Moral Failure' as a useful guide for presbyteries that engage in disciplinary proceedings http://mmpcnsw.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Responding-to-Moral-Failure-within-the-PCNSW-v7.pdf.
- 2. Request the Code and General Administration Committee to develop a PCV customised edition of the 'Responding to Moral Failure' document which better reflects the PCV.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(3) Rev Douglas Milne moved:

That the Assembly:

Instruct the Code Committee, when developing the customised edition of 'Responding to Moral Failure', to make changes as follows:

- a. that the Document's sense of 'moral failure' (p.2) be expanded to include homosexual behaviours and other gender aberrations;
- b. that the words be added (p.6) 'the presbytery has a moral obligation to provide professional counselling for the third party and their family';
- c. that restoration to ministry for 'unplanned and non-repeated occasion of sexual intercourse outside of marriage with immediate, voluntary confession and repentance' (p.10) not be possible;
- d. that (p10, additional point 13) 'The presbytery advises the offending minister, as part of the repentance process, to give his former congregation a fresh start by making his domicile in some other part of Australia'.
- e. that (p.10, additional point 14) 'In the event of a serving moderator of the GAV (or any other Assembly official) being found in moral failure, the Presbytery immediately call for a special General Assembly (Code of Discipline 9:18)'.

It was decided to take the motion clause by clause.

Clause (a) was approved.

Clause (b) was approved.

Clause (c) was approved.

Dissent:

Rev Michael Jensen

Elder Peter Stanton

Rev Philip Court

Rev Philip Mercer

Rev Willem Vandenberg

Clause (d) was disapproved.

Clause (e) was approved.

Final Decision

The Assembly resolved to:

- 1. Sustain the overture.
- 2. Endorse the PCNSW document 'Responding to Moral Failure' as a useful guide for presbyteries that engage in disciplinary proceedings http://mmpcnsw.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Responding-to-Moral-Failure-within-the-PCNSW-v7.pdf.
- 3. Request the Code and General Administration Committee to develop a PCV customised edition of the 'Responding to Moral Failure' document which better reflects the PCV.
- 4. Instruct the Code Committee, when developing the customised edition of 'Responding to Moral Failure', to make changes as follows:
 - a) that the Document's sense of 'moral failure' (p.2) be expanded to include homosexual behaviours and other gender aberrations;
 - b) that the words be added (p.6) 'the presbytery has a moral obligation to provide professional counselling for the third party and their family';
 - that restoration to ministry for 'unplanned and non-repeated occasion of sexual intercourse outside of marriage with immediate, voluntary confession and repentance' (p.10) not be possible;
 - d) that (p.10, additional point 14) 'In the event of a serving moderator of the GAV (or any other Assembly official) being found in moral failure the Presbytery immediately call for a special General Assembly (Code of Discipline 9:18)'.

87. Petition 5 – Presbytery of Melbourne North, re: Epping sites reserve

The petitioners were brought to the bar.

The petition was taken as read and received.

The petitioners stated the petition.

Questions were asked.

(1) The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Grant the prayer of the petition.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(2) The Deputy Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

- 1. Direct the Board of Investment and Finance to release \$27,500 from Epping Presbyterian Church Sites Reserve or accrued interest within 30 days.
- 2. Authorise payment by the Board of Investment and Finance of income earned by the Epping Presbyterian Church Sites Reserve Fund for a three year period subject to presbytery approval of the Epping Presbyterian Church three-year strategic plan.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Announcement of Final Decision

The Moderator advised the petitioners of the Assembly's decision as follows:

That the Assembly had resolved to:

- 1. Grant the prayer of the petition.
- 2. Direct the Board of Investment and Finance to release \$27,500 from Epping Presbyterian Sites Reserve or accrued interest within 30 days.
- 3. Authorise payment by the Board of Investment and Finance of income earned by the Epping Presbyterian Church Sites Reserve Fund for a three year period

subject to presbytery approval of the Epping Presbyterian Church three-year strategic plan.

The Moderator removed the parties from the bar.

It was agreed to adjourn the sitting until 9:30am Friday 7 October 2016.

The sitting was resumed at 9:30am Friday 7 October with the reading of scripture, prayer and the singing of a hymn.

Rev Barry Oakes raised a point of privilege.

The Moderator ruled that there had been a breach of privilege.

The breach of privilege was rectified.

88. Petition 1 – Presbytery of Geelong, re: rule 4:89(b) and the Model Trust Deed

The petitioners were brought to the bar.

The petition was taken as read and received.

The petitioners stated the petition.

Questions were asked.

(1) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Grant the prayer of the petition.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(2) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Request the Board of Investment and Finance to seek Counsel's opinion as to whether the provisions of the PCV Model Trust Deed allow for such transfer or disposal of property as outlined in GAV May 2015 Min 14.1, namely: 'Declare that in a union of congregations, there is no in-principle reason why the property of the uniting congregations could not be made available for the benefit of the united congregation without a congregation having to be dissolved, according to Code 4:89.' and report back to the Assembly with that opinion, and, if necessary, extend that opinion to indicate in what way the Model Trust Deed could be amended to achieve that outcome.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Announcement of Final Decision

The Moderator advised the petitioners of the Assembly's decision as follows:

That the Assembly had resolved to:

- 1. Grant the prayer of the petition.
- 2. Request the Board of Investment and Finance to seek Counsel's opinion as to whether the provisions of the PCV Model Trust Deed allow for such transfer or disposal of property as outlined in GAV May 2015 Min 14.1, namely: 'Declare that in a union of congregations, there is no in-principle reason why the property of the uniting congregations could not be made available for the benefit of the united congregation without a congregation having to be dissolved, according to Code 4:89.' and report back to the Assembly with that opinion, and, if necessary, extend that opinion to indicate in what way the Model Trust Deed could be amended to achieve that outcome.

The Moderator removed the parties from the bar.

89. Petition 2 – Presbytery of Melbourne West, re: funding for the Brimbank congregation

The petitioners were brought to the bar.

The petition was taken as read and received.

The petitioners stated the petition.

Questions were asked.

(1) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Grant the prayer of the petition.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(2) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Authorise the Ministry Development Committee, at its discretion and subject to its own guidelines, to provide a grant to Brimbank Presbyterian Church for the current 2016/17 financial year, as well as the 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial years (if grants are needed).

The motion was seconded and approved.

Announcement of Final Decision

The Moderator advised the petitioners of the Assembly's decision as follows:

That the Assembly had resolved to:

- Grant the prayer of the petition.
- 2. Authorise the Ministry Development Committee, at its discretion and subject to its own guidelines, to provide a grant to Brimbank Presbyterian Church for the current 2016/17 financial year, as well as the 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial years (if grants are needed).

The Moderator removed the parties from the bar.

90. Petition 3 – Presbytery of Ballarat, re: dissolution of the Stockyard Hill congregation

The petitioners were brought to the bar.

The petition was taken as read and received.

The petitioners stated the petition.

Questions were asked.

(1) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Grant the prayer of the petition.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(2) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

As a period of more than twelve months has elapsed since the last regularly authorised Presbyterian Church service, agree to the final dissolution of the Stockyard Hill congregation, in accordance with Rule 4:90b.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Rev Kevin Maxwell moved:

That the Assembly:

Direct the presbytery and the BIF when considering submissions under BIF Reg 10(d)(i) to give first priority to the needs of the congregation of Skipton-Lismore.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Announcement of Final Decision

The Moderator advised the petitioners of the Assembly's decision as follows:

That the Assembly had resolved to:

- 1. Grant the prayer of the petition.
- 2. As a period of more than twelve months has elapsed since the last regularly authorised Presbyterian Church service, agree to the final dissolution of the Stockyard Hill congregation, in accordance with Rule 4:90b.
- 3. Direct the presbytery and the BIF when considering submissions under BIF Reg 10(d)(i) to give first priority to the needs of the congregation of Skipton Lismore.

The Moderator removed the parties from the bar.

91. Maintenance of the Ministry Committee

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

The Convener, Elder Dennis Wright, moved the deliverance.

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause.

Clause 1 was approved.

Clause 2 was moved.

Rev Michael Wishart sought leave to move that the Assembly amend clause 2 so that it would read: 'That the Assembly direct presbyteries to encourage ministers to take accrued long service leave according to MMC regulations and to discuss how best to implement this.'

Leave was granted.

Rev Michael Wishart moved:

That the Assembly:

2. Direct presbyteries to encourage ministers to take accrued long service leave according to MMC regulations and to discuss how best to implement this.

The amendment was seconded and approved.

Clause 2 as amended was approved.

Clauses 3-8 were approved.

Elder Dennis Wright moved an additional clause 9:

That the Assembly:

9. Instruct the Code Committee, in concert with the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee, to formulate an appropriate addition or additions to the Long Service Leave Regulations that will direct that ministers must take at least half of any accumulated Long Service Leave after their initial ten year period of service, and each five year of service after that.

The motion was seconded.

The previous question was moved seconded and approved.

The deliverance as a whole as amended was moved:

That the Assembly:

- Direct each minister, congregation and presbytery to respond positively to this committee's written requests to confirm the total Long Service Leave due to be taken.
- 2. Direct presbyteries to encourage ministers to take accrued long service leave according to MMC regulations and to discuss how best to implement this.
- 3. Approve the following process for grant applications:
 - a) the APR is to be approved by the presbytery; and
 - b) if the APR is submitted to the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee within the period 1 July to 30 September, a full year of monthly sustentation payments may be made; or

- c) forms submitted after 30 September may be approved with a monthly rate not greater than the maximum Sustentation Grant Amount (\$10,608 for the 2016-17 year) divided by 12 and for the rest of the financial year.
- 4. Ask presbyteries to encourage timely auditing of parish finances and completion of the Annual Parish Report Form as early as possible after the completion of their financial period and no later than the due date (APR page 1), noting the requirements of the process for grant applications.
- 5. Encourage each member of Boards of Management to take an active role in the budget preparation and approval prior to presentation at their congregational meetings for approval and to be mindful of the budget when considering income and expenses throughout the financial year.
- 6. Further encourage presbyteries to establish standing committees with appointed conveners to assess the finances of parishes on a consistent basis, via properly completed APRs, and to evaluate all applications for assistance and make recommendations to their presbytery concerning the same.
- 7. Warmly thank all the PCV office staff for their advice and time spent in the administration of the work of the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee, especially in the support and encouragement of the convener.
- 8. Warmly thank all members of the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee for their diligence in attendance and contributions, especially our Registrar, Reg Butcher, who carries a mighty workload in the receipt and analysis of the APRs on behalf of the committee.

The motion was seconded and approved.

92. Overture 2 – Maintenance of the Ministry Committee, re: manse allowance

The overture was laid on the table and received.

The overture was stated by Elder Dennis Wright

Questions were asked of the overturists.

(1) Elder Dennis Wright moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the overture.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

Rev Dean Carroll raised a point of privilege.

The Moderator ruled that there had been a breach of privilege.

The breach of privilege was rectified.

93. 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.

Clause 1 was approved.

Clause 2 was approved.

Clause 3 was approved.

Clause 4 was moved.

Rev Luke Isham moved:

That the Assembly amend the Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes Constitution by adding the words 'any CEO to be appointed shall be a member of a Christian Church' after 'Homes' to section 21(g) of the so that section 21(g) will read:

21 g. Appointing, directing and, if necessary the terminating of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Homes. Any CEO to be appointed shall be a member of a Christian church.'

The amendment was seconded.

Rev Stuart Withers sought leave to move that the Assembly amend the amendment by deleting all words in the second sentence and substituting in their place the words: 'Any CEO to be appointed shall be a communicant member of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria or a communicant or confirmed member of some other Protestant Church', so that the section would read:

21 g. Appointing, directing and, if necessary the terminating of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Homes. Any CEO to be appointed shall be a communicant member of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria or a communicant or confirmed member of some other Protestant Church.

Leave was granted.

The amendment was seconded and approved.

Clause 4 as amended was approved.

The deliverance as a whole, as amended, was moved:

- 1. Approve Stage 2 of Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes development, comprising of 20 apartments and a community centre with an estimated cost of \$11m.
- 2. Praise God for Rev Andrew Bray and Mrs Janine Moyter, for their pastoral care of the residents of Kirkbrae and Tannoch Brae.
- 3. Give thanks to God for the faithful service of the executive team and staff at Kirkbrae.
- 4. Approve the Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes Constitution as presented in the body of the report with the consent of the Trusts Corporation amended so that section 21 g. will read:
 - 21 g. Appointing, directing and, if necessary the terminating of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Homes. Any CEO to be appointed shall be a communicant member of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria or a communicant or confirmed member of some other Protestant Church.

The motion was seconded and approved.

94. Petition 6 – Social Services Committee, re: a seat on the presbytery of Maroondah for Rev Matt James

(1) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly;

Deal with the petition, notwithstanding that it was not sent to the Clerk of Assembly at least thirty-days before the meeting of the Assembly.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The petitioners were brought to the bar.

The petition was taken as read and received.

The petitioners stated the petition.

Questions were asked.

(2) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Grant the prayer of the petition.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(3) The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Grant Rev Matthew James a seat on the Presbytery of Maroondah as from 1 February 2017 for the term of his appointment as Chaplain to Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Announcement of Final Decision

The Moderator advised the petitioners of the Assembly's decision as follows:

That the Assembly had resolved to:

- 1. Grant the prayer of the petition.
- 2. Grant Rev Matthew James a seat on the Presbytery of Maroondah as from 1 February 2017 for the duration of his appointment as Chaplain to Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes.

Rev Peter Phillips took the chair in the absence of the Moderator Rev Robert White.

95. Church Planting Committee

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

The Business Convener moved that the report be received.

Rev Ian Hutton raised a point of privilege.

The Moderator ruled that there had been a breach of privilege.

The breach of privilege was rectified.

The motion (to receive the report) was seconded and approved.

Church Planter Rev Richard Wilson addressed the Assembly.

The Convener, Rev Cameron Garrett, moved the deliverance.

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause.

Clauses 1-3 were approved.

Clause 5 was moved and seconded

Rev Ian Hutton raised a point of privilege and asked the Moderator to rule Clause 5 incompetent.

The Moderator ruled that there had been a breach of privilege and the remedy was that the convener of the Church Planting Committee should withdraw clause 5.

Rev Cameron Garrett moved:

That the Assembly:

Depart from the Moderator's ruling.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

Clause 5 was withdrawn.

Clause 4 was moved and seconded.

Rev Philip Mercer moved:

That the Assembly:

Amend clause 4 by deleting the word 'Place' and replace it with the word 'Request', so that clause 4 would read:

4. Request a levy of 2% on the ordinary income of all parishes and mission fields to resource the Property Development Fund'.

It was moved as an additional amendment to replace the word 'levy' with the words 'a voluntary contribution'.

The amendment was seconded and approved.

Clause 4 as amended was approved.

Clause 6 was approved.

Rev David Brown moved an additional clause:

That the Assembly:

- 6. Request the Church Planting Committee to consider and report on the following proposal for raising funds:
 - a) That each year the committee bring a prioritised 'wish list' of areas for land/property purchase to the Assembly for approval along with estimates of how much money is needed.

- b) That this list be forwarded to each presbytery with a request that they ask their congregations with significant funds in the sites reserve to prayerfully consider to which of these they might donate money.
- c) That presbyteries consider calling on such congregations identified under b) to hold a congregational meeting to seriously consider these needs and inviting a representative of the committee to address the meeting.

The motion was seconded.

Leave was granted for the mover to amend his motion by deleting the words 'the sites' from clause (b) so that the clause would read:

b) That this list be forwarded to each presbytery with a request that they ask their congregations with significant funds in reserve to prayerfully consider to which of these they might donate money.

The amended motion was approved.

The deliverance as a whole as amended was moved.

That the Assembly:

- 1. Give thanks to God for the continued growth of the church plants.
- 2. Authorise the committee to co-opt a group of specialists to search for prospective church properties.
- 3. Authorise the committee to advertise and seek bequests for the Property Development Fund in line with PDF Regulation 6b.
- 4. Request a voluntary contribution of 2% on the ordinary income of all parishes and mission fields to resource the Property Development Fund.
- 5. Encourage the committee to investigate a possible future merger between the committee and the Ministry Development Committee to better enable the work of Home Mission and Church Extension.
- 6. Request the Church Planting Committee to consider and report on the following proposal for raising funds:
 - a) That each year the committee bring a prioritised 'wish list' of areas for land/property purchase to the Assembly for approval along with estimates of how much money is needed.
 - b) That this list be forwarded to each presbytery with a request that they ask their congregations with significant funds in reserve to prayerfully consider to which of these they might donate money.
 - That presbyteries consider calling on such congregations identified under
 to hold a congregational meeting to seriously consider these needs and inviting a representative of the committee to address the meeting.

The motion was seconded and approved.

96. Ad Hoc Committee re: Sites Reserve

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

- (1) In the absence of the Convener (Rev Andrew Bray) the Clerk moved the deliverance. That the Assembly:
 - Acknowledge the Declarative Statement 'Holding and dealing with property within the church' dated October 2013 is a true and correct representation of the way in which property is held within the PCV.
 - 2. Encourage all congregations with Sites Reserve balances in their name to make a voluntary contribution (perhaps 10% of the balance) to the Property Development Fund in accordance with current BIF regulation 10(b)(ii).

3. Request the committee to bring to the 2017 General Assembly a revised proposal that is designed to achieve a more effective use of the Sites Reserve funds for the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

It was agreed to take the deliverance clause by clause.

Clause 1 was disapproved.

(2) Rev Stephen Deroon moved:

That the Assembly:

- 1. Affirm the right of a congregation associated with a Sites Reserve Fund to direct the Board of Investment and Finance how to expend Fund monies, but only after the congregation has gained the necessary approval of Presbytery, or Presbytery and Assembly, to so use the monies:
 - a) if the desired use is to cost over \$100,000, approval from both the Presbytery of the bounds and Assembly is necessary;
 - b) otherwise approval is only required from the Presbytery of the bounds.
- 2. Instruct the Code Committee to prepare changes to the BIF regulations to reflect the intent of clause 1 (above) for both 'Existing Congregations' and 'Deceased Congregations' (where Presbytery becomes the directing body, with Assembly's approval required if a proposal is over \$100,000) in what is currently BIF Regulation 10.
- 3. Request the Presbytery of the bounds to encourage a congregation associated with a Sites Reserve Fund to donate 20% of the annual Sites Reserve interest earned to another congregation or committee of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria (selected by the congregation) that is in need.

The motion was seconded and approved.

(3) Rev Stephen Deroon moved:

That the Assembly:

Thank the Ad Hoc Committee on Sites Reserve for its work and discharge it.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

The Clerk sought leave to fall from clause 2 of the deliverance.

Leave was not granted.

Clause 2 was disapproved.

Clause 3 was moved and seconded.

(4) Rev David Brown moved:

That the Assembly:

Amend clause 3 by adding to it the words 'such that any levy on funds held in the name of a congregation, will be formulated in such a way, that no levy can be enacted without the express approval of the Presbytery', so that the clause would read:

3. Request the committee to bring to the 2017 General Assembly a revised proposal that is designed to achieve a more effective use of the Sites Reserve funds for the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, such that any levy on funds held in the name of a congregation, will be formulated in such a way, that no levy can be enacted without the express approval of the Presbytery.

The amendment was seconded.

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

The Moderator ruled that the clause was incompetent due to the motions already approved.

(5) Rev David Brown moved:

That the Assembly:

Depart from the moderators ruling.

The motion was disapproved.

Final decision

The Assembly resolved to:

- 1. Affirm the right of a congregation associated with a Sites Reserve Fund to direct the Board of Investment and Finance how to expend Fund monies, but only after the congregation has gained the necessary approval of Presbytery, or Presbytery and Assembly, to so use the monies:
 - a) if the desired use is to cost over \$100,000, approval from both the Presbytery of the bounds and Assembly is necessary;
 - b) otherwise approval is only required from the Presbytery of the bounds.
- 2. Instruct the Code Committee to prepare changes to the BIF regulations to reflect the intent of clause 1 (above) for both 'Existing Congregations' and 'Deceased Congregations' (where Presbytery becomes the directing body, with Assembly's approval required if a proposal is over \$100,000) in what is currently BIF Regulation 10.
- 3. Request the Presbytery of the bounds to encourage a congregation associated with a Sites Reserve Fund to donate 20% of the annual Sites Reserve interest earned to another congregation or committee of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria (selected by the congregation) that is in need.

97. Clerkship Committee

The report of the Clerkship Committee was laid on the table and received. In the absence of the Convener, Rev David Brown, moved the deliverance: That the Assembly:

- 1. Place on record its deep appreciation for the Clerk, his love of the PCV and the thoroughness and effectiveness of his work serving Christ through the PCV.
- 2. In reference to GAV 2013, min 66.5 re: clerk's succession planning, and as interim measures:
 - a) Create a new office of the Assembly called 'Assistant to the Clerks'.
 - b) Fix his duty as to give assistance to the Clerk of Assembly and the Deputy Clerk of Assembly.
 - c) Declare that wherever a regulation specifies that 'the Clerks' are members of a committee by virtue of office, that regulation shall also include 'Assistant to the Clerks'.
 - d) Declare that, should both the Clerk and Deputy Clerk of Assembly be incapacitated, the Clerkship Committee, under its regulation 3(f) may appoint the Assistant to the Clerks as Acting Clerk.
 - e) Declare that the Assistant to the Clerks, upon appointment, make the declaration of faithful duty, according to Rule 6.6.
 - f) Invite presbyteries to make nominations for this position, with names to be in the hands of the Clerk by 31 March 2017.
 - g) Direct the Clerkship Committee to interview the presbytery nominees, and to bring to the May 2017 Commission of Assembly the list of nominees and its recommended candidate for appointment to this office, together with a report outlining its reasons for this recommendation.
 - h) Authorise the 2017 Commission of Assembly to make the appointment, commencing 1 July 2017, with an annual honorarium half that received by the Deputy Clerk.
 - Direct the Clerkship Committee to review the performance of the appointee and report to the 2018 General Assembly with its recommendations for the continuance of the appointment or otherwise.

3. Approve the following amended Job Description for the Clerk of Assembly:

The Clerk of Assembly

Role of the Clerk:

- 1. The Clerk is the chief administrative officer of the Assembly.
- 2. The Clerk proactively seeks the peace and good government of the denomination.
- 3. The Clerk is the Convener of the Code and General Administration Committee; secretary of the Commission for Church Institutions and provides support to the Moderator of the General Assembly and presbytery moderators and clerks.
- 4. The Clerk is responsible for the scrutiny of presbytery and Assembly committee records (GAV 2015, min 112.7(b)).
- 5. The Clerk is responsible for church records management and the church archives (GAV 2015, min 112.8).
- 6. The Clerk is responsible for maintaining a Presbyterian Church of Victoria website (GAV 2014, min 66).
- 7. The Clerk supervises the work of the Safe Church Unit (GAV 2015, min 90.1(b)).
- 8. The Clerk liaises with the General Assembly of Australia and other state Assemblies.
- 9. The Clerk is the Church's second representative to the Victorian Church Leaders meeting.
- 10. In carrying out the above (1–9), the Clerk, where appropriate, exercises a pastoral responsibility towards the ministers and members of the denomination.

Specific Duties of the Clerk:

- 1. As the chief administrative officer of the Assembly, the Clerk shall:
 - keep an accurate roll of Assembly;
 - b) receive, examine, record and report to the Assembly all documents, papers or communications addressed to it;
 - c) prepare the White Book;
 - d) attend all sittings of the Assembly;
 - e) keep a correct record of all proceedings of the Assembly;
 - f) prepare the minutes after each sitting of the Assembly, for publication:
 - g) notify the assumption of office by the Moderator to the Governor, State and Civic authorities, and such other public authorities as may be required;
 - h) be Clerk of the Commission of Assembly and the Committee of the Whole:
 - i) make such statutory declarations and affidavits as may from time to time be required by law;
 - keep in safe custody all books, records and documents of the Assembly, excepting those for the custody of which the Assembly makes other provision, and to produce the same or furnish certified copies of or extracts from the same when legally required to do so;

- k) see that the decisions of the Assembly are notified to presbyteries, committees and congregations concerned;
- provide annual training of presbytery clerks and committee representatives in all relevant matters of the Code, and in meeting procedures in order to expedite the business of presbyteries and Committees in an efficient and responsible manner:
- m) teach church polity at PTC, Box Hill as required;
- n) correspond with and supply information to all who require official information concerning the business of the Assembly;
- o) make available to the press, radio and television, information concerning the church;
- p) facilitate the flow of information through the Presbyterian Church of Victoria email network;
- q) be responsible for the Presbyterian Church of Victoria archives (but the funding of them is to be by General Assembly decision on the recommendation of the Board of Investment and Finance):
- r) inform the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages of those to be registered under the Marriage Act as marriage celebrants and any changes to their status.
- 2. As Convener of the Code and General Administration Committee, the Clerk:
 - shall ensure the work of the committee is fulfilled according to its regulations;
 - b) shall in terms of Rule 6.5.2(f) provide advice to parties who wish to bring business to the court;
 - c) is the first point of contact by Presbytery Clerks, committee conveners, and others for interpretation and application of the Church Rules as set out in Rule 5.12.
- 3. As responsible for church records management and the Church Archive, the Clerk:
 - a) shall arrange for the acquisition and care of church records from all organisations and courts of the church and individuals who may have material relating to it.
 - b) is responsible for:
 - i) the running of the Church Archive and the appointment and oversight of archive staff; and
 - ii) inquiries from within the church and from the general public relating to records and material contained in the Church Archive.
- 4. As responsible for the scrutiny of presbytery and Assembly committee records, the Clerk shall:
 - on behalf of the Assembly call annually for records of all presbyteries to be deposited at the office of the Clerk two weeks prior to the meetings of the General Assembly for scrutiny by the clerks of the presbyteries;

- on behalf of the Assembly and on a regular basis call for and scrutinise the records of Assembly committees, boards and councils responsible directly to the Assembly;
- c) report to the Assembly on the state of the church records with any necessary recommendations;
- d) furnish to clerks and conveners a statement on the records submitted, indicating any omissions, irregularities and recommendations inscribed on the records themselves;
- e) keep a permanent record of all comments on material matters inscribed in the records inspected.
- 5. The Clerk (along with the Deputy Clerk), in the first instance, provides assistance and guidance for members of the church, and for the church's courts and committees, in all matters of the rules, practice and procedure of the church. (see Rule 5.12)
- 6. In liaising with the General Assembly of Australia and other state Assemblies, the Clerk shall seek:
 - a) the good government of the Presbyterian Church of Australia;
 - b) the advancement of the Kingdom of God throughout the nation.

Relationship with the Clerkship Committee

The purpose of the Clerkship Committee is to provide pastoral and other support for the Clerk and to administer the Clerk's terms of settlement; details of the Clerkship Committee's function are provided in the committee's regulations.

Additional Matters concerning the Clerk in Relation to Outside Bodies (GAV 2007, min 95)

- 1. The Clerk of Assembly is appointed as the second representative to the Victorian Heads of Churches.
- The Clerk of Assembly and the Convener of the Church and Nation Committee are directed to consult with one another and the Moderator on upcoming business of Heads of Churches, including the possibility of adding new business to the Agenda of Heads of Churches.
- 3. The recognition that from time to time the Moderator, the Clerk and the Convener of the Church and Nation Committee will individually represent the church in communication with government, the media and other outside bodies on matters of social and ethical concern in accordance with the relevant clauses in the regulations of the Church and Nation Committee.
- 4. The Moderator, Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Convener of the Church and Nation Committee are requested to undertake periodic training in regard to the Church's relations with the Media and other outside bodies.

The motion was seconded and approved.

98. Defence Force Chaplaincy Committee

The report of the Defence Force Chaplaincy Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Rev Peter Owen, moved the deliverance:

That the Assembly:

- 1. Encourage congregations to pray for the safety and welfare of all who serve in our armed forces.
- 2. Urge congregations to keep praying for military chaplains in their unique ministry for the gospel to ADF personnel in Australia and overseas.
- 3. Convey sincere thanks to Rev Allan M Harman for the faithful leadership provided to the Religious Advisory Committee to the Services.
- 4. Convey thanks to Rev Martin de Pyle for his work as past convener.
- 5. Pray for Rev Joshua Bouzanquet as he completes his in-service pastoral training at the Eltham Presbyterian Church before proceeding to his posting to Darwin.
- 6. Encourage ministers to consider applying for ministry as Defence Force chaplains, either full-time or as reservists.

The motion was seconded and approved.

99. Safe Church Panel of Reference

The report of the Safe Church Panel of Reference was laid on the table and received.

The Convener, Rev Brian Harvey, moved the deliverance:

That the Assembly:

- 1. Give thanks to Almighty God for the work of Mrs Fiona Bligh in the Safe Church Unit.
- 2. Continue to support Mrs Fiona Bligh with prayer and with understanding.

The motion was seconded and approved.

100. 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 as whole.

That the Assembly:

- Pray for God's continued help and blessing for all of our PCV funded chaplains and pastoral care workers and praise him for their work and ministry during 2015-2016.
- 2. Give thanks for the faithful ministry of Rev Wally Gear on behalf of the PCV and at Kirkbrae and pray for him as he enters retirement.
- 3. Pray for wisdom for the Kirkbrae Chaplaincy Committee in the selection of a new chaplain for Kirkbrae Retirement Village in the year ahead.
- 4. Praise God for the continued growth of PCV Hospital Chaplaincy throughout Victoria.
- 5. Praise God for the work of all our PCV voluntary visiting hospital and community chaplains including prison visitors, AFES university chaplains, sports chaplains, CFA chaplains and police chaplains.
- 6. Pray for the PCV's engagement with the Victorian Government in the provision and development of healthcare chaplaincy services through our membership of the Council of Spiritual Health Victoria and for Mrs Kathy James in her governance role as SHV Board Chair.

- 7. Give thanks for the provision of funding in the New Year for the PCV Ministry Family Assistance program.
- 8. Give thanks to God for the partnership and generosity of our PCV congregations in participating with the HCCC this year in our annual Good Friday Appeal.
- 9. Continue to pray for growth and God's blessing of the Pastor's Renewal Retreat Group program and give thanks for all who participated in its first ever PCV Ministry Wives retreat group during 2016.
- 10. Pray for Miss Elspeth Slater as she begins her final year as Pastoral Support Worker for PCV Ministry Wives and transitions towards retirement in June 2017.
- 11. Pray for Mrs Sandy Carroll as she takes the role of Administrator and Camp Coordinator to new heights.

The motion was seconded and approved.

101. Communication 1 – from Rev John Wilson, Clerk of the GAV, re: depositions of ministers by their presbyteries

Communication 1 was laid on the table and received.

102. The Moderator's Board

Elder Colin Morrow moved:

That the Assembly:

Amend the period of service on the Moderator's Board in the foyer of the Assembly Hall beside the name of Rev David Brown to read '2014-15' in recognition that he served the church in the capacity of Moderator for a significant period of those two years.

The motion was seconded and approved.

103. Thanks

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Place on record its gratitude to God for the assistance provided by many people so that the meetings of this General Assembly could be conducted efficiently and seamlessly, noting in particular assistance given by Peter Phillips in his unswerving attention to detail as minute-taker and Deputy Clerk, Dean Carroll for the first time as Convener and his hard-working Business Committee, Jared Hood and Andy May sharing projection duties, Matt James on audio, Dave Assender behind the lens, David Schulz on the ivories, Jonathan North, Ric, and the whole team of Scots Church Admin office for their assistance in making these premises available for us day and night, and others than I could have mentioned, but in the spirit of Hebrews 11:32, we "do not have the time to tell about."

The motion was seconded and approved.

104. Commendation - Rev Robert and Mrs Susan White

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Express best wishes to its Moderator, Rev Robert White, and his wife, Sue, 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:

- Appoint a Commission of Assembly consisting of all the members of this Assembly who remain qualified to be Assembly members at the time of the Commission, with a quorum of sixteen (eight of whom must be ministers), representing at least four presbyteries.
- 2. Empower this Commission to consider and determine every matter referred to it by the Assembly, and instruct the Commission to be careful to follow all instructions given to it by the Assembly. With the exception of urgent matters, as permitted in clause 3 below, the Commission is not entitled to take up any matter that has not been referred to it.
- 3. Empower this Commission 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 in all its decisions to proceed according to the rules and constitution of this church. For all its decisions, this Commission is accountable to and censurable by the next Assembly.
- Charge this Commission that it must not enact, amend or repeal any rules or regulations of the Assembly nor enter into the consideration of any overture or motion proposing legislation.
- 6. Direct this Commission to submit its minutes duly confirmed, and relevant papers, to the next Assembly through the Clerk.
- 7. Instruct this Commission to meet in the Werner Brodbeck Hall, within the Assembly Hall, 156 Collins Street, Melbourne, Tuesday 2 May 2017, at 10:30am, or at such other times and places as the Moderator of the 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 9 October 2017, at 7:30pm for the opening sitting, and on Tuesday 10 October 2017, at 9.30am for a Communion Service, and thereafter for business in Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall, or at such other times and places as the Moderator of the Assembly shall determine.

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 9 October 2017, at 7:30pm for the opening sitting within The Scots' Church, Melbourne, and thereafter for business in Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall.

The Moderator dissolved the Assembly with prayer and the singing of verses 4-6 of Rejoice! 304.

CLERKS: J P Wilson P W Phillips

I certify that the minutes of 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 October 2016, having been carefully scrutinised, are hereby confirmed in terms of minute 105 thereof.

Rev Robert W White Moderator

RWWhile

ROLL OF ASSEMBLY 2016

Presbytery of Ballarat (V1)

Charges and Home Mission Stations	Ministers	Elders
Ararat	Rod Waterhouse	Jeff Hardy
Ballarat North	John Brennan	Robert Taylor
Ballarat South	Steven North	Gordon Barry
Ballarat West	Ian Hutton	Norm Sharp
Carisbrook-Castlemaine	Hugh Price	
Daylesford	Mark Crabb	
Horsham-Marnoo	Luke Isham	Peter U'Ren
Kaniva-Nhill		Bruce Meyer
Skipton-Lismore		Stewart McKerrow
Retired Minister:	Keith Allen	

Presbytery of Benalla (V2)

Charges and Home Mission Stations	Ministers	Elders
Benalla		Russell Mawson
Broadford	James Playfoot	
Numurkah		
Seymour-Nagambie-Yea		Bill Sangster
Shepparton-Stanhope- Kyabram	Kyung Ee	Phil Betts
Tatura	Kevin Maxwell	James Finster
Wangaratta-Yarrawonga- Myrtleford		Malcolm Browning
Wodonga		Alan Horsburgh
Retired Minister:	Neil Harvey	Parity: Ralph Kop

Presbytery of Flinders (V3)

Charges and Home Mission Stations	Ministers	Elders
Aspendale		Brett Peatman
Brighton		Elizabeth Cutler (Mrs)
Cardinia-Koo-Wee-Rup		Elizabeti Odtiei (Wila)
Cheltenham	David Brown	
Clarinda		
Clayton	Michael Jensen	Arnis Putnins
Cranbourne	Peter Roberts	
Dandenong		
Dromana-Mornington	Michael Wishart	
Frankston	Bill Medley	
	Jared Keath (Associate)	
Mordialloc	Michael Wharton	Barbara Firth
Somerville	Ken Brown	
Sorrento-Rye	Hui Lim	
South East Samoan	Kainano Opetaia	
Detined Ministers	Deter Develor	
Retired Ministers:	Peter Barclay	
	Dallas Clarnette	
	Steven Giles	
	Ken Martin	
	David Palmer	
	Frank Savage	
	Graeme Weber	
	Wally Zurrer	

Presbytery of Geelong (V4)

Charges and Home Mission Stations	Ministers	Elders
Geelong North	Darren Middleton	G (Bert) Stasse
Geelong West (Scots)		Drew Chittenden
Moorabool		Peter Winstanley
The Leigh	Willem Vandenberg	Jim Venters
Retired Ministers:	Andrew Bray	Parity: Daniel Combridge
	John Cromarty	
	Graham Hamill	
	Allan Harman	
	Robert White	

Presbytery of Gippsland (V5)

Charges and Home Mission Stations	Ministers	Elders
Bairnsdale	Gary Stephens	Bruce Downes
Drouin	Heath Easton	Karl Hood
Leongatha	Gary Wentworth	
Moe-Yarram	Stephen Deroon	Maitland Vertigan
Morwell	Cameron Garrett	John Lagerwey
Sale		Alan Caldwell
Warragul	Christopher Dean	Tom Guilford
Retired Ministers:	Robert Boan	
	Peter Swinn	

Presbytery of Kilnoorat (V6)

Charges and Home Mission Stations	Ministers	Elders
Camperdown-Terang- Noorat	Peter Phillips	David Selman
Colac	Marvin Hagans	Geoff Cross
Hamilton	David Schulz	Marcus Little
Heywood-Portland		Alex Croft
Koroit-Port Fairy	Ian Leach	
Warrnambool	Ben Johnson Toby McIntosh (Associate)	Robert Prout
Retired Minister:	Neil Benfell	

Presbytery of Maroondah (V7)

Charges and Home Mission Stations	Ministers	Elders
Belgrave Heights	Mark Tonkin	
Blackburn	Walk Folkin	Keith Ferres
Croydon Hills	Matthew James	Andrew Letcher
Donvale	Gerald Vanderwert Clinton Le Page (Ass't)	Peter Prendergast
Heathmont	Dean Carroll	Doug Fraser
Kilsyth (Kirkbrae)		
Mt Evelyn	Miles Fagan	
Warburton	Chuol Yat	Stewart Miller
Woori Yallock	Tony Archer	Andre Dahmen
PTC Lecturer	Jared Hood	Parity: Endre Papajcsik
MDC Director	Robert Carner	
YM Director	Brian Harvey	
DF Chaplain	Barry Porter	
Retired Ministers:	Ivan Barker	
	Tony Bird	
	Wally Gear	
	Peter Locke	
	Peter Orchard	
	Andrew Slater	
	Cor Vanderhorn	
	Andrew Venn	

Presbytery of Melbourne East (V8)

Charges and Home Mission Stations	Ministers	Elders
Arabic		
Ashburton	Barry Oakes	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	Robert Belcher
Deaf	Tony Salisbury	
Gardenvale East		Jim Russell
Hawthorn	Graham Nicholson	John Singleton
Korean	Stephen Kim	Soo Hong Kwon
Malvern	Philip Daffy	
St Kilda/Balaclava	Bob Thomas	Paul Lee
South Yarra	John Stasse	Ben Nelson
Surrey Hills	Chris Siriweera John Huynh (Assistant)	Keith Watson
Scotch Chaplain	David Assender	Parity:
PLC Chaplain	Charles Green	Jim Hare
PTC Lecturer	Felix Chung	Ben Palmer
Retired Ministers:	Graham Bradbeer	
	Alan Every	
	Douglas Milne	

Presbytery of Melbourne North (V9)

Charges and Home Mission Stations	Ministers	Elders
Alice Springs/PIM	Keith Bell	
Bundoora	Neil Chambers	Andrew May
Eltham	Don Elliott	Robert Herweynen
Epping	Nello Barbieri	Bruce Miller
Heidelberg		Tom Cunneen
Hume	Luke Brownley	
Kangaroo Ground		Robert Baldock
Reservoir	Andrew Vines	Reg Butcher
Samoan	Simalu Cowley	Nanai Manogi Nanai
Templestowe		Adrian Kebbe
Valley	Richard Wilson	
Whittlesea-Mernda	Botros Botrosdief	
Clerk of Assembly	John Wilson	
PTC Principal	Peter Hastie	
DF Chaplain	Martin de Pyle	
DF Chaplain	Joshua Bouzanquet	
Retired Minister:	Theo Fishwick	

Presbytery of Melbourne West (V10)

Charges and Home Mission Stations	Ministers	Elders
Brimbank	Adam Humphries	Paul Ridgewell
Clifton Hill/Essendon	Christopher Duke	Vasil Vasiliades
Darebin	Aaron Boyd	Christopher Berry
Darwin/PIM	Robert Duncanson	
Gisborne	Matthew Tegart	George McConaghie
Melbourne Scots – Snr Ass't – CBD Flemington Indonesian	Douglas Robertson Richard O'Brien Philip Court Christian Tirtha	Neil Gilmour
Melton	Stephen Jones	Dennis Wright
Point Cook	Peter Owen	Denis Legg
Sunshine	John Cho	Gilbert Bell
Williamstown	Daniel Dixon	Jennifer Homewood (Mrs)
Wyndham	Peter Greiner	Peter Stanton
Retired Ministers:	John Ellis	
	Len Pearce	
	Bruce Riding	
SSC Convener		Robert Lowe

Presbytery of North Western Victoria (V11)

Charges and Home Mission Stations	Ministers	Elders
Bendigo	Philip Burns	Andrew Kerr
Eaglehawk		Steven Arbuckle
Kerang/Pyramid Hill		Ken Pinchen
Rochester	Stuart Withers	Doug Butcher
S.E. Bendigo	Russ Grinter	
Sunraysia (HMS)		Colin Morrow
Swan Hill		
Retired Ministers:	Ian Brown	Parity:
	Wally Johnson	Tony Zirngast
	John Sutherland	

REPORTS

BUSINESS COMMITTEE (Min. 13)

For the LORD your God is a merciful God; he will not abandon or destroy you or forget the covenant with your forefathers, which he confirmed to them by oath. (Deuteronomy 4:31)

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 it deems competent and respectful.

Assembly expositor

The committee is pleased to report that Rev Peter Adam, Vicar Emeritus of St Jude's Carlton and Senior Canon of St Paul's Cathedral, has agreed to be the Assembly expositor for 2016. It is planned that he will preach at the Tuesday morning communion service, and at the opening of the Wednesday and Thursday morning sittings.

Lunch on Tuesday and Wednesday

The Tuesday Moderator's lunch, for Assembly members, will be held in the Robert White Hall. Booking is required.

The Wednesday lunch is the Mission lunch, held in the Robert White Hall, during the usual lunchtime slot (12:30–2:00pm). It is planned that Michael Graham (Thailand) will be speaking. Booking is required.

Change of Terminology

It is sometimes interesting to see where a simple questions leads. The new convener of this committee asked "Why do we use sederunt?" The answer was close to: "Because it's in the code I think." Upon further investigation it was found that, contrary to expecting to find rules that contained the word, it only appeared in the regulations of two committees, and the new version of the Code being presented to this Assembly for approval has corrected those anomalies. Therefore Assembly agendas etc, instead of using 'Sederunt' will now use 'Sitting' in line with Rule 7:14.

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 organising the supper after the opening service;
- the Assembly Office staff members for their work in assisting in the smooth running of the Assembly;
- APWM for organising the Mission Lunch, and the speaker at the lunch;
- all those involved with data projection, audio and music.

Previous Convener

Although the Selection Committee always thanks outgoing conveners, the committee itself would like to thank its former convener, Rev Dr Jared Hood, for his 8 years of service on this committee. Jared was a diligent convener who kept the committee and Assembly on track with its business, and greatly assisted the new convener in getting up to speed with the requirements of the position.

Managing the Assembly's time well

To assist with time management, the committee warmly commends the following:

- Members who want the Assembly to take a course of action not already proposed in Assembly Papers should make every effort to give sufficient notice.
 The Assembly environment is not conducive to motions and amendments without notice.
- Committee Conveners are reminded that they do not ordinarily speak to their reports unless the Assembly should so desire it. Conveners usually have only two speeches: on the deliverance as a whole, and a speech to close that debate, if they so choose.
- As a matter of courtesy, Assembly members should notify conveners of intended questions (all the more important for technical questions, such as those relating to the ad hoc Committee on Sites Reserve).

Commission and next Assembly

The committee recommends that:

- the ordinary Commission of Assembly meet on Tuesday 2 May, 2017, at 10:30am in Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall; and
- the 2017 General Assembly convene in the Scots' Church, Melbourne, at 7:30pm on Monday 9 October, for worship and the induction of the Moderator, then at 9.30am on Tuesday 10 October, for a Communion Service, 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 committee is required to present an agenda at the start of each sitting (other than the first). As a guide, the committee will seek to arrange business according to the following outline.

FIRST SITTING

Monday, 3 October, 2016, at 7:30pm in the Scots' Church, Melbourne Service of worship and the induction of the Moderator

SECOND SITTING

Tuesday, 4 October, 2016, 9:30am – 5:30pm

Assembly communion service (constitution)

11:00am Roll

Apologies

Associations

Welcomes

Business Committee

Minutes of previous sitting

Minutes of the 2016 Commission of Assembly

New members

Ministerial and elders' jubilees

Ministerial and elders' deaths – prayer

Royal address and loyal addresses

Board of Investment and Finance

Trusts Corporation

[12:30pm – 2:00pm Lunch]

Church Planting Committee

Presbyterian Ladies' College

Scotch College

Petition 4: Chalmers (Auburn) Presbyterian Church – selling the manse

Overture 3: HCCC and SSC - Merger of Committees

Petition 1: Presbytery of Geelong – Rule 4:89b and the Model Trust Deed

Petition 2: Presbytery of Melbourne West - Brimbank funding

Petition 3: Presbytery of Ballarat – dissolution of Stockyard Hill congregation

[3:30pm – 3:50pm Refreshments]

FOD 3:50pm Christian Education and Nurture Committee

FOD 4:15pm Ad Hoc Committee for Presbyterian Schooling

Commission for Church Institutions

Archivist

State News Committee

Overtures, Petitions, Communications

Business Committee

THIRD SITTING

Tuesday, 4 October, 2016, 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Constitution

Apologies

Business Committee

Minutes of previous sitting

FOD 7:10pm Building and Property Committee

Maintenance of the Ministry Committee

Overture 2: Maintenance of the Ministry Committee - Manse Allowance

Social Services Committee

Ad Hoc Committee on Sites Reserve

Unfinished business from previous sitting

Business Committee

FOURTH SITTING

Wednesday, 5 October, 2016, 9:30am - 5:30pm

Constitution

Assembly expositor

Apologies

Business Committee

Minutes of previous sitting

Church and Nation Committee

FOD 11:00am PCA 500th Anniversary of the Reformation

Rev David Cook (former Moderator-General, GAA)

Rev John Wilson (Moderator-General, GAA)

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

Rev Kevin Murray (National Director, APWM)

David Pearce

Presentation of missionaries

FOD 12:15pm Ballot (if required)

[12:30pm - 2:00pm Mission Lunch]

FOD 2:00pm Appeal 1: Mrs Rhonda Aubert – Presbytery of Maroondah

METRO Committee

Clerkship Committee

[3:30pm – 3:50pm Refreshments]

FOD 3:50pm Defence Force Chaplaincy Committee

Communication 2: Presbyterian Inland Mission

Presbyterian Inland Mission – Andrew Letcher CEO Safe Church Panel of Reference Unfinished business from previous sittings Business Committee

FIFTH SITTING

Wednesday, 5 October, 2016, 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Constitution

Apologies

Business Committee

Minutes of previous sitting

Ministry Development Committee

Exit Students Committee

Records - Clerk

FOD 8:00PM Privacy Officer

Selection Committee

Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee

Unfinished business from previous sittings

Business Committee

SIXTH SITTING

Thursday, 6 October, 2016, 9:30am to the finish of business

Constitution

Assembly expositor

Apologies

Business Committee

Minutes of previous sitting

FOD 10:15am St Andrews Christian College – Principal Catriona Wansbrough

FOD 10:30am Belgrave Heights Christian School – Principal Andy Callow

Theological Education Committee

ACCESS Ministries (CCES)

FOD 12:15pm Home Mission Workers' Association – Mrs Carolyn Wentworth [12:30pm – 2:00pm Lunch]

Overture 1: APWM (Vic) - General Mission Program Name

Overture 4: Presbytery of Gippsland - Responding to Moral Failure

Overture 5: Presbytery of Gippsland - Privacy and Emails

Petition 5: Presbytery of Melbourne North – Epping Sites Reserve

FOD 3:00pm Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union

Code and General Administration Committee

Communication 1: GAV Clerk

[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

Dean Carroll CONVENER

ACCESS MINISTRIES (Min. 76)

While ACCESS ministries continues to face an ever-changing and ever-challenging external operating environment, there is evidence of the success of the organisation's efforts to take control - with God's wisdom and guidance - of its own destiny. Rather than be captive to increased regulation and scrutiny of the work of ACCESS, or the ongoing challenge of financial sustainability, considerable progress is being made by the CEO, Dawn Penney, and her Executive Team on each of the priority actions the Board set out to achieve less than two years ago.

Corporate Governance

An important endorsement of the Board's vision for the future of ACCESS ministries was provided by the existing Supporting Church members (the Uniting Church and Salvation Army having ceased to be part of that group) when they voted to accept the revised Constitution on 27 May 2016. The adoption of this new Constitution signals the beginning of the next phase in the development of ACCESS ministries, which envisages the creation of more and deeper relationships with local community churches and other like-minded partners who share our Christian values and our desire to serve children, families and local communities. In line with the growing recognition among corporate governance experts that best practice for not-for-profit Board composition favours a skills-based rather than "representational" model, the new Constitution provides for a skills-based Board, with the Supporting Churches having representation on the Board Nominations Committee. The Board is currently focused on enhancing its capacity with a number of vacancies to be filled, providing opportunities to build on the existing capabilities and networks of ACCESS ministries. Board Chair, Elida Brereton, and CEO, Dawn Penney, are in the process of meeting with Heads of Churches from the current Supporting Churches to cement ongoing working partnerships. Dawn Penney is also meeting with local community church leaders to discuss different ways ACCESS ministries may work with them, utilising the skills and experience gained over the seventy-year history of the organisation.

Business Planning - SRI and Chaplaincy

The core services of Chaplaincy, Special Religious Instruction (including Publishing) and Training remain at the absolute centre of the operations of ACCESS ministries. The organisation continues to strive to meet the challenges of changing funding, compliance and regulation regimes, while also improving working partnerships with individual Chaplains and Student Wellbeing Workers, volunteer Support Groups and volunteer SRI Instructors.

ACCESS ministries is delivering its core services with increased efficiency and also looking to expand its presence in schools due to the dedicated efforts of all its team members. In fact, despite the move of SRI from during school hours to out-of-school hours (especially lunchtime) - and the initial impact that this had on reducing the number of participating schools - we are delighted to report that an increasing number of schools are re-commencing SRI programs over recent months. There are now 94 State primary schools with SRI programs with a total of 2437 students participating. There are 268 Accredited SRI Instructors available to teach in schools. There are currently 180 ACCESS ministries' Chaplains and 35 ACCESS ministries' Student Wellbeing Workers ("SWW") serving in 291 Chaplain/SWW positions in our State Secondary and Primary Schools.

The CEO continues to seek constructive, collaborative relationships with both the Federal and State Governments in the interest of the continuity of ACCESS ministries' services within Victoria's schools. In August she met with the Victoria Education Minister and Deputy Premier, James Merlino, and also Federal Education Minister, Simon Birmingham, to seek clarification on operational aspects of both the Chaplaincy and SRI programs and to update them on the continuing improvements ACCESS ministries is making to training, compliance and delivery of its services. She always takes the opportunity to discuss the benefits and impacts of our dedicated volunteers, support groups and staff serving within schools and their communities. Both Ministers understand these benefits and showed a keen interest in the findings from the Review commissioned by the National Schools Chaplaincy Association (NSCA) of which ACCESS ministries is a very active member. The NSCA has briefed the highly-regarded professional services and economics organisation, Deloitte, to conduct a detailed review into the contribution of, and benefits provided by School Chaplains. The review will consider objectives including: positive relationships; spiritual wholeness; connectedness; improved wellbeing; support for better choices; and ongoing support through crisis. It will evaluate each of these objectives against outcomes they achieve over the short, medium and long term to provide an accurate evidence-based report into the value and impact of School Chaplaincy at the student, teacher, family community and broader social level. The final report will be an important resource for the NSCA's ongoing discussions with the Federal and State Governments regarding the vital place chaplaincy occupies within Australia's schools and the ongoing need to ensure adequate, reliable resources and funding.

New Initiatives

At the same time as ACCESS ministries focuses on strengthening and expanding its School Chaplaincy and SRI programs, the organisation continues to explore and develop new ways to serve children, families and local communities. Dawn Penney has been listening to and engaging with Christian leaders in business, community and church settings to discuss, present and refine concepts which align with all our collective Christian values to serve and meet needs across a range of settings.

In addition to the Emmanuel Early Learning Centre SRI pilot mentioned in last year's report, ACCESS ministries is presently in discussions with a network of local churches and community leaders in Melbourne's outer eastern suburbs to establish a "Community Chaplaincy" program in the area. Our longer-term aim is to create a successful model for Community Chaplaincy which can be easily replicated in multiple communities across Victoria and ultimately Australia. Our initial thinking on Community Chaplaincy deals with filling that void many young people experience when leaving school (and in many cases the strong relationship they have developed with their school Chaplain or Student Wellbeing Worker) either to pursue tertiary study or to try and enter the workforce. And while we know that there are very high numbers of disaffected and disconnected young people in many communities, we are also conscious of needs right across the age spectrum. ACCESS ministries wishes to support families, adults and the elderly in a range of ways.

LightStream

One of the opportunities that ACCESS ministries has refined over the past 12-18 months has been "LightStream". This education-based ministry allows church and community groups to participate together in world-class personal and community transformation learning experiences. Diploma, degree and masters accreditation (including the provision of FEE-HELP) has been secured and this exciting new

initiative was formally launched on 18 August 2016. At a time when we are confronted with a demonstrable increase in the need for Christian values and service in our communities, LightStream offers genuine opportunities to transform individuals and communities through its faculty of outstanding Christian contributors, its Institute, its educational training services and its continually developing resources. The ultimate vision is that a growing number of servant leaders who complete the LightStream courses will be empowered and released to develop community transformation projects that strategically serve local communities into the future.

Finally, thanks to those individuals and churches in the PCV who have committed themselves to regular prayer for this crucial work.

Grant Lawry and Alison Thomas
PRESBYTERIAN REPRESENTATIVES
ACCESS MINISTRIES

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF PRESBYTERIAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOLING IN VICTORIA (Min. 26)

At the 2014 and 2015 Assemblies, the ad hoc Committee reported a vision for establishing Christian Schools that was built around a model of financing that involved the participation of existing Christian Schools both inside and outside of the Presbyterian Church. Discussions with possible participant Schools indicated that such a model would be acceptable but only if there was a clear and accountable process around the use of any funds donated via a dedicated committee. Such a model would not be acceptable to participating Schools if the management and use of funds was perceived to be handled generically using standard PCV investment processes.

As a result, and as reported in 2014 and 2015, the intent was for the Standing Committee to establish a fund raising capacity to fund the establishment of new educational institutions and to have control of the funds raised. The intent was that no existing PCV funds would be used for School establishment and that no liability against the PCV would be entered into.

This model is, however, unorthodox and runs counter to the current PCV model for the management of investments. This has naturally resulted in a number of wellfounded concerns being raised that have not been successfully allayed.

As the convener of the committee I take personal responsibility for this failure and I apologise to the Assembly for being insufficient for the task. It has been a learning experience that hopefully will enable me to be more effective in the future.

I am still committed – as are others – to the model of fund raising and School planting that has been previously presented to the Assembly and intend to continue to pursue the establishment of Christian Schools outside of the PCV structure. If any new Schools are created as a result it is still a possibility that they will be established as PCV governed Schools using the guidelines that the Assembly approved in 2014.

James Bligh CONVENER

AD HOC COMMITTEE RE SITES RESERVE (Min. 96)

The Ad hoc Committee re Sites Reserve was established in 2011 to 'explore ways and means of achieving more effective use of the Sites Reserve funds for the Presbyterian Church of Victoria' (GAV 2011, min 91.5).

The 2015 General Assembly, following the consideration of the committee's report and draft regulations, resolved to 'request Presbyteries to send responses to the ad hoc committee by 30 April' and to request 'the ad hoc committee to consider these responses and/or comments and prepare an amended proposal for the 2016 General Assembly' (GAV 2015, min 86.3).

The committee has received submissions and comments from presbyteries to the proposed new regulations. The committee is grateful to the presbyteries for the time which presbyteries have invested in completing this task and for the submissions and comments that were made.

The feedback from presbyteries highlight two common threads across the wider church. Firstly, the wider church lacks both a common understanding of the legal framework under which property is held within the PCV, and the need for such common understanding to be foundational to any attempt to achieve a more effective use of the Site Reserve Funds. Secondly, that in general presbyteries regarded the proposed system of levies as far too complex.

Consequently, the committee is proposing to seek from the Assembly a further year in which to finalise a different approach that considers the presbyteries feedback in the light of the legal framework surrounding the use of the Sites Reserve Fund.

Declarative Statement

In seeking to establish a common understanding of the legal framework surrounding the use of Sites Reserve Funds, the committee drafted a declarative statement (in close consultation with the Law Agent) that sought to encapsulate and clearly state this legal framework. To ensure that the committee's understanding was correct, it then sought the advice of Mr Michael Shand QC regarding the accuracy of the draft declarative statement. Mr Shand settled the wording of the statement that was produced in final form as the Declarative Statement in October 2013. Concurrently, Mr Shand provided the committee with a separate written opinion intended as an advice arising out of the legal position presented in the Declarative Statement. The 2014 Commission of Assembly received that Declarative Statement titled 'Holding and dealing with property within the church' and dated October 2013 (GAV 2014, min 12.1).

The Declarative Statement is an enunciation of the legal basis on which property is held within the PCV. It accurately reflects the relevant legal documents, including: Presbyterian Trusts Act 1890, Code Book of the PCV; and Model Trust Deeds.

Consequently, it is only right that the Declarative Statement acts as the foundation for a common understanding of how property is held within the PCV and for the framing of new regulations.

If the Assembly is to move forward, a correct understanding of how property is held

within the PCV is vital. This is true not only for congregations with Sites Reserve balances in their name but also in respect of the treatment of property within the PCV generally.

To facilitate future progress, the committee is proposing the Assembly formally acknowledge that the Declarative Statement is a true and correct representation of the way in which property is held within the PCV. To this end a copy of the Statement is attached as an Annexure to this report.

As the Declarative Statement represents the legal position, it is not open to the Assembly to agree or disagree, or to otherwise modify the statement. However, it is beneficial for the Assembly to acknowledge the legal position to help align the thinking and practice of the courts and committees of the church with each other and with civil law.

Voluntary giving

A number of presbyteries suggested that the proposed regulations did not facilitate gospel generosity, and that it would be better to encourage congregations to give willingly. One presbytery suggested that a state-wide request for voluntary contributions be made, such as a tithe of all existing balances not already designated for use. As the current regulations permit such giving (BIF regulation 10(b)(ii)), the committee is taking up this suggestion and recommending that the Assembly encourage congregations with Sites Reserve balances in their name to consider this seriously in the light of the broader needs of the church.

Andrew Bray CONVENER

ANNEXURE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA

HOLDING AND DEALING WITH PROPERTY WITHIN THE CHURCH

DECLARATIVE STATEMENT

October 2013

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Legislation of both the Victorian Parliament and the Presbyterian Church of Victoria (the Church) regulates the holding and dealing with property that is held for the purposes of the Church whether generally or for a particular congregation. That legislation includes
 - (a) the *Presbyterian Trusts Act* 1890 (Vic), as amended (**the Act**);
 - (b) the Statutory Rules made by the General Assembly pursuant to the Act:
 - (c) the Model Trust Deeds enrolled with the Registrar-General pursuant to the Act; and
 - (d) the Code Book of the Church containing rules and regulations.
- 1.2 The Presbyterian Church has been described as having a model where is a succession of committees at national, regional and local level, so that the decision of the local congregation may, in appropriate cases, be overturned by that of a general assembly¹. As Rule 1:7 states
 - "...the church is governed by ministers and representative elders acting in orderly association in a hierarchy of courts of the church by which its organic unity is maintained. These, in ascending orders, are the Session, the Presbytery and the General Assembly."
- 1.3 The General Assembly is thus the highest authority of the Church in Victoria. It is the supreme court of the Church: rule 5:1. In exercising the powers and authority conferred by law, it must act for the purposes of the Church in all its orders including not only the congregations but also the Presbytery and the wider Church. It must act in accordance with the constitutions of the Church, both national and Victorian and the standards of the Church as set out in its Code Book (rule 1:2, 3 and 4).

Attorney-General ex rel Elisha (1989) 37 NSWLR 293 at 315E per Young J.

1.4 Rule 1:8 provides for the congregation and people of the church –

"In accordance with the law and practice of the church, the people are organized in congregations within parishes or mission fields as arranged in each case by the Presbytery of the bounds. Every congregation is placed under the supervision of the Session (see rules 2:1 and 3:2)."

- 1.5 It is the duty of the board of management to administer the financial affairs of the congregation and to care for and maintain the congregational property in good order and repair (see rules 2:30, 88): rule 2:43. Every congregational organisation is required by rule 2:41, if it holds money in its own name or raises money regularly -
 - (a) to use a separate bank account in the name of the organisation, and to ensure that no money raised by or for the organisation is paid into a private bank account;
 - (b) to keep regular accounts of income and expenditure;
 - (c) to obtain the permission of the Board of Management before raising money by any special effort or appeal in the congregation;
 - (d) to submit annually to the Session a financial statement of accounts for the annual reporting period of the congregation audited by some competent person who is not a member of the organisation.
- 1.6 Rules 2:70 -72 specify further the duties of the Board of Management.

Gathers and distributes funds

70. The Board gathers the monetary contributions of the congregation, takes charge of them and of any other money received by or for the use of the congregation, and distributes them for the purposes for which they were contributed.

Keeps proper records of account

71. The Board keeps proper and adequate records of account and other necessary financial records, and, in so doing, obeys the directions contained in the rules that follow.

Bank accounts

72. The Board ensures that all money received for or on behalf of the congregation and all its payments pass through bank accounts held in the name of the congregation and not through private bank accounts.

2. Who are the trustees of Church property?

The Trusts Corporation

2.1 The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation (the Trusts Corporation) is a body corporate with perpetual succession. It has the power to sue and be sued and may acquire and hold any property in trust for the Church. It may receive any moneys which have been or may be given or

contributed by any person to be applied to any of the purposes of the Church: s5 of the Act.

- 2.2 The members of the Trust Corporation are appointed by the General Assembly: s12 of the Act. There are ten members, elected and appointed by the General Assembly and those members are also the members of the Board of Investment and Finance of the General Assembly.²
- 2.3 Upon the incorporation of the Trusts Corporation, by publication of the required notice in the Government Gazette on 28 November 1890, all property³ then held by any person or persons for or on behalf of the Church generally (but not property held for any existing congregation) became vested in the Trusts Corporation as the corporate trustee. Property which was held on behalf of or occupied or used by or for the purposes of any existing congregation of the Church or of the minister was excluded from vesting in that way and individual trustees continued in that role: s6 of the Act.

The option to transfer property to the Trusts Corporation

- 2.4 Section 7 of the Act gave trustees the option to transfer property held in their individual names to the Trusts Corporation, whether the trust was for Church purposes generally or for the purposes of a congregation of the Church.
- 2.5 Property in trust for a congregation: The Act provides as follows: From and after the registration of the resolution of General Assembly on 19 November 1890 for the constitution of the Trusts Corporation, where any persons hold any property on behalf of or occupied or used by or for the purposes of any congregation of the Church, the trustees or a majority of them may if they think fit –

² See the *Board of Investment and Finance Regulations*, reg 2 which superceded the statutory rules (rule 5.13) previously made by the General Assembly.

The Act in section 3 defines 'property' to include -

^{&#}x27;all property real and personal including money or securities for money held by or vested or purporting to be vested in or claimable by any person or persons either in trust generally for the said Church or for any congregation thereof or for any special purpose in connexion therewith or for the benefit or use of the members thereof as such or of any person or persons holding for the time being office therein'.

- (a) with the consent of a majority of its members and adherents present in person or by proxy at a meeting duly convened for that purpose; and
- (b) with the approval of the General Assembly⁴ consent to a transfer of the property to the Trusts Corporation upon the trusts to which the property is subject: s7 of the Act.
- 2.6 Property in trust for the Church: Similarly, where any persons hold any property in trust generally for or on behalf of the Church, the trustees or a majority of them may if they think fit and with the approval of the General Assembly consent to a transfer of the property to the Trusts Corporation upon the trusts to which the property is subject: s7 of the Act. This would apply to a case of property bequeathed by Will to individual trustees to hold for Church purposes.

Vacancies in the office of trustee

2.7 If-

- (a) the trustee or trustees of any property⁵ die or are absent from Victoria for more than 6 months in succession or cannot be found or resign or be removed from office or become incapable of holding property; and
- (b) those lawfully authorised to elect or appoint a successor or successors to that person or persons refuse or neglect to do so for the space of one month after being called upon by the Moderator to make such election or appointment; or
- (c) if there be no person lawfully authorised to elect or appoint that successor or successors

forthwith the Moderator may by certificate in or the effect of the prescribed form declare that there are no trustees of such property and thereupon the property shall vest in the Trusts Corporation: s9 of the Act.

Whilst the General Assembly Regulations, reg 4:9, gives some authority to the Board of Investment and Finance to consent on behalf of the Assembly to a sale lease or mortgage of property where in the opinion of the Presbytery and the Board the application is urgent, the regulation does not on its present terms extend to a transfer to the Trusts Corporation under s7.

See the definition of 'property' above in footnote 1.

- 2.8 As a result of the operation of the above provisions of the Act, many properties held for the purposes of the Church generally or of a congregation of the Church have become vested in the Trusts Corporation.
- 2.9 Whether the Trusts Corporation or individual trustees hold property in trust either for the purposes of the Church generally or of a congregation of the Church, the trusts in question are charitable purpose trusts. They bind the trustees to hold manage and deal with the property in a manner consistent with those trusts and applicable civil or Church laws. They are not private trusts for the benefit of individuals or the specific members of any congregation. In that sense, neither an individual nor a congregation nor its members can be said to have 'ownership' of the property.

3. The trusts on which property is held

The Trusts Corporation

3.1 Section 5 of the Act empowers the Trusts Corporation to acquire take and hold any property in trust for the Church and provides that it -

shall deal with all such property and securities so as to give effect to the trusts to which they shall be specially subject or when not subject to any express trust in such manner as this Act hereinafter provides or the General Assembly may from time to time direct, but so as not to interfere with the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in the enforcement of trusts.

- 3.2 The Trusts Corporation has a statutory duty to hold manage and deal with any property held or acquired by it-
 - (a) so far as the same is subjected to any express trust, in conformity with that expressed trust; and
 - (b) so far as the same is not subject to any express trust, in such manner as the General Assembly may from time to time direct,

and that property is subject, as to the management thereof, to the rules or regulations of the General Assembly in force for the time being which are applicable: s14 of the Act. The directions which the General Assembly can

See Presbyterian Church (NSW) Property Trust v Ryde Municipal Council (1978) 2 NSWLR 387 at 393C, 396E and 399C.

Wylde v Attorney-General (NSW) (1948) 78 CLR 224 per Latham CJ at 255

give are limited to what advances the purposes of the Church as they exist from time to time but not otherwise.⁸

An individual trustee or trustees - formal declaration of trust

- 3.3 An individual trustee or trustees who hold any property under a formal declaration of trust for the Church must deal with that property in conformity with that declared trust and otherwise subject to any applicable civil or Church laws.
- 3.4 The civil law includes
 - (a) the Presbyterian Trusts Act 1890 as amended;
 - (b) the statutory rules made by the General Assembly under the Act, and relevantly-
 - (i) the rule relating to the consent of the Moderator to dealings with property (rule 11); and
 - (ii) the rules relating to trustees of property held for the purposes of a congregation of the Church, not vested in the Trusts Corporation (rules 12-19);
 - (c) the Trustee Act 1958; and
 - (d) the *Charities Act* 1978, so far as applicable.
- 3.5 The Church laws are the rules and regulations contained in the Code Book of the Church which include the following:

Rule 2:30	Care of property - binding the board of management
Rule 2:31	Access to buildings
Rule 2:32	Use of buildings
Rule 2:33	Erection and alteration of buildings - binding the congregation
Rule 2:34	Sale lease purchase or mortgage of property - binding the
	congregation

The Regulations of the Church include the Board of Investment and Finance Regulations

Presbyterian Church (NSW) Property Trust v Ryde Municipal Council at 399C per Mahoney JA.

Where no formal declaration of trust - Property acquired for the use or benefit of the church (s18 of the Act)

- 3.6 Where property, present or future, is acquired by any person or persons for the use or benefit of the Church without any formal declaration of trust, the Act specifies the trusts on which the property must be held.
- 3.7 All property, present or future, acquired by any person or persons for the use or benefit of the Church without any formal declaration of trust must be held on the trusts of the Model Trust Deeds that are enrolled under the Act so far as the same may be applicable or any future alteration modification or variation of those Model Trust Deeds duly authorized by the General Assembly: s18 of the Act. Again, this section would seem to be operating principally in relation to 'real property'.
- 3.8 There are two Model Trust Deeds the first for a Church site or for another purpose in connection with the congregation approved by Presbytery. The second is for a site for a minister's manse or dwelling house. In each case, the Deed recites that the property held by the trustees does not belong to them beneficially (recital B).
- 3.9 A formal declaration of trust will normally be evidenced by an instrument or deed of declaration of trust, an instrument or deed of settlement of property on trust or a Will duly executed.
- 3.10 The provisions appear intended to supply certainty where otherwise the trustees would be left in doubt as to what trusts are impressed on the property in all the circumstances in which they acquired it.

The option to adopt the Model Trust Deeds for other property acquired

3.11 Where any property is held upon any trust or trusts other than those contained in the Model Trust Deeds or either of them, it may be resolved, with any required approvals, that the property shall from and after the passing of that resolution be held upon the trusts of the Model Trust Deeds or one of them, in

lieu of the trusts on which it is held. Section 19 of the Act regulates how the Model Trust Deeds can be adopted.

A. Local Church purposes

- 3.12 If the property is held on behalf of or occupied or used by or for the purposes of any congregation or the minister, to adopt the applicable Model Trust Deed, under s19
 - (a) the congregation must resolve to adopt the applicable Model Trust Deed, by a vote of the majority of the members and adherents present in person or by proxy at a meeting duly convened for that purpose; and
 - (b) the resolution must have the approval of
 - (i) the General Assembly;
 - (ii) the trustees or a majority of them; and
 - (iii) the person lawfully appointed as the ordained minister of that congregation.

B. General Church purposes

3.13 If the property is held for or on behalf of the Church generally and is not held on behalf of or occupied or used by or for the purposes of any congregation or the minister, to adopt the applicable Model Trust Deed, the General Assembly must under s19 resolve to adopt the applicable Model Trust Deed.

4. The Model Trust Deeds

The general scheme

4.1 The Model Trust Deeds enrolled under the Act have at least five key elements-

First, they state the overriding purposes of the trusts as being for the Church to be used as the General Assembly may direct. The General Assembly is the directing authority.⁹

Young J observed in Attorney-General ex rel Elisha (1989) 37 NSWLR 293 at 315E—
"The Presbyterian model is where is a succession of committees at national, regional and local level, so that the decision of the local congregation may, in appropriate cases, be overturned by that of a general assembly."

- Second, until otherwise directed by the General Assembly, the property is to be used as a site for the stated purpose church or other / manse.
- Third, the trustees must exercise a power when directed to do so by the congregation and not otherwise.
- Fourth, the trustees and the congregation must obey the rules and regulations of the Church.
- Fifth, the congregation may not direct the mortgage or sale of the property without the consent of the Assembly.

In that sense, whilst not strictly 'bare trustees', the trustees have very limited powers to act, independently of the board of management, the congregation and the General Assembly.

The Model Trust Deed for a church site

The trust purposes

- 4.2 In summary, the Model Trust Deed for a church site stipulates the following:
 - (a) The trustees must hold the property in trust for the Church and to permit the property to be to be used for such purposes and by such person or persons as the General Assembly may from time to time direct (clause 1(a) of the Model Trust Deed);

and until that direction

- (b) the trustees must hold the property to permit it to be used as a site for a church for the public worship of God by a congregation of the Church recognised by the General Assembly and who holds and shall continue to adhere to the standards of religious belief and of ecclesiastical government of the Church (clause 1(b)); and
- (c) to permit the Minister of the congregation together with the Elders and other office-bearers-
 - (i) to have free and uninterrupted enjoyment of the properties not only for the purposes of public worship but for such objects in connection with the affairs of the congregation as the Presbytery may approve (clause 1(c)(i)); and

(ii) to enter on the said land and hereditaments or a sufficient part or parts thereof to erect and build such church and other necessary buildings and from time to time alter pull down remove renew enlarge and repair the same (clause 1(c)(ii));

Building and repair works

- 4.3 When directed by the congregation, the trustees must erect and build the church and other necessary buildings and alter pull down remove renew enlarge and repair the same.
- 4.4 They may act only on the direction of the congregation, expressed by the vote of at least two-thirds of such of its members as shall be personally present at a public meeting called and held pursuant to notice in that behalf duly given in accordance with and conformity to the rules and regulations of the Church (the required two-thirds vote) (clause 1(b)(ii)). As already noted, the congregation is bound by the Code in this regard, including rule 2:33.

Mortgage

- 4.5 When directed by the congregation by the required two-thirds vote <u>and</u> with the consent of the Assembly, and not otherwise, the trustees must mortgage or charge the properties to raise funds for the completion extension or reparation of the buildings or the improvement of the property or for any other purposes of the congregation (clause 4). Again, the Code Book relevantly binds the congregation: rule 2:34.
- 4.6 The trustees must pay the proceeds of the mortgage to the Treasurer of the Assembly whose receipt shall be a sufficient discharge to the trustees (clause 5).
- 4.7 The Treasurer of the Assembly must deduct the costs and expenses of the mortgage, and then to pay the balance to the congregation or otherwise as may be directed by the Assembly, to be applied and disposed of in or towards the purposes for which the mortgage shall have been authorised (clause 5).

Lease

4.8 When directed by the congregation by the required two-thirds vote <u>and</u> with the approval of the Presbytery, and not otherwise, the trustees must lease the property (clause 6). Again, the Code Book relevantly binds the congregation: rule 2:34. The duty of the Presbytery is prescribed in rule 4:105 of the Code Book¹⁰.

Sale

- 4.9 When directed by the congregation by the required two-thirds vote <u>and</u> with the consent of the Assembly, and not otherwise, the trustees must sell the property (clause 5). Again, the Code Book relevantly binds the congregation: rule 2.34. Regulation 9 of the *Board of Investment and Finance Regulations* also applies.
- 4.10 The trustees must pay the proceeds of sale to the Treasurer of the Assembly whose receipt shall be a sufficient discharge to the trustees (clause 5). The Treasurer must hold the proceeds in trust in a Sites Reserve account: reg 10(a) of the *Board of Investment and Finance Regulations*.
- 4.11 The Treasurer of the Assembly must deduct the costs and expenses of the sale, and then discharge any encumbrances over the property and then to pay the balance to the congregation or otherwise as may be directed by the Assembly, to be applied and disposed of in or towards the purposes for which the sale shall have been authorised (clause 5). Regulation 10 of the *Board of Investment and Finance Regulations* also seeks to regulate this process.
- 4.12 Clause 14 of the Model Trust Deed deals with the case of a congregation ceasing to exist and reserves liberty to the Assembly to direct the trustees to sell or otherwise deal with the property.

The lease must be prepared in the name of the legal owner of the title as Landlord. In most cases this will be The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation. Where the property in question is held by local trustees, the lease should be in their name as trustees for the congregation. No other person is authorised to sign a lease or any other document relating to the property. The Trusts Corporation maintains a register of trustees for all church properties. The Board of Management should seek confirmation from the General Manager as to who are the registered trustees so that the lease can be properly drawn.

Obedience to the Rules of the Church made by the Assembly or the Presbytery

4.13 The trustees must obey and give effect to the orders rules decisions and appointments made and to be made by the Assembly and of the responsible Presbytery concerning every matter or thing whereon the Assembly or Presbytery may or shall be by the Model Trust Deed or the constitution of the Church declared to have authority (clause 3).

The Model Trust Deed for a manse site

- 4.14 The Model Trust Deed for a manse site has the same provisions as for a church site, except that the trustees must hold the property in trust for the Church and-
 - (a) to permit the property to be used as a site for a manse or minister's dwelling (clause 14(a));
 - (b) to permit the Minister for the time being of the congregation to have free and uninterrupted enjoyment of the property for that use (clause 14(b)); and
 - (c) to permit the Minister of the congregation together with the Elders and other office-bearers-
 - (i) to have free and uninterrupted enjoyment of the property for such other objects in connection with the affairs of the congregation as the Presbytery may approve (clause 14(b)); and
 - (ii) to enter on the property to erect and build such church and other necessary buildings and from time to time alter pull down remove renew enlarge and repair the same (clause 14(c));
- 4.15 Again, they may act only on the direction of the congregation, expressed by the required two-thirds vote. As already noted, the congregation is bound by the Code in this regard including rule 2.33.

5. The Moderator's consent

- 5.1 Subject to one exception, the transfer conveyance mortgage exchange or lease of Church land, whether held on the trusts of the Model Trust Deeds or otherwise, must be made with the consent in writing of the Moderator and shall have no force or effect without such consent: s20 of the Act.
- 5.2 The exception is the case of any mortgage or lease of any church land which the trustees by virtue of the Act or deed under which the same is held have at the time of the passing of the Act, that is 1890, power to mortgage or lease without the consent of the General Assembly, but such trustees shall nevertheless give notice in writing to the Moderator of any such mortgage or lease prior to the execution thereof.
- 5.3 The consent of the Moderator to any transfer, conveyance, mortgage, exchange, or lease, under section 20(1) of the Act must not be given unless a law agent of the Church has first given approval: Rule 11 of the Rules made under the Act by the General Assembly.¹¹

6. The congregation

6.1 Clause 10 of the Model Trust Deed provides –

And further that the said Trustees or Trustee shall have no power or authority to collect the revenues or to manage or interfere with the management of the temporal affairs of the said Congregation.

6.2 Rule 2:28 of the Code Book is directed to "the property of every congregation", meaning in the context, real property. It provides –

28. The property of every congregation, unless it is held under an Act of Parliament containing any specific contrary provision, is held by either The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation or other trustees, and is held under specific terms of trust and subject to the provisions of the Presbyterian Trusts Act 1890 and of rules made by the General Assembly relating to that Act (refer to Appendix Model Trust Deed).

The usual practice is for the Moderator and the Law Agent to endorse their consent on the original lease. The Law Agent is aware of the form of consent and seeking his early advice will avoid delays. However, the approval of the Law Agent and consent of the Moderator cannot be granted until the specific terms are known and the lease document is completed.

Normally, the appointment of The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation as trustees is preferred (see rules 4:103, 145).

6.3 The duties of the board of management have been noted above in paragraphs 1.5 and 1.6.

7. The Sites Reserve Fund

7.1 The Trusts Corporation has for many years maintained a fund known as the Sites Reserve Fund and deposited to that fund, keeping separate accounts, the proceeds of sale of Church properties and any interest accrued on those proceeds of sale.

The purpose of the Sites Reserve Fund

7.2 The property and buildings of the Church are its endowment. The purpose of the Sites Reserve Fund is to enable the denomination to maintain this endowment for the purposes declared in the Model Trust Deeds, that is to say, not only for the use of a congregation of the Church but for the best interests of the Church as a whole, as determined by the General Assembly.

7.3 By the Sites Reserve Fund, the Church:

- (a) preserves its endowment for use by the local congregation for the worship of God and other approved purposes; or
- (b) redeploys its assets elsewhere in cases where property is no longer best serving that purpose

as the General Assembly determines. The aim is to preserve the overall endowment of the Church and to provide resources to fund growth, expansion and restructure, free of having to meet the running costs of maintaining ministry.

- 7.4 Under the relevant provisions of the Model Trust Deeds, neither a congregation of the Church nor its elders or other office bearers are entitled to require the Treasurer of the Assembly to pay to them either the income or capital standing to the credit of the relevant account in the Sites Reserve Fund.
- 7.5 The Board of Investment and Finance Regulations of the Church regulate the operation of the sites reserve accounts in relation to both existing congregations and deceased congregations.
- 7.6 A congregation has itself no specific interest (in the strict legal sense) in the moneys in an account in the Sites Reserve Fund in the manner of a beneficiary of a private trust. It is not a separate legal entity; at best it is an unincorporated association of its members. As such it has no standing to require payment of any interest or principal moneys from the Sites Reserve Fund.
- 7.7 The Board of Investment and Finance, before making any decision on the distribution of moneys in an account in the Sites Reserve Fund, will where applicable take into account the needs and wishes of the congregation as to the application of proceeds of sale of property formerly enjoyed by that congregation.

ARCHIVIST (Min. 28)

With thanks to the Lord, and on behalf of the team, I would like to report reasonably steady progress. As well as our ongoing work, we can report that there are new vistas of opportunity likely to be opening for the Archive, a few years ahead here at South Yarra – the probability of a dedicated archive area in a new building on this site.

Our steady progress in maintenance of the collection is our first priority. This task is slow but thorough, and all three of us contribute to the same end. Val Kentler is involved in the design and maintenance of the database plus input of data, Irene Blaikie works at the first sorting of congregation and committee records, and Chris Palmer follows up with a second sorting, getting an overview, eliminating duplicates so that in most cases we keep one copy of a document and streamlining the total record making for easy access by researchers in the future.

Our aim is to get a balance between good coverage of material, as well as minimising the amount of space it takes up on the shelf.

This aim has been helped by closing the service to the general public which had been previously open for 18 years. The in-house service remains open. Given the constraints of two days employment per week, answering numerous queries and steady donations of material, reasonable progress had been unable to be made.

This year, the Essendon congregation was helped with historical material for a celebration and some donations were made to do with St Andrews Hospital – staff memoirs and raising money for the hospital by the 'Thistle Club' hospital auxiliary. There was also a donation rescued from a garage sale through Rev Ian Touzel concerning a past minister Rev Dr Sommerville. These are just a few examples of our normal activities.

We are excited about the probability of new housing for the archives, and are working to that end. When the Archive was moved out of the Assembly Hall in 2008, eight years ago, it was to be a temporary measure. Work is currently out of the vestry at South Yarra Presbyterian Church, which has to be very tidy, in space which is used constantly by others for different purposes. It isn't easy for the congregation as well. The arrangement with our off site storage provider has proved unsuitable, and hope for an opportunity at this year's General Assembly to say why. It's not only the storage unsuitability, but the time taken to deal with a large external organisation.

I would like to put a **staffing need** before you. The matter is becoming urgent and we need another 1-2 volunteers to help us on a weekly ongoing basis. Is there any mature person in your congregation who could get to South Yarra by car, train, tram or bus on a Tuesday? We would be delighted if you could help provide an answer for our need. Here's hoping!

Chris Palmer PCV ARCHIVIST

AUSTRALIAN PRESBYTERIAN WORLD MISSION (VIC) (Min. 50)

1. Committee

The committee has met 8 times since the October 2015 Assembly in 156 Collins Street and are very grateful to the Scots' Church team for both the practical meeting room and their assistance in preparing for our productive times together. Our meetings are full of good fellowship and are bathed in much prayer. We greatly value the unity we have in seeking to promote the urgent task of reaching the 'ends of the earth' with the good news of the grace of God in Jesus. Membership of the committee has changed significantly since the last Assembly with resignations tendered by the Secretary, Rev Dean Carroll (effective October 2015), the Personnel Officer, Elspeth Slater (effective February 2016) and the Convener, Rev Phil Simmonds (effective March 2016). The committee received these resignations noting that each of these committee members had contributed a huge amount of time and effort to the committee's work. Their input and fellowship has been sorely missed since their resignations and we thank them again for their faithful service to the Lord and his church in this regard. To fill the vacancies created by these resignations Rev Philip Burns was elected to the role of Secretary in November 2015, Douglas Bennett was elected as Convener in January 2016 and Mrs Lynette Ellis (who joined the committee in May 2016) was elected to the role of Personnel Officer in June 2016. We have also been pleased to welcome Mrs Pam Vandenberg as the second representative of the PWMU State Council, as well as Rev Tony Archer, Rev Dr Felix Chung and Mrs Wendy Moody as new members during the year.

2. Missionary Interviews, Retirees and Applicants

Apart from regular items of business, the committee also met with and interviewed the following missionaries on home assignment: Motor Isaac Yat, David and Lalit Clarke, Daniel and Courtney Denness, Laszlo and Eva Mihalyi, David and Lisa Pearce, Paul and Anthea Pearce, Michael Graham and Rhys and Rhondda Hall. We have also had our National Director, Rev Kevin Murray and our Safe Church Officer, Fiona Bligh as special guests at two of our meetings. The committee greatly values meeting this way with our missionaries as this gives them the opportunity to review and discuss first hand their experiences and/or concerns.

Two of our missionary teams have retired: John and Lynette Ellis (APWM Associates) from their ongoing roles at the Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Dehradun, India and David and Lisa Pearce (MAF) who began their overseas service in 2002. Both couples are held in high esteem by the committee. We have invited David to briefly address the Assembly in order that he may express his appreciation of the support given to him and his family by the wider church and so that the Assembly may also reflect upon the Pearces' contributions to world mission through their faithful ministry.

As part of processing new applicants, the committee also interviewed and subsequently approved Ben and Penny Teng from the Point Cook congregation for service with SIM in Bangladesh. The Tengs were subsequently commissioned by their home church on Sunday 5 June. At this point in time, the Tengs, along with Tumirin and Sheridan Indarto (Wycliffe and SIL), are continuing to seek full support to enable their departure for their respective fields of service. The committee has quite a number of pending applications for missionary service and these will, in time, enlarge and enrich our missionary team.

3. Missionary Poster

Members of the committee have been working hard to produce a new poster for the 2016 Assembly. We believe that the poster plays an important part in keeping our missionaries' faces before our congregations. This year's poster will be the smaller size variety and copies will be posted to each congregation. Extra copies will be available by request only at the Assembly.

4. Finances

We continue to praise God for his wonderful provision through the Simon Fraser Trust (\$45,000 per annum) which enables the committee, on behalf of the Assembly, to assist our missionaries while they are on home assignment with up to \$5,000 per missionary unit for rental, utilities, telephone and internet costs. We were also pleased to again apply the remainder of the Simon Fraser Trust allocation to provide as 'one off' donations toward our missionaries' superannuation funds: \$2,160 per couple and \$1,080 per single. An unexpected surplus at the end of the financial year meant that each of our missionaries received a \$500 surprise 'bonus' from the committee as well as the regular Christmas gifts each November. Our trust funds continue to provide support for our Vanuatu Partner Church missionaries plus scholarship assistance for Talua Ministry Training Centre (Vanuatu) and Presbyterian Theological Seminary Dehra Dun (India) students, support for Rick and Kayleen Manton (Mt Druitt, NSW) and Surendra and May'an Wesley (Mount Magnet, WA). Other matters of note under this heading include:

- Appointing Rev Tony Archer to head up a new portfolio entitled, 'Monitoring Missionary Finances'
- Providing airfares from India for the PWMU bursary student Chanreiso Lungleng
- Providing airfares for the team leaders of the 2017 PYV Mission Trip to Malawi

The committee greatly appreciates the continued support of John Vandenberg from the PCV Office who faithfully and carefully advises and administers the committee's finances.

5. Coins for Mission (C4M)

Titus 3:14 reminds us, 'And let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful.' The committee continues to praise God for the 45 Victorian churches that faithfully support C4M. In the last financial year, our missionaries have been blessed to receive \$36,000, assisting them to cover support shortfall, emergency health/medical as well as travel needs, repairs and purchases not covered by normal supply routes. Again, the committee wishes to point out that the Coins for Missions programme, which encourages every church attendee each Sunday to deposit \$2 in the C4M box, was never meant to be a substitution for a church's missionary giving, but as a supplementary effort. We keep this vision before us - if everyone in PCV churches was to give \$2 each Sunday we would collect over \$400,000 per annum for distribution in this way. Please prayerfully consider your participation and the wonderful blessings it provides to our missionaries. Our 'Coins' representatives are Rev Len and Mrs Wendy Pearce, who are willing to visit any church anywhere in Victoria from Mildura to Orbost, in the cause of C4M. They can be contacted at coins@apwmvic.org.au.

6. Cars for missionaries on Home Assignment

We continue to provide, by God's grace and provision, vehicles for the use of our missionaries who are on home assignment. This arrangement has continued to work

smoothly and the supervision of our 3 cars is now the responsibility of Dr Noel Johnston who can be contacted at cars@apwmvic.org.au.

7. Prayer Updates

We also send out a bi-monthly Prayer Update to the PCV email network and other interested parties. The update gives the latest news regarding missionary movements and a summary of prayer needs. If you or your congregation are not included in the circulation of the update and would like to be, please email secretary@apwmvic.org.au with that request.

8. Mission Lunch

Last year's Mission Lunch was a great success with approximately 110 people gathering to enjoy good food and to hear Rev John and Mrs Lyn Ellis speak on the work of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Dehradun, North India. This year's speaker is APWM Associate, Michael Graham, who has had an amazing ministry in India and now Northern Thailand. The primary purpose of the Mission Lunch is to build a bridge between our missionaries and the members of the Assembly, so that we can get to know who they are, what they do, what they need and how we can be their partners in mission. The committee wishes to thank the Assembly for previous years of faithful support for the Mission Lunches and looks forward to your continued support.

9. Partner Churches and Partner Mission Agencies

We have been enabled to continue, in conjunction with APWM National, to support and encourage our relationship with PTS India and our Presbyterian Partner Churches in South Sudan, Malawi, Zambia, Myanmar, Vanuatu and Japan. We have also agreed to support the cooperative work in Timor Leste, but nothing practical has yet come to hand. In addition, we seek to work closely with the many Partner Mission Agencies within our country, in order to provide a more comprehensive pastoral service to our missionaries in the field and on home assignment.

10. Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union

The PWMU State Council has continued to take a strong interest in the work of our committee and our missionary team across the world and continues to be represented on our committee through two representatives. We thank them for their support and generosity, interest in and love for our missionaries while on the field and at home.

11. APWM National

APWM VIC has two members (the Convener and Noel Johnston) on the National Executive Committee, which meets annually in Sydney for the AGM and for an additional 3 meetings throughout the year. We greatly appreciate the support and encouragement received from the APWM National Director, Rev Kevin Murray and the members of the National Committee.

12. **GMP** (again!)

Although our attempt to change the name of the General Mission Program via overture at the 2015 Assembly was defeated and although the Trust Corp/BIF was unwilling to make the requested change themselves, we have not given up! We will again present an overture to the Assembly requesting that GMP become 'GAP' (Gospel Advancement Program) in order that the often misunderstood reference to

'mission' in 'GMP' might not be confused with a congregation's giving to 'world mission'.

13. Safe Church and Privacy

We are grateful to our Safe Church Facilitator, Fiona Bligh, who has encouraged and enabled us as a committee to get our heads around the issue of privacy with regard to the keeping of records (application papers etc.) and also ensuring that when our missionaries return on home assignment that they are 'Safe Church trained'. Thank you Fiona for your help in this.

14. Presbyterian Theological Seminary (PTS), Dehradun, Nth India

The committee is strongly supportive of the proposal to be brought to the Assembly by the Rev David Palmer requesting that the Assembly, through an increase of \$10,000 in the 2017 allocation of GMP, fully fund a faculty chair at the PTS. There are numerous factors that indicate this would certainly help cement our relationship with PTS. Some of these factors include:

- The GAA is about to enter into a partnership relationship with the Reformed Presbyterian Church of India (of which PTS is a part)
- A strong relationship has already been established through the ministry of Rev John and Mrs Lyn Ellis over their 15 years of faithful service
- A number of PTS faculty members have received further training at our PCA Colleges (including Chanreiso Lungleng as mentioned above)
- Some PTS students currently receive scholarship grants from within the PCV We hope that the Assembly will warmly receive and act upon this proposal.

15. Rick and Kayleen Manton

As a result of communication with APWM National as to how we can best offer pastoral care to Rick and Kayleen in their ministry at Mount Druitt, APWM National agreed that it would be in Rick and Kayleen's best interests if they were transferred to the care of APWM NSW. This course of action has now been completed. It is not anticipated that this will affect our financial support of their work in the immediate future and will also mean that the Mantons will have the benefit of increased interest, oversight and support from the closest and most appropriate state committee.

16. Purchase of a second 'people mover'

It has just recently come to the Committee's attention that there are at least two APWM Vic missionary families returning for Home Assignment in late 2016 and for the first 5 or 6 months of 2017 who will be seeking the use of one of our fleet of available cars. However, both of these families have (or will have – as one of the families is expecting an addition in March) three children and unfortunately, the Committee only has one car, a Toyota Tarago, which is available to meet the needs of a larger family, especially when child seats are required.

The Committee has been monitoring the 2002 Holden Commodore (which once was the car of the previous Clerk of Assembly) for some time with the plan to upgrade it to something more 'family friendly'. While the Commodore is running well and is in reasonable condition, the Committee believes that the time has come to sell it and purchase another 'people mover' in its place.

The Committee now seeks the Assembly's approval for a variation in our 2016/17 budget to enable that expenditure both to meet the pressing need for now and the years ahead, given that just under half of our missionary team at present consist of

families with at least two children and four missionary families now have four children.

Douglas Bennett CONVENER

Australian Presbyterian World Mission

General Operations			Year Ended 30	Oth June 2016
Statement of Income and Expenditure				
Income:				
General Mission Programme				28,445
General Donations and Gifts				1,732
Common Fund Interest				66,687
Profit/(Loss) on sale of Asset				3,682
Total Income				100,546
Expenditure:				
Grants				53,295
Missionaries Superannuation Missionaries Motor Vehicle Expenses				15,000 12,225
Committee General Expenses				2,198
Total Expenditure				82,718
Surplus/(Deficit) on General Operations				17,828
Movements in Funds				
Balance 1/7/15				213,203
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)				17,828
Add Back Depreciation				4,734
Balance 30/6/16				235,765
Perpetual Funds				
Balance 30/6/16				307,671
Overseas Appeals				
	Opening Bal.	Donations	Payments	Balance
Malawi	0	14,175	14,175	0
Coins for Mission Zambia	1,206 100	35,918 9,300	32,195 9,400	4,929 0
Zambia	1,306	59,393	55,770	4,929
Specific Trust Accounts				
Statement of Income & Expenditure				
	Vanuatu	Beatty	Bone	Dehra Dun
	<u>Trusts</u>	Trust	Bequest	Trust
Income:				
Common Fund Interest	18,807	14,780	7,795	4,607
Total Income	18,807	14,780	7,795	4,607
Expenditure:				
Grants	23,400	15,000	25,000	6,159
Total Expenditure	23,400	15,000	25,000	6,159
Surplus/(Deficit) on Specific Trusts	(4,593)	(220)	(17,205)	(1,551)
Movements in Funds				
Balance 1/7/15	116,950	123,248	71,250	16,261
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	(4,593)	(220)	(17,205)	(1,551)
Balance 30/6/16	112,356	123,028	54,045	14,709
Perpetual Trust Accounts				
Balance 30/6/16	41,451			25,000

BELGRAVE HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL (Min. 70)

The school continues to grow as a vibrant Christian community providing not only an excellent learning environment for students to grow in their knowledge and understanding of the wonders of God's creation and all that he enables mankind to discover and experience, but also facilitating the active involvement of parents and extended family members in the life of the school. Through its wide reach into the surrounding community the school serves as a significant witness of the Gospel to many people.

It is extremely gratifying to note that from its humble beginnings and early struggles the school has, through God's grace, developed into a position where it is highly regarded throughout the region. As a leading figure in the local community recently put it, "Belgrave Heights Christian School is the school of choice in the Dandenongs".

Enrolments at the school currently stand at close to 700 students, who are taught by 47 Christian teachers, supported by our highly effective chaplain and 27 non-teaching staff. The student-teacher ratio is around 15 to 1.

One of the greatest blessings enjoyed by the school is the extremely competent and energetic management group, consisting of the Principal, Mr Andy Callow, the Business Manager, Mr Glenn Campbell, and their support team. Without people of this calibre in these positions it would be impossible to run a school as successfully as BHCS is being run today. That is why the School Council continually gives prayerful thanks to God for this wonderful provision and pray that he will continue to uphold staff daily as they seek to serve him in teaching and guiding the young minds under their direction.

Throughout the year a number of special events are held to give students the opportunity to engage with people, ideas, and activities designed to enlarge their understanding of life and their vision of the world around them. Among several others, these included Grandparents' Day and an Easter Service.

Grandparents' Day

The event was extremely well attended in spite of heavy rains (around 200 visitors). The day started with a morning tea, followed by an address from the Principal on the theme of inheritance, with emphasis on the enormous value of relationships between grandparents and grandchildren.

Easter Service

Our Easter service this year was held on the last day of term 1 with around 900 people attending, including students, parents and friends. This annual event provides opportunity not only to encourage the Christians within the school, but also to share the wonderful story of God's victory over sin and death with those present who as yet do not have Christ in their lives.

Special thanks to Mr Warwick Davidson for his 26 years of service as Chairman of the BHCS Council

At the Annual General Meeting of the School Council in May, Warwick Davidson stepped down as Chairman, having stood faithfully at the helm for the remarkable period of 26 years. During his tenure the school experienced its remarkable

development, weathered many storms and reached its current enviable position among Christian schools.

Not only did Warwick contribute his knowledge about education and teaching to the development of the school, but most importantly, he presided over the meetings and work of the council with a composed and gentle manner to which the continuous harmony within the council over these many years can undoubtedly be attributed. We are most grateful that Warwick has offered to continue serving on the council in the capacity of a regular member.

Tribute to Mrs Isabel Bell

If there is one person about whom it may honestly be said, that she made the most vital contribution to the establishment of the BHCS, it is undoubtedly Isabel Bell. The school community and the wider Presbyterian Church mourn the loss of this remarkable woman who served her Lord faithfully in so many ways. Among these was to be the champion for the establishment of BHCS.

In the first weeks, months and even years, when the fledgling school was at its most vulnerable, it was Isabel who worked and prayed with incredible zeal that inspired all around her to give of their best in setting the school on its feet. Not even the great physical distance between her home in Sunshine and the school in Belgrave Heights prevented her from being the driving force behind its early development.

For 15 years, Isabel travelled from Sunshine to Belgrave Heights on a regular basis as she served in the position of Secretary of the School Council and chief trouble-shooter. Having seen the school through many difficulties, and even the very near reality of having to close its doors, she was able to see the rich fruit of her labours and enjoy following the progress of many students as they received their education in a Christian environment, including 9 of her grandchildren and 5 of her great-grandchildren.

Leadership development

Our Principal, Mr Andy Callow, has been offered the opportunity to participate in a professional development program run over two years by the Harvard Graduate School of Education. This program allows selected Principals to identify the leadership practices needed to identify and implement school innovations for 21st century learning. This is a limited invitation for selected, high-achieving Principals with a record of leadership. These are Principals with more than seven years' experience and who are recognised in the education community for their role in a respected school.

Andy also continues to play an increasingly prominent role in the wider Christian schools movement on a state and national level

Vital school bus service

The school operates its own fleet of 4 modern buses catering to a variety of locations including Berwick/Narre Warren, Boronia, Ferntree Gully and Rowville, as well as Emerald and the Southern Dandenong Ranges. This extensive service makes it possible for 218 students from a wide area to have access to the Christian learning environment at BHCS.

Property matters

While the school's building program has settled down somewhat after a long period of high activity, a substantial extension to the administration building has just been completed, providing excellent facilities for the management team to carry out the myriad of tasks and duties required to run such a thriving organisation. A new caféstyle staff room provides a comfortable area for teachers to unwind, have informal meetings, or simply catch up with colleagues, while looking out across an outdoor deck into the native bush-land that surrounds the school.

The next major project: A proposed land development joint venture with the Belgrave Heights Presbyterian Church

The school has put forward a proposal to the local church regarding a possible joint venture to develop new facilities on the land adjacent to the school. This land is currently held by the Presbyterian Church for the use of the local congregation and does not as yet have a building on it that can be used as a church. The congregation is currently, and has for most of the past 31 years, used facilities within the school.

A preliminary design of this multi-purpose building which has been prepared by an architect features: a flexible auditorium that can be configured in a variety of sizes to seat 75, 150, or 360 people, an additional meeting room that could accommodate up to 30 people (in theatre style seating), offices, storage spaces, rooms for small group meetings, two kitchens suitable for catering to small or larger groups, a large covered outdoor area, BBQ facilities, and ample toilets.

This building would make flexible and ample provision for worship and fellowship activities as well as meeting the need for music and drama tuition and housing a performing arts theatre.

If, as the school strongly desires, the church sees this proposal as a mutually beneficial venture, the two bodies could work together to establish terms for joint use of the facility. The aim would be to establish the best possible use of the land. Currently such use is hampered by the inefficiency of separate ownership of parts of the property. Major traffic flow issues and inadequate parking areas are two of the products of such inefficiency.

By the grace of God, the school has the financial resources to fund the \$4-5 million estimated construction cost, and the management experience to move forward in establishing a facility that would provide for the immediate and ongoing worship and ministry needs of the church and the educational needs of the school. The provision of the land required would enable the project to proceed, making the best use of a beautiful property. Our prayer is that we can find a way forward as soon as possible.

BHCS continues to keep the light of the Gospel shining in the Dandenongs and beyond

In these days when the Christian church is much maligned by the secular world, it never ceases to amaze us how willing and keen unbelieving parents are to enrol and pay for their children to be educated at BHCS. This in spite of the fact they are very openly advised during the enrolment process that in sending their child to the school there is the very real possibility the child will become a Christian. Praise be to God that it is not uncommon for this possibility to become a reality at BHCS.

In terms of spreading the gospel in our day, a Christian school such as Belgrave Heights, with an open enrolment policy, is proving to be one of the most effective means of reaching large numbers of people with the message of salvation in Christ. With more than 400 families connected to the school, most of whom have no church connection, BHCS continues to be an active witness, 5 days a week, to many souls in need of Christ.

May God continue to bless the work of BHCS and use it for the expansion of his kingdom and his eternal glory.

Mr Dirk Jackson CHAIRMAN

BOARD OF INVESTMENT AND FINANCE (Min. 20)

Background

The Board of Investment and Finance (the Board) is elected by the General Assembly. Its regulations are approved by the General Assembly, as for any other Committee. 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 of, 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 use of 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:

Mr Iain Bramley Chairman, Investment Committee

Mr Tony Arnold Investment Committee

Rev Andrew Bray Audit Committee
Mr Geoff Cox Audit Committee

Rev Stephen Deroon Investment Committee

Mr Matthew Duke Audit Committee (Convener)

Mr Andrew Letcher Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Investment Committee

(Convener)

Rev Barry Oakes Audit Committee
Mr Mark Smith Audit Committee
Mr Jerry Tharapos to June 2016

On being informed by Presbytery of Gippsland in March that it was conducting an inquiry into a complaint raised against Mr Smith and that he had stood down during the inquiry, the BIF offered six months leave of absence to Mr Smith. Mr Smith subsequently accepted that offer in June 2016.

Mr Geoff Cox has resigned from the Board of Investment and Finance effective from September 2016. The Board expresses its thanks to Mr Cox for his valuable contribution and service since joining the Board of Investment and Finance in October 2013.

Mr Jerry Tharapos resigned from the Board of Investment and Finance in June 2016 due to work commitments.

The Board nominates Mr Stuart Williamson and Mr James Bligh to fill the vacancies arising from these resignations.

Mr Williamson is a Certified Financial Planner employed with Bridgeport Financial Services. He entered the financial services industry in 2001 after a short career in engineering. Mr Williamson has a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering from RMIT and an Advanced Diploma in Financial Planning. He has served on the Boards of Management at Bundoora Presbyterian Church and more recently for 7 years at Heidelberg Presbyterian Church.

Mr Bligh is employed with NAB as a Senior Manager, Commercial Feasibility. He has worked in a variety of roles within the information technology field over the last 20 years. Mr Bligh has a Bachelor of Science and a Bachelor of Commerce both from the University of Melbourne. He has served as a director on the Board of St Andrews Christian College since 2009 and is currently Chairman of that Board. He worships with his family at Eltham Presbyterian Church.

Bequests

The following bequests were received during the year:

Estate	Proceeds	Details
Jean Brown Sampson	\$20,000	Aged Care
Harold Thomas Swanton	\$87,741	To PCV Theological College to be dedicated to the memory of Rev Prof Robert Swanton
Walter Lawrence	\$10,000	PWMU
Edna Marion Robinson	\$111,588	For the general purposes of the PCV.
Stella Day	\$4,596	For Presbyterian Inland Mission, PCA

The funds have been applied in accordance with the terms of the bequest and allocated to the relevant committee of PCA entity, with the exception of the Edna Marion Robinson bequest which is for the general purposes of the PCV. For the time being these funds are held within the funds of the General Assembly as unallocated. The BIF will bring a recommendation for the application of these funds to the General Assembly or Commission of Assembly at a future date.

Honoraria

The Board recommends that honoraria paid to the Deputy Clerk and Business Convener be revised in accordance with the normal practice based on the CPI to the following amounts:

Deputy Clerk \$2,800 Business Convener \$870

In accordance with the Code 5.16c the Board has fixed the Law Agent's retainer for the 2016/17 year at \$36,000.

Assembly Rate

The Board recommends that a zero rate be set for the 2016-17 year.

Sites Reserve Accounts

The Sites Reserve Account holds funds which are the proceeds of sale of church property. The following is a summary of movements in the accounts for the year:

	2015/16	2014/15
	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July	21,604,694	18,678,456
Plus		
Deposits from Sale of Property	1,036,292	2,939,697
Interest & Other Income	1,313,625	1,307,790
Capital Gain/(Loss) on Separate Investments	(508,605)	53,892
Less		
Capital purchases / works as per BIF Reg10 (b)(i)	(505,614)	(584,727)
Any other purpose as per BIF 10 (b) (ii)	(88,500)	(40,000)
Interest paid to congregations BIF Reg 10 (a)	(419,123)	(478,990)
Deceased congregations BIF Reg 10 d (i)	(14,252)	(145,545)
St Kilda property reclassified	-	(125,878)
Balance at 30 June	22,418,518	21,604,694

The Board awaits the report and recommendations of the ad hoc Sites Reserve committee which was constituted at the October 2011 General Assembly.

General Mission Program receipts – 2015/16.

The total of the General Mission Program for 2015/16, as approved by the 2015 Commission of the General Assembly, was \$177,350. As at 30 June 2016, the subscriptions against the allocations for 2015/16 total \$170,481 or approximately 96% of the total General Mission Program allocated to presbyteries, compared to 99% for the prior year. Of the allocated sums \$6,891 (prior year \$6,434) was not received. This represents 4% of the total allocation. The BIF is pleased to see that almost all parishes have paid their allocations for the year. The BIF commends the great majority of congregations which have responded so well to this program of the

Church in Victoria. The BIF strongly commends those presbyteries and parishes which have subscribed their allocations in full.

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 2016.

Capital Fund

The interest rate charged on Capital Fund loans is 3.0% a year. The costs of funds borrowed from the Trusts Corporation is 5.0% a year. The surplus of \$114,392 for the year was transferred to the Property Development Fund (2015 \$87,071). A summary of accounts in relation to the Capital Fund follows:

	2015/16	2014/15
	\$	\$
Receipts		
Interest on loans to congregations	73,908	81,666
Interest from Common Fund	183,059	181,520
Other Investment Income	1,699	2,045
Total Income	258,666	265,232
Payments		
Interest paid on loans from Common Fund	142,207	176,618
Interest paid on depositors funds	1,527	1,543
Grant to Property Development Fund	111,392	87,071
Total Expenditure	258,666	265,232
Surplus	0	0
Balance of Capital Fund Reserve	1,498,499	1,497,775
Deposits held for congregations,	76,019	77,945
Loans to Congregations and Schools	3,171,906	2,432,671

The Capital Fund continues to have considerable capacity to lend to congregations, and the BIF welcomes applications for appropriate projects. Monthly repayments for new loan applications are calculated based on an interest rate of 3% over 20 years. The maximum loan amount is \$1 million.

Property matters

Since the last meeting of the Assembly approval has been given under BIF regulation 9(a) for the following urgent property transaction

 Lease of Cheltenham manse at 8 Park Road Cheltenham (Vol 5220 Fol 845) for up to 3 years

Ministers' Holiday Housing

54 Ministers', Home Missionary or Missionary families have enjoyed a week of holiday under the scheme this year, in one of the five available locations. The fee

this year payable by these families was \$177, with the rest of the rental cost for each week, usually between \$1000 and \$2000, being provided from the Charles Balfour Trust.

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

Additional Expenditure

The BIF has approved the following amendments to committee budgets in accordance with BIF regulation 5(g)(ii). The first two relate to the 2015/16 financial year:

BIF Minute	Committee	Amount \$	Purpose
139/16	TEC	\$5,000	architects fees in relation to plans for an extension to the library
140/16	TEC	\$3,000	library wages
329/16	CENC	\$3,000	Youth ministry research

At the time of drafting this report the METRO Committee has not consulted the BIF regarding the financial implications of the committee's policy settings with a view to producing a sustainable budget as requested in minute 11.7 of the May 2016 Commission of Assembly.

Proceeds of sale of property relating to deceased congregations

In accordance with BIF regulation 10(d) the Board approved the allocation of the Kilmore and Tallangata Sites Reserve as follows:

- a) up to \$150,000 to Kyabram for an extension to the church to provide kitchen and toilet facilities
- b) the balance (approximately \$410,000) to Shepparton towards stage 2 of the worship centre, noting that Shepparton has its own Sites Reserve funds as well

with the proviso that the funds must be applied to the nominated projects within 24 months.

The Board also approved the payment of \$12,559.24 less GST from the proceeds of the sale of the Garvoc property to meet the cost of ISR insurance for the Terang congregation.

Emergency Funding

There has been no request made to the BIF for emergency funding under the provisions authorised by the Assembly in 2005 (GAV 2005, min 83.5, BB p88) since last reporting to the Assembly.

Scots' Church Properties Trust Accounts

A copy of the Statement of Receipts and Payments of the Scots Church Properties Trust for the year ended 30 June 2016 was received on 29 September 2016.

Clause 8 of the Scots Church Properties Trust Deed states:

8. AND IT IS HEREBY FURTHER DECLARED that the said trustees or trustee shall cause to be kept proper books of account of all receipts and payments of moneys by the said trustees or trustee and shall prior to the first day of October annually cause the same to be properly audited and shall deposit a statement of accounts when audited with the treasurer of the Assembly or such officer as the Assembly shall in writing notify to the said trustees or trustee.

The Board of Investment and Finance (BIF) as Assembly Treasurer presents these accounts to the Assembly. Having only just received them, the BIF is not in a position to comment further. However, we do appreciate that the trustees have substantially complied with their obligations under clause 8 and have made the accounts available to the Assembly prior to the first of October.

Iain Bramley CHAIRMAN

	Allocation	Received for	Received in Excess of	Received for	TOTAL Received in	BALANCE of Allocation NOT	TOTAL Received for 2015/16 as % of
	2015/16	2015/16	Allocation	Prior Year	2015/16	Received	Allocation
PRESBYTERY OF BALLARAT							
Total Allocated to Presbytery	7,272						
Ararat	508	508			508		100.0%
Ballarat North/Mt Prospect/Smeaton	1,016	1,016			1,016		100.0%
Ballarat South	1,320	1,320			1,320		100.0%
Ballarat West/Lexton	1,158	1,158			1,158		100.0%
Carisbrook/Castlemaine	934	934			934		100.0%
Daylesford	244	244			244		100.0%
Horsham/Marnoo	426	426			426		100.0%
Kaniva/Nhill	975	975			975		100.0%
Skipton/Lismore	691	691			691		100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	7,272	7,272			7,272		100.0%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid		,			,		
PRESBYTERY OF BENALLA							
Total Allocated to Presbytery	9,595						
Benalla	2,495	2,495			2,495		100.0%
Broadford	595	595			595		100.0%
Numurkah	979	979			979		100.0%
Seymour/Nagambie/Yea	672	672			672		100.0%
Shepparton/Stanhope/Kyabram	1,152	1,152			1,152		100.0%
Tatura	1,612	1,612			1,612		100.0%
Wangaratta/Yarrawonga/Myrtleford	1,420	1,420			1,420		100.0%
Wodonga	672	672			672		100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	9,596	9,596			9,596		100.0%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid							
PRESBYTERY OF FLINDERS							
Total Allocated to Presbytery	22,729						
Aspendale	966	966			966		100.0%
Brighton	1,212	1,212			1,212		100.0%
Cardinia/Koo-Wee-Rup	158	158			158		100.0%
Cheltenham	1,822	1,822			1,822		100.0%
Clarinda	549	•			·	549	
Clayton	3,718	3,718			3,718		100.0%
Cranbourne	1,222	•				1,222	
Dandenong	1,173	1,173			1,173		100.0%
Dromana/Mornington	1,870	1,870			1,870		100.0%
Frankston	2,954	2,954			2,954		100.0%
Mordialloc	1,101	1,101			1,101		100.0%
Somerville	938	938			938		100.0%
Sorrento/Rye	3,966	3,966			3,966		100.0%
South East Samoan	1,079	1,079			1,079		100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	22,728	20,957			20,957	1,771	92.2%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid						7.8%	

	Allocation 2015/16	Received for 2015/16	Received in Excess of Allocation	Received for Prior Year	TOTAL Received in 2015/16	NOT 2015/16 as % of
PRESBYTERY OF GEELONG						
Total Allocated to Presbytery	6,649					
Colac	1,210	1,210			1,210	100.0%
Geelong North	1,809	1,809			1,809	100.0%
Geelong West	1,729	1,729			1,729	100.0%
Moorabool	744	744			744	100.0%
The Leigh	1,157	1,157			1,157	100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	6,649	6,649			6,649	100.0%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid						
PRESBYTERY OF GIPPSLAND						
Total Allocated to Presbytery	7,688					
Bairnsdale	707	707			707	100.0%
Drouin	3,115	3,115			3,115	100.0%
Leongatha	221	221			221	100.0%
Moe/Yarram	1,326	1,326			1,326	100.0%
Morwell	1,348	1,348			1,348	100.0%
Sale	88	88			88	100.0%
Warragul	884	884			884	100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	7,688	7,688			7,688	100.0%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid	-,	1,000			-,	
PRESBYTERY OF KILNOORAT Total Allocated to Presbytery	11,654					
		000			000	400.00/
Camperdown/Terang	990	990			990	100.0%
Hamilton	1,834 900	1,834			1,834 900	100.0%
Heywood/Portland		900				100.0%
Koroit/Port Fairy Noorat	1,150	1,150			1,150	100.0%
	890	890			890	100.0%
Warrnambool PRESBYTERY TOTAL	5,890	5,890			5,890	100.0% 100.0%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid	11,654	11,654			11,654	100.0%
r er centages subscribed/unipaid						
PRESBYTERY OF MAROONDAH	40.000					
Total Allocated to Presbytery	13,663					
Belgrave Heights	724	724			724	100.0%
Blackburn	475	475			475	100.0%
Croydon Hills	2,148	2,148			2,148	
Donvale	6,120	6,120			6,120	100.0%
Heathmont	1,099	1,099			1,099	100.0%
Kirkbrae	100	100			100	100.0%
Mt Evelyn	999	999			999	100.0%
Warburton	749	749			749	100.0%
Woori Yallock	1,249	1,249			1,249	100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	13,663	13,663			13,663	100.0%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid						

	Allocation 2015/16	Received for 2015/16	Received in Excess of Allocation	Received for Prior Year	TOTAL Received in 2015/16	NOT	Received for 2015/16 as % of
PRESBYTERY OF MELBOURNE EAST							
Total Allocated to Presbytery	36,423						
Arabic	1,130	1,130			1,130		100.0%
Ashburton	1,555	1,555			1,555		100.0%
Auburn	1,650	1,650			1,650		100.0%
Burwood Community	2,338	2,338			2,338		100.0%
Camberwell	7,211	7,211			7,211		100.0%
Canterbury	3,679	3,679			3,679		100.0%
Caulfield/Elwood	3,205	3,205			3,205		100.0%
Gardenvale East	364	364			364		100.0%
Hawthorn	1,862	1,862			1,862		100.0%
Korean, Balwyn	2,152					2,152	
Malvern	3,151	3,151			3,151		100.0%
South Yarra	3,751	3,751			3,751		100.0%
St Kilda / Balaclava	1,598					1,598	
Surrey Hills	2,777	2,777			2,777		100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	36,423	32,673			32,673	3,750	89.7%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid						10.3%	
PRESBYTERY OF MELBOURNE NORTH							
Total Allocated to Presbytery	26,759						
Bundoora	4,216	4,216			4,216		100.0%
Eltham	3,950	3,950			3,950		100.0%
Epping	2,656	2,656			2,656		100.0%
Heidelberg	2,077	2,077			2,077		100.0%
Hume	602	602			602		100.0%
Kangaroo Ground	1,653	1,653			1,653		100.0%
Reservoir	3,295	3,295			3,295		100.0%
Samoan	2,826	2,826			2,826		100.0%
Valley	1,867	1,867			1,867		100.0%
Westminster Community Tem'towe	733	733			733		100.0%
Whittlesea/Mernda	2,875	2,875			2,875		100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	26,750	26,750			26,750		100.0%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid							
PRESBYTERY OF MELBOURNE WEST	00 500						
Total Allocated to Presbytery	29,592	0.10			2.12		100.00:
Brimbank	848	848			848		100.0%
Clifton Hill	577	577			577		100.0%
Darebin	894	894			894		100.0%
Essendon	1,208	1,208			1,208		100.0%
Gisborne	942	942			942		100.0%
Melton	1,300	1,300	0.4		1,300		100.0%
Point Cook	542	573	31		573		105.7%
Scots Melbourne/Flemington	17,886	17,886			17,886		100.0%
Sunshine	1,364	1,364			1,364		100.0%
West Footscray	942	942			942		100.0%
Williamstown	1,752	1,752			1,752		100.0%
Wyndham _	1,337	1,337			1,337		100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	29,592	29,623	31		29,623		100.1%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid							

	Allocation 2015/16	Received for 2015/16	Received in Excess of Receive Allocation Prior	TOTAL ed for Received in Year 2015/16		TOTAL Received for 2015/16 as % of Allocation
PRESBYTERY OF NORTH WESTERN VIO	CTORIA					
Total Allocated to Presbytery	5,326					
Bendigo	1,550	1,550		1,550		100.0%
Eaglehawk	792	792		792		100.0%
Northern Lakes (Kerang/Pyramid Hill/Swan Hill)	1,370				1,370	
Rochester	1,309	1,309		1,309		100.0%
Sunraysia	305	305		305		100.0%
PRESBYTERY TOTAL	5,326	3,956		3,956	1,370	74.3%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid					25.7%	
SUMMARY						
Total Allocated to Presbyteries	177,350					
BALLARAT	7,272	7,272		7,272		100.0%
BENALLA	9,595	9,596		9,596		100.0%
FLINDERS	22,729	20,957		20,957	1,771	92.2%
GEELONG	6,649	6,649		6,649		100.0%
GIPPSLAND	7,688	7,688		7,688		100.0%
KILNOORAT	11,654	11,654		11,654		100.0%
MAROONDAH	13,663	13,663		13,663		100.0%
MELBOURNE EAST	36,423	32,673		32,673	3,750	89.7%
MELBOURNE NORTH	26,759	26,750		26,750		100.0%
MELBOURNE WEST	29,592	29,623	31	29,623		100.1%
NORTH WESTERN VICTORIA	5,326	3,956		3,956	1,370	74.3%
unallocated						
TOTALS	177,350	170,481	31	170,481	6,891	96.1%
Percentages subscribed/unpaid					3.9%	

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THE SCOTS' CHURCH PROPERTIES TRUST A.B.N. 89 115 098 913

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

THE SCOTS' CHURCH PROPERTIES TRUST A.B.N. 89 115 098 913

CONTENTS

Independent Auditor's Report
Statement of Receipts and Payments
Distribution Statement
Notes to the Statement
Trustees' Declaration



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

DIRECTORS Cheree F Woolcock Tim M Kelleher Kevin P Adams

To the Trustees of the Scots' Church Properties Trust

We have audited the accompanying Statement of Receipts and Payments of the Scots' Church Properties Trust for the year ended 30 June 2016, Notes to the Statement and the Trustees' Declaration (together "the financial statement"). The financial statement has been prepared by the trustees using the basis of preparation described in Note 1.

Trustees' Responsibility for the Financial Statement

The trustees are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statement based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates, if any, made by the trustees, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statement.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the receipts and payments of the Scots' Church Properties Trust for the year ended 30 June 2016 in accordance with the basis of preparation described in Note 1.

Kevin P Adams **DFK BKM Audit Services**

27 September 2016

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THE SCOTS' CHURCH PROPERTIES TRUST A.B.N. 89 115 098 913 STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	NOTE	2016 \$
Receipts		
150 Collins Street Council Rates 150 Collins Street Council Rates - GPT Fund 150 Collins Street Land Tax 150 Collins Street Professional Fees 150 Collins Street Rental Income 150 Collins Street Water Rates 150 Collins Street Water Rates		404,538 134,846 216,514 7,260 1,200,925 38,006 56,673
150 Collins Street Sundry Bank Interest Georges Essential Services Georges Land Tax		1,474 823 2,026 36,819
Georges Legal Fees Georges Professional Fees Georges Repairs & Maintenance Georges Water Rates		1,931 1,650 1,089 974
PPP Property Services - Annual Outgoings PPP Property Services - Rent Term Deposit Interest Total Receipts		402,600 1,781,500 5,312 4,294,960
Payments		
150 Collins Street Council Rates Expenses		539,384
150 Collins Street Fire Protection Expenses 150 Collins Street Land Tax Expenses		1,320 219,546
150 Collins Street Legal Fees		12,436
150 Collins Street Management Fees		73,900
150 Collins Street Professional fees Expenses		22,358 155
150 Collins Street Trade Waste Expenses 150 Collins Street Water Rates Expenses		82,371
Administration & Accounting Fees		35,393
Audit Fees		19,685
Bank Fees		810 6,815
Consulting Fees		4,482
Georges Assignment Fees Georges Council Rates Expenses		84,114
Georges Essential Services Expenses		4,643
Georges Land Tax Expenses		135,830
Georges Legal Fees		24,599
Georges Management Fees		69,028 26,323
Georges Professional Fees Georges Repairs and Maintenance		36,166
Georges Statement Fees		114
Georges Waste Expenses		312
Georges Water Rates Expenses		47,668
Georges Maintenance - Other		538,173
Insurance - Office Bearers		36,294 206,686
Insurance - Industrial Special Risks Insurance - Public/Products Liability		25,597
Legal Expenses		15,356
Donation to Kirkbrae Cottages	5	54,000
Other Expenses		2,923
Goods and Services Tax (GST) Liabilities	^	105,296
Loan Repayments - Minor Trusts (Long Term)	2	60,000 2,491,777
Total Payments		£,731,111
Total Receipts less Total Payments		1,803,183

THE SCOTS' CHURCH PROPERTIES TRUST A.B.N. 89 115 098 913 DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT AS AT 30 JUNE 2016

	NOTE	2016 \$
Total Receipts less Total Payments		1,803,183
Assembly Hall Maintenance	3	(87,036)
Monies available for distribution in accordance with the Trust Deed		1,716,147
Lease Commission Payable to Trust Corporation pursuant to Clause 4 of the Trust Deed		70,987
Payment of Stipend pursuant to Clause 7 of the Trust Deed		-
Distributions payable to pursuant to sixthly provision of Clause 7 of the Trust Deed		
a. The Scots' Church Building, Maintenance & Improvements Fundb. Presbyterian Church of Victoria		822,580 822,580
Total Distribution Payable		1,716,147

THE SCOTS' CHURCH PROPERTIES TRUST A.B.N. 89 115 098 913

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT

1. Basis of preparation

The Statement of Receipts and Payments of The Trustees of The Scots' Church Properties Trust has been prepared in accordance with Clause 8 of the Trust Deed and is based on the following:

The Statement of Receipts and Payments has been prepared on a cash basis.

All receipts and payments identified are inclusive of Goods and Services Tax (GST) where applicable.

Amounts have been rounded to the nearest whole dollar.

Comparative amounts are not included in this Statement.

The distributions made in the year are separately detailed in Note 4.

The Assembly Hall Maintenance has been separately recorded in the Distribution Statement as described in Note 3.

2. Loan Repayments - Minor Trusts (Long Term)

At the 30th June 2016 the balance of this loan was \$104,020.

The loan is being repaid at \$5,000 per month.

3. Assembly Hall Maintenance

The "Assembly Hall Maintenance" figure represents undistributed income of the Scots Church Properties Trust used to maintain the Assembly Hall building. The use of these funds for this purpose is currently in issue before the Victoria Supreme Court in case number SCI 2013 03222 ("the proceedings") and will remain as classified as undistributed income until the proceedings are determined.

4. Distributions made in 2015/16 relating to 2014/15

Presbyterian Church of Victoria Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trust Corporation Rental Commission The Scots' Church Building, Maintenance & Improvements Fund Total Distributions Paid	<u>\$</u>	704,808 79,364 <u>704,808</u> 1,488.980
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5. Donation to Kirkbrae Cottages

This donation will be reimbursed by the Minor Trusts in 2016/17.

THE SCOTS' CHURCH PROPERTIES TRUST A.B.N. 89 115 098 913

TRUSTEES' DECLARATION

The Trustees' declare that the Statement of Receipts and Payments has been prepared in accordance with Note 1 to the Statement.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Trustees.

On behalf of the Trustees.

Course R. Chartee

Dated this 27th day of Scrown 2016

General Assembly

General Operations	Year Ended 30th June 2016
Statement of Income and Expenditure	
Income:	
General Mission Programme	170,481
Donations & Gifts	580
Common Fund Interest	538,760
Management Fees	166,735
Scots Church Properties Trust	79,964
Safe Church Unit Levy	66,299
Sundry Income	3,955
Profit/(Loss) on Sale of Asset	(199)
Total Income	1,026,576
Expenditure:	
Accounting and Audit Fees	27,300
Personnel	558,211
Grants Paid	6,184
General Mission Programme Distributions	170,481
Office	20,454
Legal Expenses	889,589
Insurances	3,974
Safe Church Unit	64,209
Property General Assembly	5,560 104,049
Archives & Historic Records	48,683
Total Expenditure	<u> </u>
Surplus on General Operations	(872,119)
Movements in Funds Balance 1/7/15	3,062,548
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	(872,119)
Add back depreciation	5,407
Decrease / (Increase) in Current Assets	(218,198)
Decrease / (Increase) in Fixed Assets	(388)
(Decrease) / Increase in Current Liabilities	16,565
(Decrease) / Increase in Non-Current Liabilities	4,024
Balance 30/6/16	1,997,840
Perpetual Funds	
Balance 30/6/16	2,286,996
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,

General Assembly

Specific Trust Accounts

Statement of Income & Expenditure

Otatomont of moonio a Exponantaro			
	Beneficiary	Special	
	<u>Trusts</u>	<u>Trusts</u>	<u>Unallocated</u>
Income:			
Bequests	-	-	111,588
Pres-AID Donations		111,667	
Interest Capital Fund Loans		73,908	
Common Fund Interest	478,993	457,933	110,194
Other Investment Income	82,162	1,699	
Rental Ministers' Holiday Homes		10,733	
Unrealised Gain/(Loss) on Investments	(117,987)		
Total Income	443,168	655,940	221,782
Expenditure:			
Grants	24,680	265,236	_
Moderator's Expenses	,	10,330	
Accounting & Legal Fees	4,317	-	_
Insurance Risk Management	.,	31,130	
Interest Expense - Capital Fund		143,734	
Pensions Ministers & Widows	1,575	1 10,701	
Rental Assistance	5,261		
Superannuation	0,201	39,000	
Ministers' Holiday Homes Expenses		94,103	
Expenses for Missionaries on Home Assignment		5,718	
Total Expenditure	35,833	589,250	
Total Expolication		000,200	
Surplus on Specific Trusts	407,335	66,690	221,782
Movements in Funds			
Balance 1/7/15	3,835,994	4,170,525	767,463
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	407,335	66,690	221,782
Housing Fund Loans	(100,000)	•	,
Transfer Pensioners Reserve to Unallocated	(222,219)		222,219
Increase/(Decrease) in Capital Fund Deposits	,	(1,927)	
(Increase)/Decrease in Separate Investments	48,772	2,651	
Balance 30/6/16	3,969,882	4,237,940	1,211,463
Separately Invested Funds - Donaldson Trust	1,480,722		
Separately Invested Funds - Capital Fund	- , - 	76,070	

Perpetual Funds

Balance 30/6/16 407,165

BUILDING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE (Min. 35)

This year the committee has continued its regular work of advising and assisting congregations with various building matters and approving plans for proposed works in accordance with its regulations.

The committee has also been involved in coordinating the inspection of several manses at the request of the MDC in connection with proposed exit appointments and in following up these inspections and necessary works with boards of management in accordance with the General Assembly's resolutions (GAV 2014, min 48.3(a) and GAV 2015, min 108.5).

Membership

The resignation of two committee members prior to the 2014 General Assembly left the committee with a membership of one, the Convener. However, his request at the Assembly for volunteers was heard. Rev Matt Tegart and Elder Dennis Wright volunteered to serve and were duly added to the committee, bringing it up to full strength.

As reported last year, Mrs Jenny Bell, while no longer able to be a member of the committee because she is living interstate, had continued to serve as an advisor to the committee. However, the rules of the church do not provide for this and with committee membership up to full strength the committee has not continued her role as advisor. Jenny joined the committee when it was reformed as a separate committee after being part of the MDC for some years, and her contribution to its work both as a member of the committee and as an advisor to it has been much appreciated.

While the Church Architect is not a member of the committee, he is essential to its work, which could not be carried out without his guidance and assistance. The committee again expresses its sincere appreciation of Les Oliver's dedication, expertise and valued advice, useful to both the committee and to the congregations and boards of the church.

The Convener, Peter Phillips, also joined the committee when it was reformed after being part of the MDC, and has been the convener for eight years since that time. Rev Matthew Tegart has agreed to appointment as convener at this General Assembly, and the committee is grateful for his willingness to serve in this capacity.

Checklist survey for existing manses

In connection with both the maintenance and upgrading of existing manses and the committee's role in assisting the MDC in assessing existing manses, the committee reported to the 2015 Assembly that the Church Architect had prepared a checklist survey for the assessing of existing manses.

A copy of that survey was attached to the report, and the committee invited feedback on the proposal, either positive or negative – but none was received.

Since then the committee has approved a number of small modifications to the survey suggested by the Church Architect as arising out of his experience in using the document. The modified version as attached to this report (the additions are in red font) and the committee presents it for General Assembly approval confident that it will be useful to boards in the carrying out of their responsibilities.

The committee commends the survey to boards as a useful resource, provided that, as the Church Architect has stated, they keep in mind that it will require someone with a building industry background to complete the survey, especially with respect to the Insulation/Energy rating section.

Maintenance of manses

The 2014 General Assembly asked the committee to prepare an additional section to the Assembly's Minimum Manse Standards, '*Maintenance and Upgrade of Existing Manses*'.

The committee acknowledges the work of the Church Architect in the preparation of this document, which is to be used in conjunction with the Checklist Survey for Existing Manses, and presents it to the General Assembly for its approval confident that it also will be a useful resource for boards and congregations.

Assessment of manses for exit and other appointments

The committee reported to the 2014 General Assembly that it had been asked by the Ministry Development Committee to assist it by assessing the suitability of manses associated with applications for the appointment of an exit student or a home missionary.

The General Assembly resolved to approve the committee assisting the Ministry Development Committee with the assessment of manses in connection with exit and home missionary appointments, approved guidelines for this purpose, and requested the committee 'to report further to the 2015 General Assembly on its experience in assisting the Ministry Development Committee with the assessment of manses in connection with exit and home missionary appointments, and seeking any changes to its regulations that it may consider appropriate in the light of that experience.'

The committee reported to the 2015 General Assembly that the committee had received only one request from the MDC for such inspection and report, and that therefore it hadn't had enough experience to propose changes to its regulations, and recommended that the General Assembly 'approve it continuing to assist the Ministry Development Committee with the assessment of manses in connection with exit and home missionary appointments for a further twelve months, reporting on progress to the 2016 General Assembly.'

At the time of writing this report, the committee has completed the coordination of inspections and works in regard to three more manses with satisfactory outcomes, and has coordinated the inspection of two other manses by the Church Architect, and is at different stages of negotiating with boards of management in regard to the issues raised by these reports.

These reports have been greatly appreciated by the MDC, which would like to see the process continue, and the experience gained has been useful to the committee in assessing the guidelines approved by the General Assembly. The committee was considering bringing to this Assembly proposed changes to its regulations to formalise these guidelines and had begun to prepare draft regulations. However recent experience has revealed that there are aspects of the process that need refinement before such regulations are proposed, and so the committee is asking the General Assembly to extend its approval for it to operate under the guidelines approved in 2014 for a further twelve months.

Peter Phillips CONVENER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA

MAINTENANCE AND UPGRADE OF MANSE PROPERTIES - 2016

Assessment of manse properties should be undertaken in the following circumstances:

- A. Before placing a new manse family in the property
- B. Every 5 years if no change of occupancy
- C. When significant upgrade works are proposed to the property

MANSE SURVEY

The 'MANSE SURVEY – 2016' document should be used to evaluate an existing manse property when any of the above circumstances arise and a copy is attached to this document. Use the survey to establish the areas in which the manse property falls short of the 'Minimum Manse Standards'. Recommendations are provided in the survey to indicate how to meet the requirements.

Depending on the extent of works required to bring the manse property up to current standard it is suggested that the works be classified in one of the following categories:

- Improvements that should be done before the property is re-occupied (immediate)
- Improvements that can be done after occupation, but as soon as practical (short term)
- Improvements that should be budgeted for in the future (long term)

Not all deficiencies are considered equal and the following should be used as a guide to determine which category each deficiency should be treated as:

- 1.1 Location The manse can be positioned adjacent to the Church property or within 2 kilometres of it. If not within this distance an evaluation should be made as to its accessibility for the congregation and also for the Minister if the Office is located at the Church. Classification: Long term improvement
- **1.2 Building access** Pedestrian access into the building should be easily negotiable by elderly people and ramped if possible in lieu of steps. Remove steps where possible. **Classification:** Short term improvement

2 ACCOMMODATION

- 2.1 Study/Office All aspects of the study/office should be met where possible. Establish whether an Office is available at the Church property and take this into consideration. Ensure access is available to a toilet and basin nearby that is not the family facility. Classification: Immediate improvement
- 2.2 Lounge room, Dining room Ensure the Lounge area is suitable for small group meetings without restricting the use of the rest of the house by the minister's family. Access to a separate toilet and hand basin must be available for the meeting participants. This can be the same facility associated with the Study/Office. Classification: Long term improvement
- 2.3 Kitchen, Family room Ensure the kitchen is of adequate size, with sufficient bench space and appropriately equipped. When selecting new equipment ensure it has the recommended energy and water ratings. Provide additional power outlets to meet the requirements and ensure space is available for an upright fridge and freezer. Classification: Short term improvement
- **2.4 Bedrooms** Check the size of the bedrooms with the standards and ensure they are fitted with built in wardrobes of required length. **Classification:** Long term improvement
- **2.5 Bathroom** Check the required fixtures are provided and update where required. Ensure there is a mechanical exhaust fan to extract air and there is some form of heating. Ensure tap washers are replaced if any leaks are present. **Classification:** Immediate improvement
- 2.6 En-suite and separate WC Provide an en-suite bathroom with shower, toilet and hand basin to the main bedroom if not existing. A separate toilet and hand basin should be available for the manse family. Classification: Short term improvement

- 2.7 Laundry Ensure the laundry is properly equipped and has space for appliances as nominated. Install a wall or ceiling mounted exhaust fan if not existing. Classification: Short term improvement
- **2.8 Linen/storage cupboard** Ensure there is adequate storage capacity in the manse. **Classification:** Short term improvement
- 3 HEATING Ensure heating is provided to all habitable rooms. Older or inefficient systems should be replaced with efficient and economical forms of heating to at least the lounge, dining, family room and study/office. Review different types of heating systems and energy sources available to the property. The attached document produced by the Victorian Government Department, Sustainability Victoria should be referred to for advice on selecting a heating system: 'How to choose an energy efficient heater'. Classification: Long term improvement
- 4 COOLING Ensure cooling is provided to at least the family room and study/office. New air-conditioning systems are required to have a minimum 4 star energy rating. Evaporative cooling is a less expensive option that is suitable in most areas of Victoria, particularly the northern drier climates. The attached document produced by the Victorian Government Department, Sustainability Victoria should be referred to for advice on selecting a cooling system: 'Cooling systems'. Classification: Long term improvement
- **5 HOT WATER SERVICE** Check existing hot water system to ensure it is operational. When replacement is required consider alterative systems that may be more appropriate. Use the attached Hot Water service guide to compare operating costs of various systems and select one appropriate to the particular application. **Classification:** Long term improvement

6 INSULATION/ENERGY RATING

Energy ratings to meet Building Code of Australia (BCA) requirements for new homes should be the target as follows:

- 6 star standard applies to the thermal performance of a home, renovation or addition, plus the installation of a solar hot water system or a rainwater tank for toilet flushing.
- 6 Star energy efficiency rating applies to the building envelope: the roof, walls, floor and windows.
- 6 Star requirements include efficiency standards for lighting, but not plug in appliances.

Insulation to walls is difficult to improve unless internal linings are removed, so concentrating on under floor and ceiling insulation is recommended.

A minimum R value of 3.7 should be achieved by the roof/ceiling system. Adding insulation batts in the ceiling insulation is the simplest means of improving the rating.

A minimum R value of 1.0 or 1.5 should be achieved by the floor system depending on whether the house is in climatic zone 6 or 7. Little can be done with a concrete slab on ground, but it is recommended insulation be installed below timber floors where access is available.

Classification: Short term improvement

7 SOLAR PANELS

If electricity usage is high, consider installing solar panels to reduce future energy bills. Where available connect to the grid. Establish applicable government rebates and energy concessions available at time of installation. *Classification:* Long term improvement

8 FLOOR COVERINGS

Review condition of carpet in study/office, lounge, bedrooms, hallways and family room and clean or replace as required. Polished floor boards or similar may be substituted for carpet to some or all of these areas.

Review condition of floor finishes in wet areas such as kitchen, bathroom, laundry, en-suite and toilet and ensure finish is still serviceable sheet. Replace damaged or unserviceable finishes. *Classification: Immediate improvement*

9 PAINTING

Review all painted finishes within the property and refinish as required. Ensure all surfaces are properly prepared before any finishing coats are applied. It is recommended that all properties are completed refinished internal at change of occupancy unless repainted within 5 years..

External paint finishes should also be reviewed and all repairs carried out before repainting is commenced. *Classification: Immediate improvement*

10 WINDOWS

Review condition of windows and ensure openable sashes are fully operational. Ensure curtains and/or blinds are provided to all external windows and replace as required. Low level glass and in doors must be compliant with Australian Standards. External replacements should be with energy efficient, low-E or be double glazed. *Classification:* Short term improvement

11 LIGHT FITTINGS

Ensure light fittings exist in all rooms and replace with low energy type where possible. eg. LED or fluorescent bulbs. Ensure external lighting exists at front entry and adjacent to all external doors for safety and security purposes. *Classification: Immediate improvement*

12 ASBESTOS REMOVAL

Establish which products in the manse contain asbestos so that a register exists for the property. If any works require materials containing asbestos to be exposed or worked on then correct removal and disposal should be undertaken before proceeding. Most commonly this might involve cement sheet lining behind tiles in bathrooms, kitchens and laundries. *Classification: Immediate improvement*

13 GARAGE OR CARPORT

Ensure garage doors are operational and that roof covering to either garage or carport is weatherproof. *Classification: Immediate improvement*

14 RAINWATER TANK

Consider installing a rainwater tank and where possible connect to toilets and laundry trough. Ensure external water taps exist and are in serviceable condition. These taps may also be connected to the rainwater tank. *Classification:* Long term improvement

15 GARDEN STORAGE

Ensure a storage facility exists for garden equipment, tools, work bench and general storage of not less than 4.5m2. Update or replace if not in serviceable condition. *Classification: Immediate improvement*

16 CLOTHES LINE

Ensure clothes line exists and is in serviceable condition. Replace if necessary. *Classification: Immediate improvement*

17 FENCING

Check all perimeter fencing to ensure palings are still in place and rails and plinths are not perished. Replace and repair as necessary. Also ensure wing fences are complete and gates care secured to provide a secure rear garden. *Classification: Immediate improvement*

18 PAVING

Remove tripping hazards from paths are ensure they provide a safe route for pedestrians. Replace any steps that have deteriorated or are considered unsafe. *Classification: Immediate improvement*

19 GARDEN

Ensure private garden is separated from neighbouring properties by fences and comprises at least 50% soft surfacing such as grass in a relatively flat format. Ensue the private open space is separated from the driveway and secured by a lockable gate at least 1.5m high. *Classification: Immediate improvement*

UPGRADING EXISTING MANSE

When altering or extending an existing manse to 50 per cent or more of the volume of the existing manse, the whole house needs to be brought up to 6 Star Standard. The building designer will be required to advise on the design options and the most cost effective requirements to achieve this as part of their submission to the Building and Property Committee.

REFERENCES

'Hot water running costs and efficiency' produced by Sustainability Victoria, Victorian Government Department.

'How to choose an energy efficient heater' produced by Sustainability Victoria, Victorian Government Department.

'Cooling systems' produced by Sustainability Victoria, Victorian Government Department.

http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/services-and-advice/households/energy-efficiency/toolbox/energy-efficiency-fact-sheets

Save on running costs with high efficiency gas or solar hot water systems. Buy a gas hot water system with at least 5 stars.

In Victoria, hot water accounts for around 20% of household energy use. A high efficiency gas hot water system is one of the most economical types of water heaters when operated on natural gas. The cheapest and most environmentally friendly type of water heating to run is natural gas-boosted solar.

Hot water system types

There are two basic types of hot water systems:

- > Storage water is heated and stored in an insulated tank for use when required.
- Instantaneous (or continuous flow)
 heats the water only when it's required.
 A storage tank isn't needed.

Compare star ratings

- For gas, use the energy rating label to find the most efficient hot water system to suit your needs.
- > To further compare models refer to the energy consumption number on the label.

Buy to save in the long run

- Buy a gas hot water system with at least 5 stars, every extra star will save you money.
- Choose the right sized system for your hot water needs in consultation with your hot water specialist.

Maximise efficiency

- Install the system close to your hot water outlets and use closed-cell rubber insulation on pipes.
- For instantaneous systems choose electronic ignition instead of a continuous pilot light to reduce gas consumption.
- Keep your shower under four minutes and make further savings.

More information

Ask your retailer, phone 1300 363 744 or visit www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/smarterchoice

Running costs

Energy Source	Туре	Energy Rating	Annual Cost*			
Small 1–2 people/100 litres per day						
Natural	Storage	***	\$275			
Gas		****	\$219			
	Instant	****	\$198			
		*****	\$162			
Electricity	Storage – P tariff	N/A	\$682			
	Instant – P tariff	N/A	\$535			
	Storage – OP tariff	N/A	\$508			
Solar	Natural gas boosted+	N/A	\$91			
	Electric boosted – OP tariff+	N/A	\$194			
Medium 3-4	people/200 litres per o	lay				
Natural	Storage	***	\$436			
Gas		****	\$362			
	Instant	***	\$395			
		*****	\$324			
Electricity	Storage – P tariff	N/A	\$1337			
	Instant – P tariff	N/A	\$1070			
	Storage – OP tariff	N/A	\$859			
Solar	Natural gas boosted+	N/A	\$158			
	Electric boosted – OP tariff+	N/A	\$293			
Large 5+ per	ople/250 litres per day					
Natural	Storage	***	\$ 516			
Gas		****	\$ 434			
	Instant	***	\$ 494			
		*****	\$ 406			
Electricity	Storage – P tariff	N/A	\$ 1,609			
	Instant – P tariff	N/A	\$ 1,337			
	Storage – OP tariff	N/A	\$ 1035			
Solar	Natural gas boosted+	N/A	\$209			
	E1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		***			

 $P=peak\ OP=off\ peak.\ Based\ on\ energy\ tariffs\ of:\ natural\ gas\ (1.75\ c/MJ),\ LPG\ (4\ c/MJ),\ peak\ electricity\ (28\ c/kWh),\ off-peak\ electricity\ (38\ c/kWh),\ off-peak\ electricity\$



Electric boosted -

OP tariff+



\$399

N/A

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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA

ΜΔΝ	SE SURVEY - 2016 INSPECTION DATE:			
PARISH: ADDRES				
	uction details :			
When bu	nstruction (concrete slab, timber on stumps):			\longrightarrow
	nstruction (brick veneer, solid brick, timber/weatherboards):		—	
	nstruction (timber framed, tiles, corrugated sheeting):			
				Year
List any b	building upgrades and when they took place:		\Box	
	2		\perp	
	3		\Box	
CLAUSI	SE SUBJECT			
1.1	Location	Ye	s	No
a)	Is the manse on the same title as the Church?			
b)	If yes to a), is the manse attached to the Church building?	<u> </u>		
c)	If yes to b), is the manse linked internally to the Church building?	<u> </u>	\dashv	
d)	If yes to a) or b), does the manse have a separate private entrance and garden? If no to a), is the manse located within 2kms of the Church?	<u> </u>	\dashv	
e) f)	If no to e), how far is the manse located from the Church?	<u> </u>	—	kms
•,	Recommendations:			
	If yes to c), this situation should be rectified where possible?			
	If no to d), this situation should be rectified where possible?			
	If further than 5kms in f) above, approval to maintain as a manse should be sought?			
1.2	Building access	Ye	s	No
a)	Is pedestrian access from the street or from a visitor parking area on the site to the front entr	ry	コ	
	wheelchair friendly?	<u> </u>	\Box	
p)	If no to a), is pedestrian access to another entry wheelchair friendly?			
c) d)	If the building entry is elevated is there ramped access to the entry? Are there multiple steps to negotiate?			
uj	Recommendations:	<u> </u>	—	
	If no to a) and b), and yes to d) then construction of ramped access is recommended?			
	Establish if existing access conditions can be improved.			
1.3	Orientation:	Г	irec	ction
1.5 a)	What direction do the windows in the Lounge face?	F	11 00	,tion
b)	What direction do the windows in the Family room face?		_	
c)	What direction do the windows in the main Bedroom face?			
d)	What direction do the windows in the other Bedrooms face?			
	Recommendations:			
	If any windows in the above rooms face west can anything be done to shield them from the s	un?		
2.1	Study/Office:	Ye	s	No
a)	Is the Study/Office attached to or located at the front of the house and able to be accessed w	/ithout		
. ,	passing the private living areas?	<u> </u>	\dashv	
b)	Is there a waiting area available adjacent to the Office? What is the floor area of the Office, clear of built in cupboards and shelving?	<u> </u>	_	m2
c) d)	What is the length of book shelves in the Office?	<u> </u>	—	lin.m.
e)	What direction do the windows in the other Office face?		_	
f)	Does the Office have phone and internet connections?		\supset	
g)	How many power points are there in the Office?			ı
h)	Is there a toilet and hand basin nearby, separate from the family facilities?	<u> </u>	\dashv	1
i) i\	Is there a separate Office facility available for thre Minister at the Church? Where there is a separate Office facility at the Church, does it meet all the requirements?	<u> </u>	\dashv	

	All deficiencies in the Study/Office requirements need to be addressed.		-
	If deficiences exist, when were the Study/Office facilities last reviewed?		
	SUBJECT		
2.2	Lounge room, Dining room	Yes	No
a)	Are these rooms provided and separate from the Family room?		
b)	Can the Lounge be used for meetings without intruding on the family spaces? Is there a toilet and hand basin nearby, separate from the family facilities?		
c)			
	Recommendations: If the answer is no to any of the above, provide a solution to overcome the deficiency.		
2.3	Kitchen, Family room	Yes	No
a)	Does the Kitchen have a minimum floor area of 14m2 and have 5 lineal metres of bench space,		
	adequate cupboards and pantry storage? If less, provide details.		
b)	Are the following minimum requirements fulfilled:		
	Oven with griller		
	Cooktop with minimum 4 burners and rangehood with external exhaust		
	Space above bench for microwave oven Dishwasher (minimum 3.5 star energy rating and 4 star water rating)		
	Space for refrigerator and upright freezer		
	A minimum of three double power outlets over benches (separate provision for microwave oven,		
	fridge, freezer and dishwasher)		
	Recommendations:		
	If deficiences exist, what improvements can be made immediately?		
2.4	Bedrooms	Yes	No
	Are the following minimum bedroom requirements met?		
a)	Deduce to 1 12 m 2 floor case 2 lineal machines of wandrabe 2 devible masses authors and whose author		
b)	Bedroom 1 - 13m2 floor area, 2 lineal metres of wardrobe, 2 double power outlets and phone outlet Bedroom 2 - 12m2 floor area, 1.2 lineal metres of wardrobe, 2 double power outlets		
b)	Bedroom 3 - 12m2 floor area, 1.2 lineal metres of wardrobe, 2 double power outlets		
c) c)	Bedroom 4 - 11m2 floor area, 1.2 lineal metres of wardrobe, 2 double power outlets		
C)	Recommendations:		
	If the answer is no to any of the above, advise if improvements are possible.		
2.5	Bathroom	Yes	No
	Are the minimum requirements comprising separate bath, shower cubicle, vanity cupboard with		
	basin and mirror over, exhaust fan and some form of heating provided.		
	Recommendations: If the minimum requirements are not provided, list the deficiencies and advise what changes are		
	possible.		
2.6	Ensuite and WC	Yes	No
	Does the main bedroom have an ensuite bathroom with shower, toilet and hand basin? Is there a separate toilet with hand basin for the family?		
	Recommendations:		
	If the answer is no to either, advise if changes are possible.		
2.7	Laundry	Yes	No
	Are the minimum requirements of trough and cabinet, storage cupboard for brooms and iron board		
	provided? Is there space for a floor mounted washing machine (with hot and cold taps) and wall mounted		
	dryer?		
	Is there a wall or ceiling mounted exhaust fan? Recommendations:		
	If the answer is no to any of the above, advise if changes are possible.		
2.8	Linen/storage cupboard	Yes	No
۷.0	Is there a linen cupboard provided in the family section of house of the house?	162	INU

Recommendations:

CLAUSE	SUBJECT	1	
3	Heating	Yes	No
a)	Is heating provided to all habitable rooms?	100	110
b)	Is there an efficient and economical heating system to the Lounge, Dining room, Family room and Study/Office?		
	Recommendations: If no to either of the above, investigate the most economical and efficient system available for the location. If natural gas is not available, consider the installation of solar panels to reduce electrical costs of heating.		
4	Cooling	Yes	No
a) b)	Is airconditioning provided to the Family room and Study/Office? Evaporative cooling is an acceptable alternative, except in humid climates. Installed?		
	Recommendations: If neither of the above cooling systems are present, they must be installed. Consider replacing inefficient wall or window mounted airconditioners.		
5	Hot water service	Yes	No
	Is an efficient hot water system installed?		
	Recommendations: If not, consider installing a solar storage hot water system when replacement required. Where natural gas is available, an instantaneous gas hot water unit is a good alternative.		
6	Insulation/energy rating	Rat	ting
a)	What is the estimated insulation rating for the current roof/ceiling system?	R	
b)	What is the estimated insulation rating for the current wall system?	R	
c)	What is the estimated insulation rating for the current floor system?	R	
	Recommendations: A minimum R value of 3.7 should be achieved by the roof/ceiling system. Adding insulation batts in the ceiling insulation is the simplest means of improving the rating. A minimum R value of 2.2 should be achieved by the external wall system. Improving the rating can be difficult unless wall linings are removed and this is only recommended where existing linings, either internally or externally need replacing. A minimum R value of 1.0 or 1.5 should be achieved by the floor system depending on whether the house is in climatic zone 6 or 7. Little can be done with a concete slab on ground, but it is recommended insulation be installed below timber floors where access is available.		
7	Solar panels	Rat	ting
	Are solar panels installed on the house? If so what is the rating achieved?		kW
	Recommendations: If electricity usage is high, consider installing solar panels to reduce future energy bills.		
8	Floor coverings	Yes	No
	Are any of the floor coverings in need of replacement? If so, which ones?		
	Carpet (list rooms):		
	Vinyl (list rooms):		
	Tiles (list rooms):	-	
	Polished boards (list rooms):	_	
	Recommendations:		
	Replace floor coverings where worn and restretch carpet if loose. Ensure servicable finishes exist in all wet areas.		
_			1
9	Windows Are all the window seches conjugable and lockable?	Yes	No
	Are all the window sashes servicable and lockable? Are the surface finishes well maintained as is painting required?	<u> </u>	
	Are the surface finishes well maintained or is painting required? Is the glass to all windows and doors compliant with current requirements?	-	
	is the glass to an windows and doors compliant with current regulicities:		

Are curtains or blinds fitted to all habitable rooms? Are flyscreens fitted to windows in habitable rooms?

Recommendations:

Ensure safety glass exists to all doors and sidelights.

Fit window locks to sashes where not present.

Provide pelmets to windows with curtains to minimize heat loss.

Provide flyscreens to all openable window sahes where missing.

CLAUSE S	UBJECT
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10 Light fittings

Are light fittings provided to all rooms?

Are low voltage halogen light fitings installed in any rooms?

Are external lights fitted at the front entry and all external doors?

Recommendations:

Replace low voltage halogen globes with LED globes where possible.

Replace incandescent globes with fluorescent or LED globes where possible.

11 Garage or Carport

Is there a garage or carport on site for at least one car?

If provision for only one car in a) above, is there space to park a second vehicle on site?



Yes

No

Recommendations:

Ensure garage doors are operable. Ensure sufficient parking is provided on site.

12 Rainwater tank

Is there a rainwater tank, if so what capacity?

Is the tank conected to toilet cisterns and laundry trough?

		Yes	No
Size:	litres		

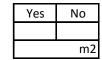
Recommendations:

These are currently the requirement for 6 star rating. Minimum 5000 litre tank recommended.

13 Garden store

Is there a shed or store room for garden equipment, tools, workbench etc?

What size is the garden shed/store?



Recommendations:

Ensure garden shed is provided.

14 Clothes line

Is there an external clothes line provided?

Capacity:	lin. m	١



Recommendations:

Ensure clothes line is servicable and of adequate size.

15 **Private garden**

Is their a secure private garden associated with the property. Estimate area.

Estimate area of 'private open space'.

Estimate area of 'soft surfacing' such as grass lawn for childrens play activity.

Yes	No
	m2
	m2

MAINTENANCE ISSUES

Identify all maintenace issues with the existing property. In addition to the facilities listed above ensure the following are assessed:

Condition of roof finish, identify any defects, check pointing of tiles and flashings to upstands.

Condition of roof guttering, downpipes and connections to drains.

Establish if there are any roof leaks.

Condition of water pipes, ensuring adequate water flow.

Condition of all paving, driveway, access paths and steps.

Identify any structural cracking or movement in brick walls.

Ensure sub-floor spaces are dry and check for movement in timber floors.

Ensure sub-floor ventilation is adequate and wall vents are not missing.

Check floor stumps for any deterioration or subsidence. Indicate if timber or concrete.

Check electrical switchboards safety switches, circuit breakers and residual current devices.

Identify any faulty switches, power points or light fittings.

Ensure all fixed appliances are operating and being serviced as required.

Ensure the electrical sytem is earthed with a conductor rod.

Check condition of perimeter fencing.

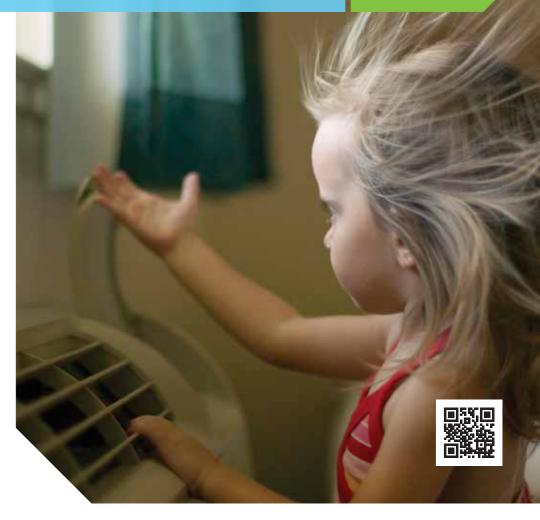
Record condition of internal and external painting.

Cooling

Save around 10% on running costs and take a further 15% off with thermostat settings



Save energy, water and money







Reduce your air conditioner running costs by around 25% – it's your choice.



Buy to save in the long run

- Use the star ratings at the top of the energy label to compare the efficiency of different models. The cooling star rating is shown in the blue band. The more stars the more you'll save on your cooling costs.
- For air conditioners with the same star rating and capacity output, use the number in the blue "Power Input" box in the middle of the label to compare power consumption – the lower the number the better. See www.energyrating.gov.au
- Seek professional advice to make sure you get an air conditioner that is the right size for the area you'll be cooling.
- Refrigerative air conditioners come in both cooling-only and reverse-cycle models which provide both heating and cooling.
- Look for inverter models as they're quieter to run and give additional energy savings.

How to use your air conditioner

- Set the thermostat between 24°C and 26°C for cooling. Every degree lower in summer will increase running costs by around 10%.
- Use the economy setting if your system has one.
- Keep the sun's heat out by closing curtains and external blinds during the day.
- Close windows and doors to areas being cooled when the refrigerative air conditioner is running.
- When the air conditioner is switched off and it's cooler outside, open doors and windows to let the cool air in.
- Insulate your home to keep the heat out in summer and in during winter.
- Dress to suit the weather conditions.
- > Regularly service your air conditioner.

Running costs

Suitable Cooler Type	Energy Rating	Annual Cost*
Small Room 10 square r	netres	
Electric split system	***	\$34
air conditioner 2.5 kW output	****	\$27
Portable or ceiling fan	N/A	\$5
Medium Room 35 square	e metres	
Electric split system	**	\$86
air conditioner 5.5 kW output	***	\$74
Portable or ceiling fan	N/A	\$5
Large Area 60 square m	etres	
Electric split system	**	\$125
air conditioner 8 kW output	***	\$108
2 Portable or ceiling fans	N/A	\$10
Whole House 166 square	e metres	
Ducted air conditioning	Standard Efficiency	\$383
20 kW (not zoned)	High Efficiency	\$349
Ducted air conditioning	Standard Efficiency	\$287
20 kW (zoned)	High Efficiency	\$262
Evaporative cooling	Standard	\$54
16 kW	Inverter	\$37
4 Portable or ceiling fans	N/A	\$20

^{*}Approximate cost per annum, based on 300 hours usage and a 60% duty cycle for air conditioners. Based on electricity tariff of 28 cents/kWh.

More information

Ask your retailer, phone 1300 363 744 or visit www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/smarterchoice







CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND NURTURE COMMITTEE (Min. 25)

As the committee looks back over the last 12 months what continues to be prominent is the work of the PYV and the Youth Ministries Director. However this year we have had the additional activity that came with hosting the Presbyterian Women's National Conference that was held in Melbourne. We especially want to commend and thank CENC member Mrs Mairi Girgis for the many hours that she poured herself into organizing and running this national conference along with her colleagues in the other states. We also extend many thanks to those who worked alongside Mairi in Victoria: Mrs Anne Harvey, Adele Withers, Josie Mehanni, and Jeanie Sheely.

We give thanks to God for the members who have joined the committee over this last year, and for the gifts that they bring to our committee work.

PYV Council Report - 2016

It has been such an encouragement this year having a completely full council, they are great team and highly enthusiastic about the work of PYV. As Convener, I've been so thankful for their commitment to the monthly meetings and all their work in between.

We aim to focus our efforts on our mission statement: 'To glorify God by assisting the congregations of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria in the development and nurture of youth for the service of Christ Jesus.' To this end, this year we are carefully reviewing everything that we do to ensure that we do all things for a good reason, and to discover whether there are other needs in the church. We want to keep our ministry effective and up to date.

I'd like to offer big thanks to Emily Venning for the massive effort she's been putting in to the early stages of organizing a mission trip to Malawi coming up in June/July 2017. PYV plans to send a team to Blantyre, Malawi, to work at the Orbus Centre, a school for vulnerable children. The team will also work with and encourage the local churches in Blantyre. They will be spending part of their time contributing to some physical needs of the Orbus Centre, and will also be involved in Bible teaching and children's ministry. They will aim to be partners in the gospel with the local churches.

Our regional camps this year have been centred around the Gospel of John, with Cameron Griffiths at West Camp, Stephen Jones at East Camp and Adam Humphries at North Camp. PYV wishes to thank the local congregations of each of these men for allowing them to come and speak at our camps, their input has been invaluable. It has been wonderful to see many new young faces attending these regional camps and discovering more about our great God and learning how to live a life that pleases Him. Thanks also to Lilly and Brian for their work keeping the PYV administration, the training sessions and behind-the-scenes work going. We were really thankful to have Andrew Vines at Summer Camp to speak on Practical Christianity.

Once again, PYV is incredibly grateful to CENC for their guidance and leadership, in particular for their financial support. PYV is also tremendously thankful for the Social Services Committee for their ongoing support to numerous campers who require financial assistance to attend our camps and events. We thank you all for your prayers and support in your own local churches and appreciate all the help we

receive as we aim to work together to develop and nurture young people for the glory of Jesus our Lord.

Praise God for his goodness.

Nic Bilyj - Convener

Youth Ministries Director (YMD)

If you have read the report from the PYV Convener, Nic Bilyj, you will know that since the last meeting of the GAV there have been four camps across the state. Summer camp at the end of 2015 had Rev Andrew Vines preaching on the topic of "Practical Christianity". It is vital that our youth understand the Christian faith is more than an academic pursuit. Over 2016 our regional camps have been focusing on the Gospel of John. These smaller camps continue to provide a great opportunity for teenagers in separate regions to get together without needing to travel for hours.

When the GAV last met I advised the house that there was a change in the PYV office. It is with both sadness and joy that I advise there will be another change in the office as Lilly Suraj leaves this work to enjoy life as a mum. I am very thankful for her professionalism and enthusiasm in her work with PYV and wish her and Lemuel every happiness with their family life.

PYV along with the METRO Committee continues to provide leadership development. YouthMETRO is one way that young leaders in your congregation can gain skills and experience in leadership in the local church and with PYV camps. We encourage you to consider making good use of YouthMETRO in your setting.

At time of writing, the results of a survey are pending. This survey has endeavoured to reach out to youth across the state and has been undertaken by Christian Research Association. I hope to have a report from this survey for you before the assembly meets.

Once again I acknowledge the terrific support of the PYV Council under the leadership of Nic Bilyj. This group of leaders from various churches continue to show themselves to be committed to the youth of the church across the state.

Catechism

With the funding that is made available through the Allan Bequest, the annual Catechism Experience has once again taken place. This year we have sent out just under 50 test papers across the churches. It is exciting to see this developing, and one of the key aspects of this is the take up of the Children's Catechism. I would encourage church leaders across the state to make use of the Catechism Experience in 2017.

Brian Harvey Youth Ministries Director

Women's Ministries Victoria

The highlight of our Women's Ministries Victoria year has been hosting the National Presbyterian Women's Conference in Melbourne over two days. So much work, prayer and enthusiasm was put into the event, culminating in a full-house at 156 Collins Street in May. It was wonderful to meet up with women, from many demographics, from right across Australia around the theme of Connecting. We

appreciated some good biblical exposition, a smorgasbord of workshops, a men's event around the topic of encouraging women in the church, and some fantastic conversations over meals. It was great to give opportunity to a large number of Victorian women who have speaking and teaching gifts. It is always exciting to see how these larger events spark off new ministries and conversations about how we can serve each other better.

As always, thanks to the WMV team who make everything we do possible. This year we are sad to farewell two of our most active members, Mrs Jeanette McHardy and Mrs Deborah Palmer who are moving on to new family and ministry commitments. We look forward in the next 12 months to new members and ministry opportunities around our state.

Mairi Girgis womeninministry.org.au

Website

The Committee continues to encourage Assembly Committees and churches to utilize the CENC website. If pastors or committees have resource materials for public dissemination they may be uploaded to the CENC website where people may download them for free. Just make contact with the committee by email.

Finances

The net surplus for the year in General Operations, after depreciation, was \$7,297. Income and expenditure were generally in line with our budget. Committee funds available for General Operations at the end of the financial year were \$491,981, continuing to provide a solid base for the committee to maintain the existing programs and employees.

The Allan Bequest net surplus for the year was \$33,903. Income was generally as detailed in our budget. The balance of the Allan Bequest Common Fund is now at \$626,511. The Allan Bequest continues to be in good shape to fund those appropriate ministries that we trust will arise in the future.

Hui Lim

18-30 Retreat

We hope in time that we will be able to offer a weekend camp for people in the post PYV age range: 18 to 30. This is an age group that falls outside of the PYV camping structure, and yet has expressed a desire for a Christian camp that incorporates good teaching relevant to the particular challenges that are faced by this age group. We would ask for prayer as we seek to grow this ministry.

See For Yourself (SFY)

The See For Yourself (SFY) educational materials are now made available to churches, schools, and the public via DVD. Making the lessons available via this media allows greater affordability and flexibility for the teacher. The colourful student books that were printed previously were an excellent educational resource. However printing costs combined with warehousing and distribution considerations have led to our decision to make the lessons available on DVD and on-line.

SFY Primary - Kinder to year 6

The CENC continues to watch over the development and writing of a new series of kinder to year 6 Bible studies designed to complement and prepare the children for the year 7 to 10 series of "See for Yourself". This material is being developed under the godly expertise and dedication of Rev Neil Benfell who has already laid the foundations of the curriculum.

Matthew James CONVENER

Christian Education & Nurture

General Operations	Year Ended 30th June 2016
Statement of Income and Expenditure	
Income:	
Common Fund Interest	90,139
Womens Ministry Income	570
Total Income	90,709
Expenditure:	
Seminars	10,761
Office	901
PYV Youth Worker Subsidy Grants to PYV	50,220 19,430
Committee Expenses	2,100
Total Expenditure	83,412
Surplus on General Operations	7,297
Movements in Funds	
Balance 1/7/15	486,783
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	7,297
Add back depreciation Assets (bought)/sold	901 (3,000)
Balance 30/6/16	(3,000) 491,981
25.15.150 557 57 15	,
Perpetual Trust Accounts	
Balance 30/6/16	268,250
Allan Trust	
Statement of Income & Expenditure	
Income:	
Common Fund Interest	75,478
Total Income	75,478
Expenditure:	
PYV Youth Worker Subsidy	39,975
Prizes Total Expenditure	1,600 41,575
rotai Experiditure	41,575
Surplus on Specific Trusts	33,903
Movements in Funds	
Balance 1/7/15	592,608
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	33,903
Balance 30/6/16	626,511
Perpetual Trust Accounts	
Balance 30/6/16	27,852

Presbyterian Youth in Victoria

General Operations	<u>Y</u> e	Year Ended 30th June 2016		
Statement of Income and Expenditure				
Income: Training Events Donations Fundraising for Campers CENC Subsidies Common Fund Interest Total Income			100 6,000 1,500 90,195 50,850 148,645	
Expenditure: Activities Deficit/(Surplus) Youth Leaders Conference East State Camp West State Camp North State Camp Social Family Camp Summer Camp Merchandising Volleyball Computer & Software Depreciation Insurance Personnel Expenses Office and Administration Expenses Total Expenditure			(3,481) 2,829 (2,216) (577) 1,090 (9) (623) (389) (80) 2,172 1,673 2,400 119,962 13,178 135,931	
Surplus/(Deficit) on General Operations			12,715	
Movements in Funds	Common Fund		Total	
Balance 1/7/15 Plus Surplus/(Deficit) Add back Depreciation Decrease/(Increase) Current Assets Increase/(Decrease) Current Liabilities Balance 30/6/16	162,654 1 79,830	1,094	163,748 12,715 1,673 2,720 2,105 182,961	
Perpetual Funds Balance 30/6/16			268,250	

CHURCH AND NATION COMMITTEE (Min. 44)

Religion in the Public Square Colloquium – October 20-21, 2017

On 20-21 October in 2017 we will be holding the biennial colloquium, 'Religion in The Public Square' – please put this date on your church calendar. The 2015 event was held in the Werner Brodbeck Hall, 156 Collins St, Melbourne, with refreshments upstairs in the Robert White Hall, and we intend to do that again next year.

Our keynote speakers are Murray Campbell, lead pastor at Mentone Baptist Church, Victoria, and Dr Augusto Zimmermann, a senior law lecturer and author at Murdoch University, WA with a plethora of other speakers on ethics, apologetics, secularism, Islam, marriage (and homosexual 'marriage'), as well as Church and culture.

Submissions and Letters

The committee made the following submissions:

- Submission to state Liberal MP and Opposition spokesman for Health and Ageing, the Hon David Davis, MLC, concerning proposed amendments to Victoria's Adoption Act to include same-sex couples.
- Former Prime Minister Tony Abbott, MP, thanking him for his leadership on marriage and assuring him of our prayers.

We have also written a plethora of letters concerning homosexual 'marriage', refugees, persecuted Christians as well as surrogacy.

Abortion

Australia has made a concerted effort to liberalise the laws concerning abortion access, including late-term abortions. Victoria currently has the worst abortion laws in Australia. This year the Victorian Parliament rejected a bill that would have limited abortions to 24 weeks. While rejecting the Infant Viability Bill, the parliament passed another bill enforcing exclusion zones around abortion clinics so that assistance, prayers or silent protests can no longer be offered outside abortion clinics.

Official statistics tell us that one-third of all women will have an abortion, and that 25% of all pregnancies will end in abortion. It is not hysterical to say life in the womb is still the most dangerous place a child can be.

There are estimated to be 80 – 90,000 medical abortions each year. That number does not include chemical abortions (RU-486, etc.). The government report, entitled *Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity*, has just been released with the 2013 figures. Concerning later-term abortion, there were 358 in Victoria in 2013, 179 of which were for alleged psychosocial reasons, and the other 136 because of possible congenital abnormalities. Of the 358 later-term abortions, 43 souls were born alive and left to die. This is an appalling situation.

The committee believes the PCV should continue to manifest its dismay concerning, and its opposition to, abortion – and in particular late-term abortions. This can be done by joining Victoria's annual 'March for the Babies', held in October, as well as writing to the Premier and Health Minister outlining our continued concerns and prayers for both mothers and their babies; including our longstanding opposition to abortion as a solution to unwanted or unhealthy babies.

Committee Papers

The committee has worked on two papers regarding transgenderism and domestic violence. The latter was not ready for the printing deadline, but will come as an additional report. The former is added below for the edification of the PCV.

Thinking about Transgenderism and the Gospel

Transgenderism and Culture

From the 1992 acclaimed movie, *The Crying Game*, the 1994 Australian movie, *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, and 1999 Oscar-winning movie, *Boys Don't Cry*, to this year's award-winning film, *The Danish Girl*, transgenderism has arrived. Popular culture has given us Caitlyn (Bruce) Jenner, Chaz (Chastity) Bono and Chelsea (Bradley) Manning among a growing list of well-known transgendered personalities. Behind the cultural push stands social science arguing for gender flexibility in opposition to the traditional binary understanding of gender, driven by biology. This new gender theory is now widely accepted in academia and culture. It has become clear that transgender activism has followed a similar path as homosexual activism, using media, culture, education and anti-discrimination laws to secure the acceptance of the transgendered movement and the 'queer theory' that underpins it.

Significantly, in May 2013, the American Psychiatric Association updated its *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5)* and removed the diagnostic term 'Gender Identity Disorder' and replaced it with 'Gender Dysphoria' to describe the emotional distress that can result from 'a marked incongruence between one's experienced/expressed gender and assigned gender'. This manifests as a feeling, often early in life, that one is stuck in the wrong body – hence the APA's definition of transsexualism as 'strong and persistent cross-gender identification' and 'persistent discomfort about one's assigned sex or a sense of inappropriateness of the gender role of that sex'. This discomfort, over time, may morph into depression and be diagnosed as a case of 'gender dysphoria'. The incidence of adult gender dysphoria is between seven and 17 cases in every 100,000 adults (as recorded in DSM-5).

Unsurprisingly, this leaves the church at variance with both sociology and psychiatry. Our binary understanding of gender is regarded as repressive and evil. British author Melanie Phillips (*The Spectator*, January 30, 2016) wrote:

'Once upon a time, 'binary' was a mathematical term. Now it is an insult on a par with 'racist', 'sexist' or 'homophobic', to be deployed as a weapon in our culture wars. The enemy on this particular battleground is anyone who maintains that there are men, and there are women and that the difference between them is fundamental.'

This academic and cultural hostility to the binary categories of 'male and female' is hard to underestimate as it is widely felt by Christians that they are expected to celebrate, not just tolerate, cultural and social transgender expressions. The danger for the church is that we may over-react to this pressure and adopt an entirely hostile disposition. While we must continue to argue for the essential goodness of the biblical teaching concerning sex and gender, it is vitally important that we are pastoral when dealing with people — especially those who are suffering real psychological pain due to gender dysphoria.

Terminology and Gender Theory

Transgender is an umbrella term that covers transsexuals, transvestites and anyone else who does not conform to a binary understanding of gender. Transexuals are people who feel very strongly that their biological sex does not match their inner identity, resulting in a desire to alter their physical appearance to match their self-perceived gender identity. They may or may not undergo reassignment surgery. Others feel disconnected from social expressions of gender: for example, a biological male may not feel any connection with cultural expressions of masculinity, but identify with what may be described as typically female expressions. Others may identify with both; hence men with mascara, eyeliner, and nail polish. Another reason

the term transgender is multifaceted is that people may identify as heterosexual, bisexual, homosexual, or asexual.

Underpinning all of this is a theory of gender flexibility and fluidity, and erotic plasticity that has developed out of feminist studies. Judith Butler, a pioneer in gender studies, argued that expressions of gender and sexuality have more to do with the power structures of society than biology. Butler advanced the idea that there is no prior existence of gender, but in expecting that we are a particular gender, inherently we both produce and reproduce it. She proposed, 'there is no original or primary gender a drag imitates, but gender is a kind of imitation for which there is no original'. Butler taught that once you understand 'all gender is a performance', it loses its power and profundity. She has also been critical of others in the field, pointing to the acceptance of identity language like 'homosexual', 'lesbian', 'bisexual' or 'asexual' as being complicit in affirming heteronormativity (the assumption that heterosexuality is natural).

French feminist Simone de Beauvoir, in *The Second Sex* (1949), argued that gender is a social and cultural construct, with this famous opening line, 'One is not born a woman, one becomes one.' She maintains that neither biology, psychology nor intellect are the sources that primarily shape our understanding of femininity; but, rather, expressions assigned by social and cultural forces rob a woman of her right to define herself. De Beauvoir is rejecting the idea that 'anatomy is destiny' and instead posits the theory that gender by definition is unnatural. Consequently, she seeks to decouple sex and gender, arguing that the female body – or any 'body', for that matter – is an arbitrary locus for gender expression.

David Schmitt (*PsychologyToday.com*) contends that sex and gender should be understood as dials, not switches; 'Dials that can be turned up or down (individually, or in combinations) depending on one's genetics, hormone levels, organisational effects *in utero*, activational effects of puberty, and a wide range of social, historical, and cultural factors' (Pirlott and Schmitt, 2014; Schmitt, 2015).

Generally speaking, then, while debates in gender studies continue, most of its adherents agree that it is too simplistic to assign gender based on sex (biological gender) without regard to one's internal sense of identity as male, female, both or neither (gender identity), as well as one's connection with cultural expressions and expressions of gender (gender expression). According to this view, it is only when you take all three dimensions together that one finds one's 'authentic self' (GenderSpectrum.com).

The belief in complementary and natural expressions in life ('heteronormativity'), whereby sex, sexuality, gender identity and expressions are all aligned, has become an anathema. Confounding this further is a culture that elevates feelings over fact; so when there is a conflict between one's perceived inner identity (gender) and one's biological sex, the subjective overrules the objective. In extreme cases, the conclusion might be you are a woman imprisoned in a man's body, or vice versa.

Intersex and Binary Understanding of Sex and Gender

Unsurprisingly, the prevalence of intersex cases where the anatomical traits are an ambiguous mix of both male and female are regularly used as evidence against a binary understanding of sex. The Intersex Society of North America estimates one in 2,000 '...babies are born atypical regarding genitalia' (*www.isna.org*). Consequently, if there are not only two sexes (male and female), then it follows that the heteronormative view of gender identity and expressions is also deficient, if not demonstrably false.

Under cultural pressure, some Christians have sought to find biblical support for this new theory of gender identity from the eunuchs of the Kingdom of which Jesus spoke in Matt 19:12 and Paul alluded to in Gal 3:28, when he wrote, 'There is neither Jew

nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ.'

However, it is important to note that Jesus had already affirmed a binary understanding of gender in Matt. 19:4 when he said that '... from the beginning (He) made them male and female.' While it is true that some babies are born 'sexually mosaic', having both ovaries and testes (mixed gonadal dysgenesis), this is a congenital development disorder and an example of the corrupting effects of the Fall as opposed to a creative norm of a third sex (Gen 3:16-19; Rom 8:20-23). Regarding Gal 3:28, where Paul says, 'There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ,' the context is not sexuality or gender but justification by faith in Christ. That Paul assumes the (binary) categories of male and female confirms a heteronormative understanding of gender. Moreover, it seems unwise at best and disingenuous at worst to ignore the reality that 99.95% of children born are either male or female and that the overwhelming majority of those who consider themselves 'transsexual' have unambiguous and perfectly functioning male or female reproductive systems. There is no ambiguity about their biological sex; they are demonstrably male or female. Accordingly, it seems an irrelevant and fruitless road to travel in the search of biological support for gender fluidity theory.

A Biblical View of Biological Sex and Gender

It is important to acknowledge that Gen 1–3 was not written to answer our questions on gender theory. However, it does provide us with some solid ground on which to build our understanding of masculinity and femininity. It is also instructive that both Jesus and Paul look back to the Creation account when teaching about marriage and gender expressions, which confirm the seminal nature of these chapters (Mark 10:6; 1 Tim 2:12-12; 1 Cor 11:8-9). Predictably, a binary understanding of humanity is central to Christian anthropology in Genesis 1:26-28:

Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth'.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

And God blessed them. And God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth'.

It is evident from the text that all of humanity is made up of male and female (Adam is a collective noun meaning 'mankind' in Gen 1:26-27). Genesis 1, therefore, gives us a binary understanding of biological sex, with complementary anatomical differences that would allow mankind to be fruitful and multiply and subdue the earth, i.e., create culture.

This complementary role of male and female is not only biological, but social too. This becomes evident in Gen 2:18 where Eve is God's provision for Adam of a 'helper fit for him.' Together, Adam and Eve, male and female, are 'one flesh.' These complementary natures of male and female are obvious prerequisites for the task of both filling and subduing the earth (creating family, society and culture). When thinking about gender expressions and how they relate to one another, the teaching of Genesis 2 is both foundational and instructive; Eve is both a helper and a companion to Adam. When relating one to another, it is clear Adam's role was to lead and Eve's was to help. And it was all very good (Gen 1:31).

Genesis gives us a picture of humanity, of male and female, as 'equal and different', enjoying ontological equality before God and economic differences in how they relate

to one another; accepting that each man and woman is made differently, and there will be a spectrum of gender expressions that differ in both degree and strength. However, it is important to state that gender difference is a created good, and heterosexuality is not just a culturally-privileged form of sexuality, but God's good design for humanity (Gen 1:31). Eve's role as Adam's helper and companion is not a patriarchal ploy to protect men in a position of power, but God's good design for gender expressions (Gen 2:18). In Eve's difference from himself, Adam sees both her complementary attributes and their shared humanity.

Even when we transition to chapter 3 and the Fall, the gender expressions seem to be orientated to Adam's work outside (becoming toil) and Eve's family life (becoming painful). That is not to suggest that either role was exclusive; in fact, that is highly probable that Eve was to help Adam in making culture (subduing the earth). It should also be noted that part of the Fall meant difficulty for the complementary expressions of male and female. For example, Gen 3:16 says, 'your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you', which can be seen as a desire for role-reversal, although some suggest the desire is of a sexual nature. The language speaks of the woman's aim to usurp her husband's leadership, resulting in a fracturing of their complementary expressions. The similarity of language in Gen 3:16 and 4:7 is quite remarkable. Susan Foh, in an excellent article (Westminister Theological Journal, 37, 1974/75), made a compelling case for the 'desire' of the woman to be understood in light of Gen 4:7, where sin 'desired' Cain and crouched at his door, seeking to master him. So too, in a fallen world, the female's desire is to master her husband (control or usurp him), and in a fallen world, a man reacts in an overbearing manner to 'rule over' his wife.

The theory of gender fluidity is just another modern attempt to throw off complementary gender expressions that include male leadership. Of course, these complementary expressions are just as defaced by sinful expressions. Equally, male headship has been debased by the fall since the early days of Genesis, manifesting itself in the selfish, harsh and unhelpful rule in the home, church, and culture.

When moving to the New Testament, we note that Paul and Jesus both assume the on-going indicative nature of Gen. 1–3 and make use of it as foundational for marriage and church expressions. Various passages based on a creation/redemption narrative make it abundantly clear that the home is marked out by sacrificial male leadership and willing female submission in the joint task of serving Christ and raising a family (Eph 5: 21-33; Col 3:18-19; Tit 2:3-5; 1 Pet 3:1-7). A similar pattern of willing, sacrificial male leadership is also prescribed in the church in various New Testament passages (1 Cor 11:8-9; 1 Tim 2:1-7; 12-13; 1 Tim 5:9-10). It is clear that the gospel of Jesus Christ ameliorates the effects of the fall on gender relationships, and sets forth a redemptive paradigm of selfless co-operation for the blessing of the other and the glory of God.

Now this does not answer most, let alone all, questions about gender expressions, including issues like singleness. How single males and females fulfil their vocation of glorifying God in the different domains of home, church and culture will almost certainly vary depending on the culture and the individual concerned. However, these references give us a seminal understanding of how the two genders complement and relate to one another in creation and redemption. Furthermore, it warns us that modern gender theories that posit a fluidity and flexibility of gender, let alone sexual plasticity, are incompatible with a Christian anthropology in which humanity is made up of male and female, each of whom enjoys complementary biological and social expressions (heteronormativity).

How To Approach Transgenderism

It is clear that since the last revision of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5)*, the diagnostic term 'gender identity disorder' has been replaced with 'gender dysphoria' because it is no longer considered a disorder. Psychologically speaking, professionals do not view it as a mental illness and are concerned that it is not pathologised.

However, the principal position of this paper is that gender dysphoria is indeed a mental disorder. It should be treated in a similar way to body dysmorphic disorder (anxiety disorder about appearance caused by a distorted view of how they look) and eating disorders such as anorexia bulimia, where the objective truth about one's body should overrule one's subjective feelings about one's body. While this position is at odds with current psychological views (DSM-5) and political positions held by government programs such as Safe Schools, it best reflects the biblical model where gender is tethered to one's biological sex. This recognises that, in a fallen world, both sin and its effects on biological, social and cultural experiences of sex and gender, are not always the 'good' God intended.

Body Integrity Identity Disorder is a psychological disorder in which an otherwise healthy individual feels that he or she is meant to be disabled. *The Guardian* (Nov 14, 2012) reported on a surgeon in Asia performing amputations. 'For a fee, this doctor would perform off-the-book amputation ... for a small number of people who feel incomplete with all four limbs.' Thankfully, this doctor is the exception. Most professionals understand the solution is to re-align one's subjective thoughts with the objective reality.

Eating disorders such as anorexia nervosa are part of a condition called Body Dysmorphic Disorder. Essentially BDD is a disorder where the objective reality concerning one's body and one's subjective perception do not align. You may be very skinny, but you perceive yourself to be overweight, which can lead to a disordered relationship with food, or in some cases a desire for surgery. Most professionals understand the solution is to realign such as person's subjective thoughts with the objective reality.

Without trivialising the issue, the British *Daily Telegraph* (*www.telegraph.com.uk*, Jan 28, 2016) reported on a woman called Nano who, 'claims she realised she was a cat when she was 16 years old and has adopted feline mannerisms since'. Nano was quoted as saying, '... I hiss when meeting dogs in the street. It's because of their behaviour and my instinct automatically reacts by hissing.' *The Huffington Post* (*HuffingtonPost.com.au*, Oct 24, 2013) did a story on Gary Matthews, who calls himself 'Boomer' and believes he is a dog. Matthews said, 'I really wish they do figure [out how to turn humans into dogs] so that I can do that!' Most professionals understand the solution is to realign the subjective thoughts with the objective reality. When it comes to gender dysphoria, anxiety and stress are caused by a person's subjective belief that their sex does not align with their inner perception of their gender. For many, they are 'a woman trapped in a man's body', or vice versa. Many professionals nowadays suggest the solution is to realign the objective reality (being a man) with the subjective thoughts (I'm a woman). There are several reasons offered for this obvious discrepancy in treatment.

It is often explained that the former cases of disorders (BIID; BDD) cause someone to believe their body is a certain way, while the latter case of gender dysphoria is a sense that the body should be a different way (*QueerGrace.com*, May 6, 2016). The former do not see the objective reality of their bodies (BIID; BDD) whereas the latter can see the objective reality, but are in conflict with it psychologically (gender dysphoria). How is this any different from those people who feel incomplete with all four limbs, but would prefer only three? How is it different from Nano the 'cat' or Gary

Matthews the 'dog', who can see the objective reality (they are both human) but are in conflict with it?

It is, of course, impossible to offer a surgical solution to the mental illness that Nano and Gary Matthews suffer – so the treatment must be to attempt to realign the subjective with the objective. However, when it comes to transgenderism, it is possible to offer a surgical solution of sorts. It seems that some imagine it is easier to modify the body to reduce dysphoria than it is to modify the brain to stop dysphoria altogether. This sounds like medical Machiavellianism where 'the ends justify the means.'

If the goal is the reduction of anxiety, distress or dissonance, and surgery 'solves' this conundrum, it is considered successful, even if it defies the objective reality of biological sex. One imagines that, if it can be shown that other body modifications (even amputations of healthy limbs) are the only way to reduce anxiety, distress or dissonance, then these too would find wide-ranging support. As Christians, we must reject 'medical Machiavellianism', where treatment is shaped by the subjective experience over objective reality. This is a dead-end-street.

It also seems clear that genuine sex change is biologically impossible. Former psychiatrist-in-chief at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Paul McHugh, is now warning against gender reassignment surgery (*CNSnews.com*, May 5, 2016):

'The transgendered person's disorder ... is in the person's 'assumption' that they are different than the physical reality of their body, their maleness or femaleness, as assigned by nature. It is a disorder similar to a 'dangerously thin' person suffering anorexia who looks in the mirror and thinks they are 'overweight'...

'Transgendered men do not become women, nor do transgendered women become men. All (including Bruce Jenner) become feminized men or masculinized women, counterfeits or impersonators of the sex with which they 'identify'. In that lies their problematic future... The most thorough follow-up of sex-reassigned people—extending over thirty years and conducted in Sweden, where the culture is strongly supportive of the transgendered—documents their lifelong mental unrest. Ten to fifteen years after surgical reassignment, the suicide rate of those who had undergone sex-reassignment surgery rose to twenty times that of comparable peers.'

In a Wall Street Journal opinion piece (wsj.com, May 13, 2016), he continued the warning:

'You won't hear it from those championing transgender equality, but controlled and follow-up studies reveal fundamental problems with this movement. When children who reported transgender feelings were tracked without medical or surgical treatment at both Vanderbilt University and London's Portman Clinic, 70%-80% of them spontaneously lost those feelings. Some 25% did have persisting feelings; what differentiates those individuals remains to be discerned.'

Many people claim biological causes for transsexualism, believing that if it is 'innate', then it is not a mental disorder and should therefore be treated surgically. Studies on twins, conducted by Milton Diamond (*International Journal of Transgenderism*, May 2013), have been used to argue that there is a biological cause of transgenderism, due to the higher rates of transsexualism in identical twins as opposed to non-identical twins. However, the study ignores the irritating fact that nearly 70% of identical twins did not have matching transgendered pairs. So whatever biological forces are at work, they are clearly not the only factor, nor even the largest factor. Other identical twin studies show even lower rates than Diamond's study, confirming that, whatever factors are at play, there is no genetic cause for transsexualism.

There could well be, however, genetic dispositions which become socialised, as well as the outworking of sin and its effects in both the individual and the community. Neuroscience indicates the brain is neuroplastic: the brain not only changes but works by changing its structure in response to repeated mental stimuli (as shown in pornography studies). Consequently, if someone were to behave habitually like a woman, it would be unsurprising if the brain also changed to some extent as a response. Therefore, societal reinforcement and indeed 'celebration' of transgenderism will only cause more harm to those suffering from gender dysphoria. This is why programs like 'Safe Schools' actually damage, rather than help, those struggling with gender identity issues.

The Church's Response: Love, Gospel, Truth and Wisdom

So how should the Church respond to the suffering of those with gender dysphoria? With love. It is obvious that we have a lot to work through, some hard conversations to be had, and some difficult truths to communicate; but, over and above all, let us not lose sight of the basic truth that we are called to love – to love outrageously, to love corporately. That has implications for congregations. We need a willingness to bear with men and women suffering gender dysphoria and show our love as God works in them over time. We must be working hard to have congregations understand God's amazing grace in Christ as they joyfully embrace sinners with messy lives into their fellowship. Starting here will allow us to meet the pain of others with the compassion of Christ, and love as our Saviour Christ modelled and taught.

This will be difficult at times. After all, we believe that both those 'in Christ' and those 'in Adam', still struggle with sin and the effects of the Fall (Rom 5:12-21; 8:18ff; 1Cor 15:22). Gender dysphoria and related conditions are a product of the Fall, not necessarily of a person's individual sin – in the same way that the blind man was not blind because of his own or his parents' personal sinfulness (John 9:1-3).

While love and compassion are indispensable in our response, they alone are an inadequate Christian response. We must also bring the gospel to bear on all our sins, our addictions, our anxieties and our hopes; whether they are issues of sexuality or of pride or dishonesty. Ultimately, our answer to all sin and brokenness is repentance and faith in Christ. Our greatest need is not the removal of anxiety but the removal of sin; not a union of sex and gender but union with Christ through faith; faith in Christ that is expressed in submission to the biblical teaching on sex, gender, and gender expressions (Matt 11:28; Rom 12:1-2). Brett Lee-Price, executive director of the Thinking of God website (*thinkingofgod.org*), articulates this well:

'When walking with a transgendered individual, we need to approach the issue in a way which is redemptive. As in — how can we walk with this individual with the focus of helping them become reconciled to God? This means encouraging and helping them understand what it means to be a Christian as you would with any other individual that you would share the Gospel.'

Dr Russell D Moore, president of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission (the public arm of the Southern Baptist Convention in the U.S.), cautions on the importance of speaking truth in this matter (*On Faith*, Aug 15, 2013):

'The transgender question means that conservative Christian congregations such as mine must teach what's been handed down to us, that our maleness and femaleness point us to an even deeper reality, to the unity and complementarity of Christ and the church. A rejection of the goodness of those creational realities then is a revolt against God's lordship, and against the picture of the gospel that God had embedded in the creation.'

We must also appreciate the enormity of feelings of tension and alienation caused by gender dysphoria. While we want to always reorientate our thinking to biblical norms where gender and binary biological sex are tethered, we also realise that, this side of

glory, not all suffering is removed, nor do all anxieties disappear. This is undoubtedly true for those suffering the deep confusion, pain, alienation and at times depression due to the dislocation between gender and sex. This requires of us all a deep and long walk with Christ and a profound commitment to love deeply.

While our response ought to be marked out by love, gospel, and truth, it also requires great wisdom - wisdom to know how to respond to those who are suffering gender dysphoria who have come into the orbit of our love and who are now wrestling with gospel truth. For example, should we call a transgendered person by their given name or their new name? There is a strong view among many that calling a transgendered person by their old name is 'deadnaming' and it is a matter of basic courtesy to refer to someone by their preferred name. John Piper (*DesiringGod.org*, July 16, 2015) takes a similar position with regards to a name:

'In one sense the names Sally or Jim are culturally arbitrary and we can name our kids whatever we want. We can name them after cars or planets or Greek virtues or Grandma. And calling someone by that arbitrary name that their parents may have chosen or they may choose halfway through life may not imply agreement with all that that name was created to signify by the person... So that is one concession I am going to make because of the arbitrary nature of names. And then it is going to get a little more dicey and divisive.'

However, Piper goes on to say we must speak the truth and when it comes to pronouns we must use those that match the transgendered person's biological sex. This is a difficult issue, and Christians will differ in their pastoral approach, but it seems inconsistent to maintain gender is bound to identity but then encourage the usage of pronouns (and some might say names) that are inconsistent with biological sex. Given the sensitive and vexed nature of this matter, we must pray that we might '...be wise as serpents and innocent as doves'.

It is also important not to confuse personal pastoral responses to those suffering from gender dysphoria with the social and political purposes surrounding the same issue. It is abundantly clear that there are others who hope to redefine not only our education (Safe Schools), and institutions (homosexual marriage) but also our laws (anti-discrimination laws and employment laws, such as the 'inherent requirement' test).

Carl Trueman, of the Westminster Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania, encapsulates the challenge for the church well in an article, 'The Language of Love', at *First Things* (*FirstThings.com*, May 24, 2016):

'All Christians are required to care for people – the stranger, the sojourner, the one who is suffering, saints and sinners all. The language of love thus resonates strongly with Christians, who are always (rightly) susceptible to its charms. Set that language of love in a world such as ours, where emotional aesthetics trump ethics every time, and it is very vulnerable to being co-opted as political rhetoric because of its power to move people and to place any resistance on the defensive from the outset. And when that happens – Love Wins! – the scene is set for confusion. Well-meaning Christians who rightly want to love and care for their neighbor can quickly become the unwitting dupes of those with much greater social and political ambitions than live-and-let-live. Even those who wish to resist are in a hard place, for they know that the opposite of 'love' is 'hate' – and so what vocabulary can they draw upon to express their dissent?

'In this context, it behoves all Christians to think clearly about the issues and to make that separation between pastoral response to, and care for, the person struggling with issues of sexuality and the larger social ambitions of a movement that has a vested interest in denying any distinction between the personal and the political. A failure to make that distinction and to demonstrate its critical importance will in the long run prove disastrous for the freedom of all. For who in their right mind would be opposed to love.'

Marriage and the Plebiscite

It is important for us to understand the social, cultural and legal changes that have brought us to a point when the nation is seriously considering redefining marriage. It can be argued that the sexual revolution of the 1960s was fuelled to some extent by the introduction of the contraceptive pill. It was first introduced in the U.S. market on May 1960, and it arrived in Australia nine months later (ironically). Contraception for better or worse separated sexual activity from the covenant of marriage. No longer was sex seen as something to be kept for marriage, but something to be enjoyed, experimented and celebrated external to the marriage covenant.

The introduction of 'no fault divorce' in 1975 then separated the idea of permanence from the marriage bond. The institution of marriage was no longer a definitive institution with a *raison d'être*. Increasingly, it was viewed as a socially subjective construct, not a definitive institution that existed to bring together a man and a woman in a biological, social and legal covenant, with a purpose to provide for and protect any children they may have, in a life-long commitment.

The progressives' slow long march through our social institutions will reach its nadir with the removal of gender differentiation. Accordingly, the new definition of marriage collapses the very biological foundation and structure of the institution. For those Australians and groups who picture human flourishing as the attainment of sexual freedom and fulfilment, a plebiscite victory for redefining marriage is essential, some say inevitable.

None the less, our God is a sovereign and merciful king, and he may hear our prayers and choose to put a hedge around marriage. To that end, the committee encourages all presbyteries, sessions, and individual presbyterians to support the traditional and biblical view of marriage in any way possible in the upcoming plebiscite. This would include bearing witness, distributing material, and assisting at voting booths, among other things.

However, even if the plebiscite results in redefinition of marriage, our mission remains the same: to worship Christ, and make known his gospel and kingdom; living and serving in such a way as to be a winsome witness.

Persecuted Christians

The committee continues to be concerned about the plight of Christians in other nations who are undergoing persecution, in particular in Iraq and Syria. There has been a widespread concern for the humanitarian situation in Syria, in particular, the situation for Christian refugees. The Australian government has committed to taking 12,000 extra Syrian refugees with the majority from persecuted Christian and other religious minorities. The former immigration minister and now Treasurer, Scott Morrison, was quoted as saying that Christians would make up a 'very large component' of the 12,000 refugee intake (*The Australian*, 21 Nov, 2015).

However, in a letter dated 17 December to the PCV's Church and Nation Committee, the Immigration Minister Peter Dutton's office further clarified the government's position, though it did go on to state Christians would certainly be among the 12,000:

'The 12,000 places will be available to refugees referred by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as well as to persons proposed under the Special Humanitarian Programme (SHP). People eligible for resettlement under the SHP may be registered with the UNHCR, but it is not a requirement.

'The Humanitarian Visa Programme is controlled and administered by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection, which assesses and makes decisions on SHP visa applications and other refugee applications made by individuals who are referred by the UNHCR.

'While Australia takes refugees from all religious backgrounds and we do not target people on the basis of their religion, this may be relevant to the nature of their claims for refugee status. All claims will be assessed on an individual basis – in line with Australia's existing refugee and humanitarian policies.'

Since then the Refugee Council of Australia has accused the government of 'cherry-picking' its way through the UN lists favouring families and minorities. By the middle of April, fewer than 200 refugees had arrived under the program, though 1,600 visas have been issued overseas with imminent arrivals expected from May. However, it should be noted the Department of Social Security website indicates that '...due to the complex and changing circumstances in the Middle East, it may take a number of years for all arrivals to be settled in Australia'.

In the meantime, there are numerous ways our churches can be involved in mercy ministries to all refugees here now, or coming in the future. Many churches are taking the opportunity to show love in practical ways including: teaching English (ESL classes), and providing food, furniture, transportation and general help in settling into a new country.

Website

Our committee's website [www.yourcan.org] was updated earlier this year by Mike Wharton, who has been very helpful in assisting the committee with a digital presence.

Committee Finances

During the 2015/16 fiscal year, the committee experienced no fiscal challenges. We expect that, in the next fiscal year; we may run a small deficit due to the 2017 colloquium. However, given our fiscal restraint in the non-colloquium years, this should not pose a concern for the Assembly.

Researcher

Mrs Fleur Letcher continues in her role as researcher and has been invaluable to the committee. Her research and writing are of a high standard and continue to adorn the work of the committee. We give thanks to God for her gifts and work.

Membership of the Committee

All members of the committee have been regular in their attendance. We have just filled a casual vacancy with Chris Duke. There are still several vacancies on the committee that could and should be filled by those with an interest in Church and State. Please consider becoming a member of this committee.

Rev Darren Middleton CONVENER

Church & Nation Committee

General Operations	Year Ended 30th June 2016	
Statement of Income & Expenditure		
Income:		
Colloquium Receipts	6,657	
Common Fund Interest	48,054	
Publication Sales	14	
Total Income	54,725	
Expenditure:		
Personnel - Researcher	19,173	
Office Expenses	2,953	
Colloquium Expenses	19,320	
Travel	842	
Total Expenditure	42,288	
Surplus on General Operations	12,437	
Movements in Funds		
Balance 1/7/15	398,337	
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	12,437	
Add back depreciation	433	
Colloquium Expenses paid June 2015	6,211	
Annual Leave Accrual	1,354	
Balance 30/6/16	418,773	

CHURCH PLANTING COMMITTEE (Min. 95)

The committee has continued to serve the church seeking to fulfil the purpose and duties as laid down in the committee regulations.

The need for property

Some presbyteries have responded to the Assembly's 2015 request (min 87.1) to inform the committee of localities where they desire to see future gospel work established and property may be required.

Areas identified by presbyteries include the following: Lara, Armstrong Creek, Bellarine Peninsula, Torquay, Craigieburn, Wallan, South Morang, Donnybrook, Mickleham, Wollert, Beveridge (land already held by PCV), Broadmeadows, City of Moreland, Thomastown, Traralgon, Phillip Island, Huntly, Echuca, Marong, Strathfieldsaye, Mildura/Buronga, Casterton, Mortlake, Cardigan/Lucas, Delacombe, Bonshaw/Ross Creek, North East Ballarat, Tarneit, Hoppers Crossing, Truganina, Bacchus Marsh, and Sunbury.

The presbyteries that are yet to respond will no doubt see a significant increase in the number of places identified by presbyteries as strategic.

We also have the still establishing church plants of Point Cook, South East Bendigo, Darebin and Warragul, which will in time benefit from a permanent place of worship.

We also have three former church plants, which have not yet acquired a permanent presence: Melton, Croydon Hills and Brimbank.

The Property Development Fund does not have resources sufficient to bring to fruition the desires of one property let alone the number identified. We simply have too much demand and not the resources to complete the task.

Attempting to find a property for Croydon Hills or Brimbank is very difficult for two reasons. Firstly, land is these areas is now very costly, secondly most land has been allocated so that blocks of land that are of sufficient size are no longer available. The PCV must start anticipating future needs and acquire land early in the development process to avoid both aforementioned difficulties.

The need for increased funding

The committee is very keen to 'fund church planters' and to 'fund grants to establish new congregations' yet will be unable to do so after the current batch of plants have become financially independent. The committee's main source of income is a 20% allocation of the SCPT distribution. The remaining 80% is allocated to the Ministry Development Committee. To enable the committee to carry out the purposes and duties assigned to it by the Assembly we are asking that the assembly alter the ratio of distribution from the present 80:20 to 50:50 with a transition period.

Curacy-type program

While the committee seeks to identify future potential church planters it, at times, finds that a candidate may benefit from some full time ministry experience prior to embarking on a church plant. The committee would like to be able to contribute to the costs of congregations taking on a future planter who would gain experience and may even proceed to plant a new congregation from the congregation they complete

their experience in. A similar *curacy* program was advanced by the ad hoc Committee on Strategy in 2006 (GAV 2006 p.192).

The committee does not have the funds to see this type of program through even though it may provide us with better-equipped church planters.

The Ministry Development Committee is able to fund second workers, however this type of *curacy* is beyond the present regulations.

With the increasing number of candidates, this type of program may also become a useful system of placing exit students.

The original Home Missions Committee was able to complement the goals of Home Mission and Church Extension with one arm helping the other. Now with separate regulations and areas of responsibility some of the benefits of the combined committee have been lost. One area that would seem to overlap the two present committees is that of church replanting. This would involve churches which are present Home Mission Stations temporarily closing in order to reopen later. PCNSW is about to conduct such an endeavor with Scots' in the Sydney CBD with the help of their Ministry & Mission Committee, which is analogous to our former Home Missions Committee. While this system could be a fantastic way of seeing ministry thrive, the present dichotomy of Church Extension or Home Missions is not conducive to such projects.

Cameron Garrett CONVENER

CHURCH PLANTER EVANGELIST

Jesus said Go and make disciples... and it is happening!

It has been a great privilege to work at the task of church planting with the Presbyterian Church of Victoria for the past year. Across our church plants we have seen people being saved as they have put their faith in Christ. Young and old, rich and poor, new immigrants and long time Australians have repented, been baptised and welcomed into the kingdom of God.

More than that, many people are being discipled and have stepped up into positions of leadership. New elders have been trained and appointed. Bible study group leaders, youth group leaders and kids church leaders have accepted responsibilities and become active in service. Please give thanks for the growth the Lord has blessed us with.

Yet the opportunities remain before us – there are so many more churches to be planted, so many mission fields to be opened up across Victoria, so many people who have yet to hear of the glorious grace of God our saviour and king. So many people are looking for a good church.

We are learning a lot about church planting and developing the skills and systems to grow churches to become self-sustaining and multiplying. The kind of church that is planted in the suburban growth corridors and regional cities will be different to those we plant in inner ring suburbs. Both areas are seeing rapid population growth and both need special focus for church planting.

This year we have planted no new churches

This is not because we have run out of suitable places in which to plant – the opportunities are unprecedented in the history of our state. Victoria continues to grow at 100,000 people per year, with 8 million predicted to live in Melbourne in a few decades time. We urgently need many more churches to welcome in the many people the Lord is calling to himself across the state. We urgently need people willing to proclaim Christ in new places.

What has held us back is a lack of finances and a lack of suitable personnel. We urgently need more of both.

A successful church plant is complicated by bringing together a variety of parties including Planter, the Presbytery, the core team and the church planting committee. Pray that the LORD may bless these complex unions leading to successful church plants for his glory.

Mothers, daughters and good health

This year we have done health checks on the experience of our church plants and their mother churches where relevant. In every case the loss of members to the daughter church has been painful to the mother. In some cases it has lead to a new experience of growth, in other cases it has lead to stagnation or even decline. This is consistent with the experience elsewhere, however we will prepare for the process better in the future. Not all our church plants have grown steadily and we have become aware of the reasons for this. Much of what we have learnt is being written into our soon to be released church planting manual.

As church planter evangelist my focus this year has been on

a. Providing peer support for our existing church planters

We meet monthly at the PTC to report, train, share, listen and pray for each other. This is of critical importance for the sustained growth of our church plants.

b. Coaching

All of our church plants have a coach who has been trained through the Geneva Push church-planting network. One to one coaching is usually by Skype but sometimes face to face.

c. Finding and assessing church planters

We are constantly on the lookout for potential new church planters and getting them assessed. It is becoming clear that students are rarely ready for planting fresh out of college. A curacy program was advanced by the ad hoc Committee on Strategy in 2006 (see report p192) and this should be adopted so that potential planters are not lost to existing churches or drop out of ministry altogether. The CPC is not in a position to fund this program.

d. Negotiating with presbyteries

I have visited a couple of Presbyteries to talk about the possibilities of church planting in their bounds.

e. Developing systems and methods

At Valley Presbyterian we are seeking to develop a successful model of church planting that can be easily replicated in growth corridors around Melbourne and beyond. We are currently writing a church planting manual for the PCV.

f. Inspiring the next generation

The Geneva Push in particular has been a great partner in providing training and the annual Multiply Conference to which we have brought young men considering planting with us.

Church Planting – the research is in!

Our PCV church plants have participated in Australia wide research on church planting begun in 2015 and led by Ed Stetzer from LifeWay Research in the US. The report focuses on 110 new church works started since 2000 and still operating today. It compares our experience with that of the US and Canada.

Average attendance at new churches started since 2000

YEAR	Australia	Canada	USA	PCV
1	38	41	51	34
2	50	51	74	49
3	61	61	95	61
4	70	-	124	77

New churches in Australia and Canada are growing by about 10 people per year while in the US growth is more rapid. Our experience across the PCV church plants is slightly ahead of the Australian average although individual experiences have varied significantly.

Financial self-sufficiency

A critical issue for church plants is financial viability. 26% of Australian church plants are financially self-sufficient after one year, and 44% after three years. Very few ever reach self-sufficiency if they have not reached it by the end of the fourth year. We are working with our PCV church plants to encourage a heart for generosity from day one. We do not normally fund our church plants after the fifth year.

Presbyteries and church plants

A big thanks to those presbyteries who have done research to work out the best potential places for future church plants. It is a critically important role of presbyteries to have a close eye on the mission opportunities in their bounds. Those presbyteries in the inner ring of Melbourne must be especially alert to the opportunities before them. The best place to begin is http://profile.id.com.au/ Find your Local Government Area and then at the top of the page navigate to "forecast" to see future plans.

Land for our churches

With the mood to change the Australian Marriage Act growing stronger and with an aggressive state government on this issue we may find it increasingly difficult to hire government buildings such as schools and community halls for church plants in the future. We have seen the warning signs for this already interstate.

Urban planners do not include churches in their development plans unless we have purchased land beforehand. On a visit with the Metropolitan Planning Authority it was clear that the Catholic Church alone is well prepared for the future while the Presbyterian Church is ill prepared. If we do not plan carefully we can expect a time in the future where there will be large parts of Melbourne without any Presbyterian church.

It is more strategic to plan for fewer larger multi-staff churches rather than many smaller churches that are struggling to be viable. We need to plan carefully where these will be.

We need to **establish a working group** of suitably experienced business people, real estate agents, developers and urban planners who will research and find suitable blocks of land to purchase before the development in the growth corridors begins and land prices take off. Please contact the church planting committee if you know of suitable Christians who would like to be part of this group.

We need to work out creative ways of raising money for this land including inviting people to be generous to the PCV in their wills, GMP funding, sites reserve, and a state wide levy.

We would like Assembly to consider renaming the Property Development Fund the **Future Fund** to encourage people to invest in the future of the denomination and we invite wealthy parishes and individuals to invest generously into the future growth of God's kingdom through the PCV.

Richard Wilson CHURCH PLANTER EVANGELIST

Church Planting Committee General Operations

General Operations	Year Ended 30th June 2016		
Statement of Income and Expenditure			
Income:			
Common Fund Interest	39,699		
Scots Church Property Trust	140,962		
Rentals Received	27,636		
Total Receipts	208,297		
Expenditure:			
Property Expenses - Tivendale Rd Officer	22,297		
Donation National Church Planting Network	16,000		
Committee Expenses	1,867		
Education and Training	1,236		
Evangelism Officer	98,751		
Church Plant - Valley PC	1,175		
Church Plant - Darebin	67,372		
Church Plant - Pt Cook	51,750		
Church Plant - SE Bendigo	65,709		
Church Plant - Warragul	30,000		
Total Expenditure	356,158		
Surplus on General Operations	<u>(147,861)</u>		
Mayamanta in Funda			
Movements in Funds Balance 1/7/15	205 202		
	395,203		
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	(147,861)		
Decrease/(Increase) Current Assets Decrease/(Increase) Fixed Assets	3,033 1,175		
Increase/(Decrease) Current Liabilities	5,465		
Balance 30/6/16	257,015		
Balance 30/0/10	237,013		
Property Development Trust			
Statement of Income & Expenditure			
-			
Income:	92.970		
Common Fund Interest Grant from Capital Fund	82,870 114,932		
Donations	36,775		
Donations	234,577		
Surplus on Specific Trusts	234,577		
Movements in Funds			
Balance 1/7/15	648,519		
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	234,577		
Balance 30/6/16	883,096		

CLERKSHIP COMMITTEE (Min. 97)

The Committee met several times during the year, including with the Clerk in July, for which meeting he provided a written report.

We are extremely blessed as a denomination and more particularly as a General Assembly in having the Rev Dr John Wilson as Clerk of the General Assembly.

To the best of its ability and in the context of certain challenges, the Clerkship Committee has sought to provide the required counsel, pastoral care and support for the Clerk.

A major preoccupation of the Clerk as Convener of the Code Committee over the past three years, now coming to fruition at this year's General Assembly, has been the revision of the Code, which hopefully will stand the General Assembly, presbyteries and sessions in good stead for the next decade!

A feature of the Clerk's work this year has been commencing visits to our eleven presbyteries for ordinary business and helpfully being available to assist with expert advice in relation to matters of concern: the Code, its revision and proposals for the use of Sites Reserve being two such examples.

With the Clerk's installation for a three year term as Moderator-General of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, careful consideration has been given to the Clerk's workload and wellbeing. The current year has not been an easy one for him.

The Clerk has now relinquished teaching of church history at the College, which was being done in his own time. With the move of his shared administrative assistant to the College, the committee has taken the opportunity to review the Clerk's current and future administration support arrangements. As a result of this review arrangements are being made for a part time appointment of a dedicated administrative assistant to assist with both roles as Clerk of our Assembly as well as Moderator-General. The committee has stressed to him that he needs to remember that he does not have the time of a retired Minister in fulfilling the role of Moderator-General.

The role of PCV Safe Church supervisor has been rather more taxing than expected. With new arrangements for an assistant to Mrs Fiona Bligh, Training and Compliance Officer and a greater role for the Safe Church Panel, we hope this will become more manageable going forward.

We are all discovering that ensuring Safe Church philosophy and practices thoroughly permeate our church, means that we are learning to adapt how we go about our work for the Lord and even our work places may need adaptation. So it is that we will conduct an evaluation of the church office at 156 Collins St for Safe Church compliance.

The committee is bringing forward proposals to make the review function of the committee more visible in the regulations whilst also proposing the appointment of a convener for a three year term. The annual changeover of convener is not helpful to the committee's effectiveness in:

- a) Providing counsel, pastoral care and support for the Clerk; and
- b) Providing an annual review of the Clerk's performance.

In past reports we have raised the issue of succession planning and we are including a clause in the deliverance for the creation of a new office of the General Assembly called Assistant to the Clerks. While such a position will prove a benefit in view of the Clerk's additional role as Moderator-General, its main function is to give tangible effect to the need to train someone for a future role as Clerk of the General Assembly.

Also in the deliverance is a clause that updates the Clerk's job description.

Rev David Palmer CONVENER

CODE AND GENERAL ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (Min. 83)

The Committee is charged with:

- a) dealing with any matter referred to it by the Assembly;
- b) discussing and reporting on any matter that concerns the organisation and work of the church as a whole;
- suggesting ways in which there can be a greater measure of coordination and cooperation in the work of the church and efficiency within the work of the Assembly and its committees;
- d) overseeing all matters to do with the Code, and in particular any proposed changes to rule or regulation.

The Committee has met twice via its email-protocol method and three times face to face.

1. Returns to Remit

The General Assembly (GAV 2015, min 117) sent the Code Revision Project – Oct 2015 to presbyteries under the Barrier Act, according to rule 5:57(b). The returns to remit show unanimous support for the proposed Code revision, as follows:

presbyteries in favour: 11 presbyteries against: nil

Sending the remit under rule 5:57(b) meant that comments were invited, and several presbyteries offered helpful comments that ranged from minor typos and formatting suggestions to proposed changes that can only come to the Assembly via overture.

The result is that the document before us now is the same as that which was sent down to presbyteries, except for minor typos and formatting changes. No other change has been made from last year's proposal.

In order to bring about this once in two decades product many people have worked hard and long especially members of this committee and other proof-readers. In particular, we wish to record our thanks to the presbyteries who engaged carefully in this revision project, to Philip Barton for his sacrificial and masterful work in writing, to Mark Tonkin for his painstaking proofreading and to Peter Phillips for keeping the committee on track over the past three years and also for composing the Index.

We feel confident that the new PCV Code is now ready for adoption and clause 1 of the proposed deliverance seeks its approval, publication and distribution.

2. BIF regulations

The Committee considered the instruction of GAV 2015, min 112.9. This instruction read, as follows (referring to the GMP regulations):

"Request the Code and General Administration Committee to include as many of these regulations within the regulations of the Board of Investment and Finance, for approval by the 2016 GAV, so as to enable the board to carry out the functions previously carried out by the GMP Committee."

The Committee also negotiated with the BIF a tidy-up of BIF regulations with regard to formatting of headings. The results of these considerations are set out in clause 2 of the proposed deliverance.

3. Ministry Development Committee regulations

The Committee noticed an inadvertent omission of words from the Ministry Development Committee regulation 16 and sought, by negotiation between committees, to rectify this and to express the heading to regulation 16 and regulation 16(a) in words that better reflect current practice. The results of these considerations are set out in clause 3 of the proposed deliverance.

4. PWMU Constitution

The Committee received notification from the PWMU Council that it wished to rewrite its Constitution. Several consultations have taken place during the year between PWMU and the Clerk and between PWMU and the Law Agent. Dependent on the PWMU approving the draft edition (attached to the PWMU Report) at its annual meeting of 6 October 2016, the Committee is ready to place the proposed Constitution before the Assembly for approval. See clause 4 of the proposed deliverance.

5. PCV Internet Presence

The General Assembly (GAV 2014, min 66) added the supervision of the PCV website to the Clerk's duties. So far, the Clerk has attended to this in three stages:

- a) An initial upgrade of the Website in 2015, using the initiative and skills of Scott Kroeger. We are very grateful to Scott for the hours of work he put into this, and all in his own time and with his renowned generosity for the work of the gospel of Christ. Though generally acceptable, feedback from this launch suggested that we could do better.
- b) The establishment of an advisory panel consisting of people better equipped than the Clerk in this area to advise him and work towards the 2nd phase of the launch. Those who have advised the Clerk at different times on this panel were Luke Isham, Cam Garrett, Susie Cloete, Mike Wharton, Michael Ellison and Matthew Duke. These advisors wisely urged the Clerk to supervise the PCV webpage by placing it within a wider context of the entire PCV Internet presence.
- c) The 2nd version of the PCV webpage was launched Monday 25 July, 2016, with good feedback so far. It is primarily the work of Cam Garrett, and we thank him for it. We want to also place on record: that we are very grateful to Mike Wharton for the years of work he put into this area of PCV life, often in his own time and with his renowned generosity for the work of the gospel of Christ.

The Committee has given its attention to this whole question of PCV's internet presence and email use, and has developed a document 'PCV Internet Presence and Email Use – Policy, Guidelines, Protocols', October 2016. The Committee believes this will enhance the work of the PCV and provide safeguards as well. Clause 5 of the proposed deliverance seeks approval.

6. Metro Committee regulations

The METRO Committee asked for an increase of membership to seven members. Clause 6 of the proposed deliverance addresses this matter.

7. Clerkship Committee regulations

The Clerkship Committee raised with this committee two matters that it believed needed attention with regard to its regulations. Clause 7 of the proposed deliverance brings this matter to the attention of the Assembly.

8. Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee regulations

The Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee asked for an adjustment to their regulations 9 and 10. The reason for the change is to have the regulations reflect current practice with regard to the Special Collections and to Tertiary Chaplaincy. Clause 8 of the proposed deliverance advances this proposal to the Assembly.

9. Appointment of the Selection Committee

Although not listed in its regulations, one of the annual tasks given to this Committee is to bring to the Assembly seven nominations for appointment to the Selection Committee. Clause 9 of the proposed deliverance attends to this.

COMMISSION FOR CHURCH INSTITUTIONS (Min. 48)

The Commission made the following appointments for the year 2016/2017:

- **1.** Subject to:
 - a) confirmation from Presbytery regarding Rev Douglas Robertson
 - b) confirmation from SACC Board regarding Pastor Andrew Courtis

the Commission appointed the following to St Andrews Christian College Board:

- i) Nominator, the Presbytery of the bounds:
 Mr James Bligh, term concludes 2017
 Mrs Sandy Carroll, term concludes 2018
 Rev Brian Harvey, term concludes 2018
 Rev Douglas Robertson, term concludes 2019
- ii) Nominator, retiring members of the Board:
 Mrs Sharon Rowland, term concludes 2017
 Mr Adrian Rowley, term concludes 2017
 Mr Peter Lewis, term concludes 2018
 Pastor Andrew Courtis, term concludes 2019
- iii) Nominator, the Company in General Meeting (Parent Group):
 vacancy, term concludes 2017
 Mr Alan MacGavin, term concludes 2018
 Mr Sab Ambrosino, term concludes 2019
 Mr John O'Donnell, term concludes 2019
- 2. The Commission appointed the following:
 - a) Belgrave Heights Christian School Association (Board)
 - i) General Assembly Presbyterian nominees (6):
 Mr Ian Birchall
 Mr Ian Byles
 Rev Warwick Davidson
 Mr Dirk Jackson
 Rev Andrew Slater
 Mr Chris White
 - ii) BHCS Association (Parents Association) nominees (4):Mrs Yolanda CoxMr Stephen DunnMrs Amanda WightMr Trent Young

b) Presbyterian Ladies' College Council Group A appoint: Group B appoint: Group C approve & appoint: Ms Mui-Chun Chew Prof Greg Barton Mr Brian Bayston Mrs Fiona Bligh Mrs Carolyn Elvins **Rev Mark Chew** Mrs Catherine Mrs Christine Hopper Mr Ben de Waard O'Leary Dr Emily Roberts Dr Andrew McDonald Mrs Kate Sampson Mr Russell Walley Mrs Janice Smith Mrs Jan Markham Mrs Gail Thannhauser

c) Scotch College Council

Group A appoint: Group B appoint: Group C approve & appoint:

Rev Ivan Barker Mr Jonathan Buckley Prof Andrew Holmes
Mr Brian Bayston Mr Peter Findlay Mrs Jayne Hrdlicka
Mr John Ireson Hon Dr David Kemp Mrs Alison Legge
Mr Duncan Ass Prof Doug Lording Mr Richard Loveridge

McGregor

Rev John Wilson Mr Robert Phillpot Mrs Fiona Pearse Mr Michael Sim

Mr Michael Sim Mr Hamish Tadgell

Dr Jillian Webster

John P Wilson CLERK

DEFENCE FORCE CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE (Min. 98)

Apart from the ongoing commitment to training and operational priorities, the ADF continues to implement extensive organisational change based on what is referred to as the 'First Principles Review'. Much of the focus during 2016 has been on the key recommendations related to establishing a streamlined capability. In this ever changing high tempo environment our chaplains in the ADF continue to seek to advance the cause of Christ. They continue to take the opportunities to own Christ publically and at a more one on one level. Your ADF chaplains regularly run or facilitate weekly base chapel worship services, bible studies, discipleship programs and prayer meetings as well as provide lessons and formal instruction sessions. As always, their pastoral care and pastoral counselling is constantly sought after.

The committee met once during the year. Rev Peter Owen took over as convener from Rev Martin de Pyle who is now working in Canberra. RACS member, Rev Allan Harman, has continued to supply valued leadership and pastoral support. Rev Harman has indicated that he will not be seeking to continue in this role at the next GAA and we formally acknowledge the invaluable contribution he has provided to Presbyterian chaplaincy and the wider ADF. His insight, wisdom and leadership will be greatly missed.

This will be the final year Rev Joshua Bouzanquet will be with us in Victoria. Rev Bouzanquet is an in-service candidate for Army chaplaincy who completed his theological studies at QTC and is now finishing his final year of pastoral placement at Eltham Presbyterian Church. Along with his family he is due to post to Darwin from 2017.

Again we have appreciated the offers from a number of congregations to come and speak about the work of military chaplaincy. If any congregation would like to know more about any aspect of ADF chaplaincy then please contact the convener.

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.

Chaplains currently members of this Assembly are:

Navy	
------	--

Chaplain Barry Porter Chaplain Miles Fagan	RAN RANR	HMAS Albatross HMAS Cerberus
Army Chaplain Martin de Pyle Chaplain Trevor Cox Chaplain Kyung Ee	ARA ARES ARES	HQ AHQ 4CER AST (AKG) Puckapunyal
RAAF Chaplain Peter Phillips Chaplain Peter Owen	RAAFSR RAAFSR	21 SQN RAAF Williams 21 SQN RAAF Williams

Peter Owen CONVENER

EXIT STUDENTS COMMITTEE (Min. 60)

Membership of the committee varies each year with three permanent members: Convener MDC, Director MDC and Principal PTC and the remaining members coming from presbyteries who have exiting students for that year.

Appointments of the 2015 Exit Students were made in October last year after the 2015 GAV. They were as follows:

Brett Cummins to Wangaratta Regional Parish in Benalla Presbytery

Daniel Dixon to Williamstown in Melbourne West Presbytery

Stephen McDonald to Benalla Regional Parish in Benalla Presbytery

The committee received a commitment from the Presbytery of Melbourne East that they would take responsibility for Daryl Jackson according to Code 4A:51 (Ordination of Missionaries).

The committee is keen that parishes and presbyteries indicate at the earliest opportunity that they intend to apply for an exit student. To that end, the committee wrote to ministers and presbyteries several times early in the year to provide information and a timeline for the 2016 year. Applications are generally due by late May. If applications are slow or late in being received, the process of appointments is at risk of delay.

This year, the committee consists of Rev Ian Hutton (as MDC Convener), Rev Peter Hastie (as PTC Principal), Rev Dr Robert Carner (as MDC Director) and 4 representatives of candidates' sending presbyteries; Rev Michael Wishart (Flinders), Rev Gerald Vanderwert (Maroondah), Rev Chris Siriweera (Melbourne East) and Rev Nello Barbieri (Melbourne North). The ESC is dealing with the placement of 4 candidates; Andy Buchan, Cameron Griffiths, Greg Matthews and Joel Mestry. Appointments have not yet been finalised at the time of writing.

Ian Hutton

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE (Min. 100)

The Health Community Chaplaincy Committee (HCCC) meets bi-monthly and this year has been comprised of the following people:

Rev Miles Fagan (Convener)
Rev Phillip Chang
Rev Phillip Court
Mrs Louise Garrett
Rev Clinton Le Page
Mrs Toni Orchard
Mrs Alison Robertson
Rev Grant Vayne
Rev Chuol Yat

Our meetings are also attended each month by HCCC employees Mrs Kathy James (Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Co-ordinator) and Mrs Sandy Carroll (HCCC Administrator and Camp Co-ordinator). We give thanks that Clinton Le Page was able to convene several meetings and represent HCCC at the Assembly during a period of leave by the convener during the year.

Healthcare chaplaincy

HCCC thanks the many people who pray for our chaplains and we remind the Assembly of those chaplains and pastoral care workers funded by the PCV through the HCCC during 2015/2016:

- Mrs Gita Dickinson commencing this year as Paediatric Chaplain (0.6EFT) to The Royal Children's Hospital funded by the Harold Hughes Trust
- Mrs Suzanne Oakes Paediatric Chaplain (0.4EFT) to The Royal Children's Hospital funded by the Harold Hughes Trust
- Mrs Jacqui Spanos commencing this year as Paediatric Chaplain to Eastern Health (0.6 EFT) funded by the Harold Hughes Trust
- Mr Ian Waller Paediatric Chaplain to Western Health (0.6 EFT) funded by the Harold Hughes Trust
- Mrs Christine Le Page Paediatric Chaplain (0.4EFT) to Northern Health funded by the Harold Hughes Trust
- Rev Tony and Ms Anne Salisbury Chaplaincy to the Deaf Community funded jointly with the Ministry Development Committee and the Deaf Presbyterian Church (1.0 EFT)
- Miss Elspeth Slater Pastoral Support Worker to PCV Ministry Wives (0.6 EFT)
- Rev Wally Gear chaplain to Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes funded jointly with the Social Services Committee (1.0 EFT) – retired June 2016

Rev Wally Gear formally retired from his role as Kirkbrae Chaplain on 30 June 2016. His chaplaincy work, after more than 9 years in the role, was spoken of with great eloquence at Wally's retirement function held at Kirkbrae in February 2016. We wish Wally all the very best in his retirement and thank God for his many years of faithful service on behalf of the PCV and the staff, residents and families at Kirkbrae.

HCCC currently chairs and participates in the Kirkbrae Chaplaincy Committee (KCC) now in the process of seeking a new chaplain for Kirkbrae. HCCC, the Social

Services Committee and Maroondah Presbytery seek prayer for wisdom in the selection of the next chaplain to serve the community of Kirkbrae in the years ahead.

We have been particularly encouraged this year through the further expansion of our healthcare chaplaincy work with the addition of the two new positions at Eastern Health and The Royal Children's Hospital which commenced in early 2016.

The HCCC also provides monthly payments to cover travel expenses for several PCV voluntary visiting chaplains working in a range of settings including local health and aged care facilities, prisons and to Victoria Police. We urge the Assembly to continue to pray for these varied and important works.

Tertiary chaplaincy: Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students (AFES)

The HCCC, together with the MDC, help fund Presbyterian AFES workers each year as they work across several Victorian campuses. The names of current AFES workers, along with their field of mission and field of service in the PCV are listed below:

- La Trobe University, Bundoora Peter Leslie (Valley PC) and Helen Bell -International students (Bundoora PC)
- La Trobe University, Bendigo Steve Blyth
- Deakin University, Geelong David Martin (North Geelong PC)
- Deakin University, Burwood Pete Sorrenson (Surrey Hills PC)
- RMIT, Melbourne Steve Denness (Donvale PC)
- RMIT, Bundoora Alan Green (Bundoora PC)
- Monash University Ken Lim (Donvale PC)

The PCV is grateful to God for the many ministers who have come into ordained ministry through AFES and the impact that each of these workers have in their own fields of service.

Spiritual Health Victoria

The PCV retains one seat on the Council of Spiritual Health Victoria (SHV) currently held by Mrs Kathy James, who is also the current chairman of the SHV Board.

In 2015/2016 the PCV received an amount of \$25,812.00 for use in facilitating PCV healthcare chaplaincy services, an amount based proportionally on the level of Presbyterian representation in Victoria in the most recent Census (2011).

Please pray for this council which exists to administer State Government funding to Victorian faith communities in support of the provision of dedicated spiritual care services in healthcare settings in Victoria.

Pastoral Support Worker: Ministry Wives

Miss Elspeth Slater continues in her vital role of ministry to our PCV ministry wives. This occurs through regular visitation in individual and group settings, telephone and email contact, much prayer, attendance at a wide range of PCV events and the publication of her regular newsletter "Food for Thought".

We thank the Lord for the wonderful provision of Elspeth and seek your prayers for Elspeth in her final year of work on our behalf as she transitions towards retirement at the end of June 2017.

Please pray for continued wisdom and provision for this vital ministry.

HCCC Good Friday Appeal

Through the partnership and generosity of our PCV congregations, the HCCC Good Friday Appeal for 2016 raised \$19,407.05 in support of our varied PCV chaplaincy ministries. The HCCC gives thanks to God for this wonderful annual contribution and values your prayers for its effective application to our ongoing work.

PCV Ministry Family Camp

The Ministry Family Camp is a precious time for many ministry families as they gather for several days at Phillip Island Adventure Resort. 2015 was no exception with the Rev Tim Dyer as our keynote speaker who spoke on 'Guarding hearts and minds in Ministry'. All present found the subject matter and subsequent discussions highly relevant and helpful.

We are also thankful for the support of the PCV congregations in funding their minister's attendance where possible and the many other committees and agencies which partner with HCCC each year to make the camp a success including PWMU, APWM and CENC in the support and provision of a wonderful team of PYV workers and helpers.

The 2016 camp is in the final stages of preparation and our speaker for this camp will be Rev Peter Currie. Peter is the minister at Woonona Presbyterian Church and lectures at Christ College NSW on spiritual formation in ministry.

Pastors Renewal Retreat Groups

Pastors' Retreat Groups have continued with similar numbers as last year. An exciting development in 2016 has been the first retreat held for PCV minister's wives, co-ordinated by Mrs Roslyn Brown, Mrs Rosemary O'Brien and Mrs Cherryn Hassan (NSW). The formation of this group has been widely anticipated and the retreat held in Portland was most encouraging for all able to attend.

Please pray for all who continue to engage in this ministry as facilitators or group participants.

Pastors' Personal Support Pilot program

Following the successful trial of the pilot program in 2013, discussions at the GAV in 2014, and subsequently much prayer by the HCCC; the Pastors' Personal Support program has emerged in a new format this year.

In the new financial year (2016-2017) the revised program is being launched as the Ministry Family Assistance (MFA) program with literature to be circulated in July 2016 to all PCV ministry families. Through the provision of funding in our General Account, HCCC will now fund up to four visits during the year to a professional christian counsellor for ministry families as required.

Establishing the functionality of the program with a focus on accessibility and confidentiality has been a keen focus of HCCC's activities on this front in the reporting period.

Proposed Changes to HCCC regulations:

At the request of the Code Committee during the year, the HCCC reviewed our committee regulations and, in light of changes in our activities and methods of operation in recent years, noted several areas that required updating.

The proposed changes are being advanced under the Code Committee Deliverance.

Conclusion

'Guarding hearts and minds of ministry families' has been a particular focus for the HCCC during the year therefore it is fitting to conclude with these words from the Apostle Paul:

'Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me – practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.' (Phil 4:8-9 ESV)

Miles Fagan CONVENER

Health & Community Chaplaincy Committee

General Operations	Year Ended 30th June 2016
Statement of Income and Expenditure	
Income:	
Donations & Gifts	21,564
Family Camp Income	25,099
Grants & Subsidies	25,812
Common Fund Interest	105,641
Total Income	178,116
Expenditure:	
Chaplaincy Fees, Salaries and Benefits	43,400
Grants	20,000
Education & Training Chaplains	1,596
Ministers' Family Camp & Retreats	43,338
General Expenses	2,044
Insurance	1,030
Secretarial, Postage & Stationery	1,231
Committee and Travel	6,345
MFC Administrator	16,059
Chaplaincy Co-ordinator	31,778
Total Expenditure	166,822
Surplus on General Operations	11,294
Movements in Funds	
Balance 1/7/15	1,002,448
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	11,294
Add back Depreciation	377
Assets Purchased	(927)
Accruals	11,391
Balance 30/6/16	1,024,584

Health & Community Chaplaincy Committee

Specific Trust Accounts

Statement of Income & Expenditure

	Walton	P Burnett	H Hughes
Income:			
Common Fund Interest	316	70,581	3,803
LSL Grant Received		8,181	
Income on Separate Investments			47,028
Realised and Unrealised Gain on Investments			(64,633)
Total Income	316	78,763	(13,801)
Expenditure:			
Personnel Related	1,200	92,817	118,141
Committee and travel Expenses		4,711	
Office Expenses		420	
Total Expenditure	1,200	97,948	118,141
Surplus/(Deficit) on Specific Trusts	(884)	(19,185)	(131,942)

Movements in Funds

	P Burnett+ Walton	H Hughes		
	Common	Common	Separately	
	Fund	Fund	Invested	Total
Balance 1/7/15	605,370	37,562	441,471	1,000,881
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	(20,069)	(114,337)	(17,605)	(131,942)
Index Perpetual Balance	0	0	35,298	35,298
Transfers	0	71,505	(71,505)	-
Balance 30/6/16	585,300	(5,271)	387,659	904,237

Perpetual Trust Accounts Balance 30/6/16

Balance 30/6/16 927,850

HOME MISSION WORKERS ASSOCIATION (Min.72)

The Home Mission Workers Association has continued to meet bi-monthly this year.

2015 Thanksgiving and Dedication Service

Our 2015 Thanksgiving and Dedication service was held in November. Although we were small in number the time was enjoyed by those who attended. The service was led by Rev Graham Bradbeer, minister at Blackburn home mission station.

Home Missionaries

We welcomed Mr David Wood as a new home missionary to Seymour-Nagambie-Yea. We also welcomed Mr Ian Smith, returning from retirement to home missionary work in Kaniva-Nhill.

2016 Annual General Meeting

The Annual General meeting was held on 12 April in the Robert White Hall. We were pleased to welcome Moderator Rev Mark Smith who brought greetings from the Assembly. Our guest speaker was home missioner Steven Arbuckle who, after sharing a devotion, spoke about his ministry in Eaglehawk. This was a blessing and encouragement to those in attendance. In the absence of Rev Robert Carner, director of Ministry Development Committee, Rev Andrew Slater, a member of MDC presented a helpful report from the MDC. We were also pleased to welcome Mr Ben Nelson, student candidate, who spoke about his SFE training at Point Cook Presbyterian Church, and his studies at PTC. On behalf of the PTC student candidates, Ben thanked HMWA for its support to students.

The following office bearers were elected for the coming year:

President – Mrs Carolyn Wentworth Vice-president – Mrs Jeanette Chaplin Secretary – Miss Barbara Firth Treasurer – Mrs Kathy Gilmour Committee member – Miss Janet Cowden

Mrs Eileen Blythe resigned from the committee during the year. Her contribution as a committee member, both to meetings, and to our two annual events was greatly appreciated.

Financial grants

We have been pleased to be able to continue to support 6 home missionaries and 4 ministers serving in home mission stations, as well as student candidates with the usual resource grants and Christmas gifts. No home mission stations requested any financial support for maintenance or equipment during the last 12 months. Three exit students were given a relocation grant at the end of 2015. With only a moderate amount of donations received over the last several years, our funds continue to decline. We continue to discuss our position and investigate options for the future of HMWA. We would ask that you pray for the committee in this regard.

Thank you to all congregations and individuals who have encouraged and supported the work of the HMWA in its endeavour to assist home mission stations and their ministers, and student candidates for ministry.

> Carolyn Wentworth PRESIDENT

MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE (Min. 91)

Long Service Leave and Annual Parish Reports - Why do we bother?

You know how much I have been labouring the point about Long Service Leave (LSL) in our reports to past Assemblies and the fact that it is not being taken as it should be, according to our Rules and Regulations, don't you?

And you also know how much I have been labouring the point about the failure of many of our Boards of Management (BOMs) to complete an Annual Parish Report (APR) (again, contrary to our Rules and Regulations), get it approved by their congregation, forward it to their presbytery and get it sent to our committee so that the Terms of Settlement of their Minister can be declared, don't you?

Well, I'm asking myself, why do I bother? Why does our committee bother?

LSL - So, as far as LSL is concerned, our committee will now seek to change our Rules and Regulations by submissions to the Code Committee and Overture/s to the Assembly, to enforce the taking of all LSL that becomes due to be taken, so that LSL is not stockpiled and becomes a large contingent liability on our church in Victoria.

<u>APR</u> – And why is it that our committee has received an APR from only 54% (62% in 14/15 year!) of our congregations in the last year? It is one of the annual requirements of our Rules and Regulations. We commend those churches from whom we have received an APR. It may be that we look to further strengthen the Rules and Regulations, by introducing a penalty of some sort, to ensure that all congregations do submit an APR each year.

1. Membership and meetings of the committee

The committee has had no change in membership since last year. All members except two are country located and meetings continue to be held centrally in Melton. Despite constant searching, the committee is still one short of its complement of six (6) members. Any interested person may apply.

We believe that the committee is functioning satisfactorily and there is very little delay in processing the various requests, including Annual Parish Reports that come to the committee.

2. Annual Parish Report (APR) compliance

As well as the matters already addressed above:

Of the approximate 104 Parishes in the Presbyterian Church of Victoria (PCV), some 54% complied with Assembly resolutions to complete and send their APR to presbytery and then, if approved, to the committee. This figure is lower again than last year and there is need for more improvement both in percentage compliance and timeliness.

3. Congregation Annual Financial Reporting and Annual Parish Report (APR)

At the end of a parish's financial period, the treasurer prepares and prints the annual Financial Statements and arranges these to be audited by the congregation's appointed auditor(s). The APR is prepared using data from the church's previous year's APR; the centre column (column B) of the financial summary page (now page 3) is transferred to the left column (column C) of the

same page and, from the church's latest Audited Financial Statements, the centre column is filled in. A reasonable budget is entered in the right column (column A).

When the PCV's approved Chart of Accounts is used, the filling in of this form is easy. The Terms of Settlement page are filled in (now page 2) and totals transferred to page 3. The APRE (computer form of the APR) does the totals transfer automatically. In this process, which includes other information, the Board of Management approves the APR (if using the APRE, the printout is then the APR) and is signed by the secretary or the treasurer. The Audited Financial Statements and the APR are presented to the congregation at the Annual Congregation Meeting for approval. After congregation approval, the APR is signed by the moderator and sent to presbytery. The parish must keep a copy. The presbytery does its own checking of the APR and if satisfied, approves it and sends it to the committee for its appraisal. Any reasons for a request for a Sustentation and/or Travel Grant must be supported by the presbytery.

4. Requests for Sustentation and Travel Grants

For a smooth and timely operation, the following is the protocol followed for a non-urgent Sustentation and/or Travel Grant. Congregational Annual Financial reporting is described above and is a required first step in the request for Sustentation and/or Travel Grant, which should be carried out as soon as possible at the end of the financial period. The Board of Management should be continuously aware of their financial position throughout the year and should understand a need for haste.

The MMC receives applications for grants (Sustentation, etc.). The official deadline is 30 September, but applications will be accepted if they are before the committee by its mid-October meeting. The PCV church office is notified of any that are approved and payment will be back paid to the commencement of the financial year (1 July). Any subsequent applications for such grants will be considered at the following MMC meeting, which will be about 2 or 3 months later and the monthly rate will commence in that month (no back datinf) when the church office is notified. For Sustentation, the maximum monthly rate is the maximum Sustentation Grant Amount (\$10,608 for 2016 - 17), divided by 12.

Urgent applications can still be made and unaudited current financial information (in column B) can be supplied, but the previous years audited information (column C of the Financial Information page) must be supplied and urgent APRs with a blank column C will be returned to parish and presbytery unless the committee is notified by resolution including documented reasons.

5. APR forms and APRE program on the web

The latest APR (manually filled in form) is available from the pcv.org.au website in two versions (i.e. Calendar year and Financial year) and will have the budget year filled in, so please select the correct one. The versions for the 2016-17 financial year and 2016 calendar year are on the website.

The APRE Excel Program on the website has been used successfully by a number of parishes with good reports. The APRE program should only be run using Microsoft Excel. Problems have arisen where non-Microsoft office programs have been used (e.g. OpenOffice and LibreOffice). Versions of the APRE have now been developed that run on OpenOffice and LibreOffice. Please check the website

at least each year and use the latest version.

A multi-congregation version of the APRE (APREM) has been developed and is available from the pcv.org.au website including an instructions file. It is a development version; as such please report any problems to the Registrar.

Also, there are instructions files on the website for both the APR manual version and the APRE program. For any further help, please contact the Registrar.

6. Last Financial Year Sustentation and Travel Grants

Nine (9) applications for Sustentation were received, approved and paid for in the 2015-2016 financial year. There were no Travel Grants paid during the last year.

7. Long Service Leave (LSL)

As well as the matters already addressed above:

A total of sixteen (16) ministers (19 last year!) requested LSL in the past year and all requests were granted. No ministers were received from interstate.

Again the committee thanks Mr Michael Ellison and the PCV office staff for supplying this and other information on our behalf, particularly in respect of LSL entitlements owing and accrued.

Presbyteries are again encouraged to urge ministers to take their ordinary Annual Leave and LSL as soon as possible in a reasonable time frame after it is due.

Your committee particularly points out to presbyteries and parishes that 'Long Service Leave must be taken before retirement,' (MMC reg 28). Despite this, your committee has again received several requests in the past year for the pay out of accrued LSL entitlements. While such pay outs can be made for 'retirement due to sickness' or in 'exceptional cases', it is not the normal practice. In the interest of fairness and equality, the committee will, unless directed otherwise by the Assembly, adhere to past precedents and the requirement of Clause 28 of our Regulations.

8. Interest free component of ministers' car loans

The Ministers' Car Loans Scheme continues to be operated by the TC/BIF. A subsidy, overseen by this committee holds the rate payable to a maximum of 5% on the first portion of the loan.

In all, \$7,262 was used to subsidise loans under this scheme during the past year. Six (6) new loans were made, and there are twenty (20) loans totaling \$194,055 outstanding at the beginning of this current financial year.

9. Finance

Your committee reports an Income on General Operations for the year ended 30 June, 2016 of \$106,597 (budgeted \$87,000) and Expenditure \$82,966 (budgeted \$116,120), resulting in a surplus of \$23,631 (budgeted deficit \$29,120). The Long Service Leave Funds had a surplus of \$67,149 (budgeted deficit \$7,547). We praise God for his generous provision of the financial needs of the committee and look forward to the future with confidence and hope in support of the work of the

ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

10. Individual parish assistance

The registrar and the convener are willing, on an availability basis, to give help to local church treasurers. We can arrange a visit, preferably in daylight hours, during the week, including visits to country parishes. We continue to work on refining the APR and the previously mooted model set of treasurer's books and data.

11. Other matters

The committee can and does consider a variety of matters at and between its meetings and tries to respond appropriately according to the scope of its responsibilities.

Taking of Long Service Leave

Despite our Committee's Regulation 26 stating "Long Service Leave may first be taken after an initial ten (10) years of service. Thereafter, Long Service Leave may be taken after each five (5) years of service."; and our Committee's Regulation 27 stating that Long Service Leave "shall be taken as soon as practicable after it is due, unless otherwise approved by the Committee, after consultation with the Presbytery and Minister."; and despite concerted efforts by our Committee to ensure that Long Service Leave is taken according to our Regulations, a number of Ministers continue to stockpile Long Service Leave well beyond the ten year mark.

We, therefore, request that the Assembly instruct the Code Committee, in concert with our Committee, to formulate an appropriate addition or additions to the Long Service Leave Regulations that will direct that Ministers must take at least half of any accumulated Long Service Leave after their initial 10 year period of service, and each 5 year period of service after that. This will have the effect that no Minister will have more than 6.5 weeks of Long Service Leave owing to them.

Dennis K Wright CONVENER

Maintenance of the Ministry Committee

General Operations

Year Ended 30th June 2016

Statement of Income and Expenditure

Statement of income and Expenditure			
		<u>Long</u>	
Income	General	Service Leave	Total
Income:	General	<u>Leave</u> 40,950	<u>Total</u> 40,950
Long Service Leave Levy LSL Benefit Transferred from Other States		9,769	9,769
Other Investment Income	6,262	9,709	6,262
Common Fund Interest	100,335	127 510	227,845
	106,597	127,510 178,229	284,826
Total Receipts	100,397	170,229	204,020
Expenditure:			
Interest Subsidy Car Loans	7,262		7,262
Sustentation Expense General	74,360		74,360
Committee Expenses	1,344		1,344
Long Service Leave		111,080	111,080
Total Expenditure	82,966	111,080	194,047
Surplus on General Operations	23,631	67,149	90,779
Movements in Funds			
Balance 1/7/15	862,707	1,234,799	2,097,506
(Decrease) / Increase in Liabilities	-	(50,710)	(50,710)
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	23,631	67,149	90,779
Balance 30/6/16	886,338	1,251,238	2,137,576
Perpetual Funds			
Balance 30/6/16	42,466	0	42,466

METRO COMMITTEE (Min. 80)

The Lord Jesus commissioned his disciples to make disciples of all nations, baptizing and teaching them to obey the Lord Jesus (Matthew 28:18-20). This task has been handed on from generation to generation by identifying reliable men and women who are qualified to teach the gospel of Christ to the next generation of disciple makers (2 Timothy 2:2).

God has richly blessed us as a denomination with the unique privilege of knowing Him through the gospel of Christ and as such we have a significant responsibility to continue obeying the great commission. One of the ways we can fulfil our gospel commission is through a ministry training strategy known as METRO. METRO's function is to identify and train faithful and competent gospel workers, who will proclaim the saving work of Christ to the world. They will minister primarily as ordained parish ministers but not exclusively so. Some may end up ministering in specialist ministries, including women's ministries, amongst students, youth, ethnic groups; both here and overseas.

METRO has been operating, in one form or another, for more than 10 years in the PCV. God has richly blessed us as a denomination. 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 wants them to serve.

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.

METRO Trainers are 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 own ministry and training skills. In the future the METRO committee will work harder at identifying and training potential trainers.

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, prior to college and alongside theological college training. Therefore METRO is pretheological training that aims to engender a philosophy 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.

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. Our prayer is that one day, from amongst these youthMETRO trainees, future METRO trainees and gospel workers will be raised up by God.

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.

We have been blessed in recent times to see former METRO trainees graduate from college and pastoring churches and currently there are seven former METRO trainees studying at the Theological College.

Currently the METRO committee has 5 funded METRO trainees:

Ryan Smith (Bendigo - Reforming), Hayley Clough (Bundoora), Belinda Johnson (Bundoora), Shady Mehanni (Warrnambool), Robert Koh (Donvale).

Our youthMETRO trainees are:

Joseph Daffy (Malvern), Rebecca Fullerton (Warrnambool), Isaac Jones (Surrey Hills), Leonard Low (Donvale), Jessica Nashed (Surrey Hills), Daniel Roberts (Cranbourne), Caleb Shulz (Hamilton), Iuliana Smalley (Cranbourne), Ryan Vince (Warrnambool), Erwin Yii (Surrey Hills).

This year marks the first year in which we have been able to generously fund our new METRO Trainees under a new arrangement where we have doubled the funding ratio to a two dollar for one dollar contribution. This means that should the trainee/training church raise \$12,000, we can match this with a \$24,000 contribution. The METRO committee believes that this is both seeking to comply with our requirements to pay minimum wage but also caring for our trainees and their household.

The increased funding has meant that we would potentially draw down on our capital at a rapid rate should we approve increasing numbers of suitable candidates in future years. We continue to trust that God raises workers for his harvest and we pray towards that end and we know that God will provide for those who seek first his kingdom. We value the prayers of the Assembly for wisdom in stewarding these kingdom resources should God continue to bring godly men and women seeking to be trained to make disciples for the Lord Jesus.

Andrew May CONVENER

METRO Committee

General Operations Statement of Income and Expenditure	Year Ended 30th June 2016
Income:	
Common Fund Interest	91,117
Youth Metro Income	4,370
Total Income	95,487
Expenditure:	
Grants Paid	94,255
Youth Metro Expenses	5,540
Training Officer Honorarium	5,000
General Expenses	1,664
Total Expenditure	106,459
Surplus on General Operations	(10,971)
Movements in Funds	
Balance 1/7/15	843,521
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	(10,971)
Balance 30/6/16	832,550

MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (Min. 59)

A. Personnel

Committee

The committee consists of convener Rev Ian Hutton and 6 committee members; Mrs Michelle Brennan, Dr Bruce Ellis, Rev Dr Michael Wishart, Rev Andrew Slater, Rev Gerald Vanderwert and Rev Peter Greiner. Michelle Brennan retires from the committee this year. The committee has greatly appreciated her input into its decisions. Our Ministry Development Director, Rev Dr Robert Carner, attended committee meetings, along with our secretary, Mr Ben Palmer.

Director and office

Our director, Rev Dr Robert Carner, took some of his accrued leave in the first 4 months of 2016. We have also been finalising the outcomes of the review of our director, which the committee undertook during 2015/16. The outcomes of that review focus on caring for our director especially in recent times when his health has not been good. The MDC is attempting to ease his workload so that focus may be maintained on the core tasks of the committee. The committee appreciates the director's work as well as the extensive work done by our secretary, Mr Ben Palmer.

Home missionaries

The committee has a number of home missionaries, which it appoints in conjunction with the relevant presbyteries, as well as a number of ordained ministers who have been appointed to Home Mission Stations.

Home Missionary/Minister	Home Mission Station		
Steven Arbuckle	Eaglehawk		
Richard Jeganathan	West Footscray		
Adrian Kebbe	Templestowe		
Colin Morrow	Sunraysia/PIM		
Ian Smith Kaniva/Nhill			
Dave Wood	Seymour/Nagambie/Yea		
Rev Graham Bradbeer	Blackburn		
Rev Kainano Opetaia	South-East Samoan		
Rev Hugh Price	Castlemaine/Carisbrook		
Rev Gary Wentworth	Leongatha		

Supply Preachers

Each year the Ministry Development Committee publishes a list of men available for preaching. These men are presbytery-approved but with Safe Church implications it is becoming increasingly difficult administratively to publish an accurate list. We rely heavily on presbyteries and the Safe Church Unit for this information. The following listed supply preachers have been confirmed as having completed Safe Church Training, and as holding current Working With Children Checks. We are still awaiting information from a number of presbyteries regarding the Safe Church status of other previously-listed supply preachers.

Those on the list with confirmed Safe Church Training and current Working With Children Checks are:

- Gilbert Bell, Sunshine
- Kevin Childs, Hawthorn
- David Cox, Ivanhoe
- Fraser Diack, Warrnambool
- Ken McClimont, Ormond
- Bruce Miller, Mill Park
- Keith Mitchell, Ballarat
- Charles Okwo, Sunshine
- Colin Phillips, Bacchus Marsh
- Norm Sharp, Ballarat
- Dennis Wright, Melton

The latest version of the list with contact details can be obtained at any time from the MDC Office.

B. State of the Church

The following is a summary of churches in each presbytery:

Presbytery	Full Charge with	Appointment Parish with	HMS with minister or	Permanent Supply	Vacant
	minister(s)	minister	HM		
Ballarat	3	2	2	-	2
Benalla	4	1	1	1	1
Flinders	6	2	1	1	4
Geelong	2	-	-	-	2
Gippsland	2	3	1	-	1
Kilnoorat	4	1	-	-	1
Maroondah	4	3	1	-	-
Melbourne	11	2	-	1	1
East					
Melbourne North	6	2	1	-	2
Melbourne	5	5	1		
West	3	3	'	_	-
North	2	1	2	-	2
Western					
Victoria					
TOTAL	49	22	10	3	16

A number of parishes in country presbyteries need ongoing financial support for ministries to occur. This continues to be a challenge for us as a committee as some of these parishes also need to have Assembly approval for funding to continue beyond 10 years. In this process the committee seeks to support strategic parishes but it also must resist the temptation to prop up diminishing churches where signs of vital spiritual health are not present. There are a number of situations however where there is a small group of keen spiritually-minded people who should be supported

over the long term. The alternative is to find alternate forms of ministry or to close the church.

Country ministry is unique and by nature a different style of ministry. Country communities are very different and often have a tight sense of community and so long term ministries (often needing long term support) are absolutely necessary to build up respect and to become part of the community. Short term ministries caused by financial pressures are often unhelpful for the ministry and the community in the long term. The committee is of the opinion that each parish must be considered individually (in conjunction with the relevant presbytery) regarding its own unique circumstances.

Revitalising

The committee is acutely aware of the need for revitalisation in some of our churches. There have been a number of churches which have been supported over recent years which are gradually moving towards becoming self-supporting. We are encouraged by this progress in the work of the gospel as these churches continue to grow and are revitalised. In particular churches at Cranbourne, Wyndham, Frankston, Daylesford and Gisborne are examples where the committee has supported the church in the past and they are now either self-supporting or requesting lower amounts of support over time.

Sister churches

We continue to be encouraged by the sister church relationships, which exist across the state. Many of these relationships have grown organically and have not been part of the committees doing but it is something that the committee has encouraged in the past. Relationships which we are aware of exist between the Bundoora and Bairnsdale churches; Donvale and Sunraysia (Mildura); Canterbury and Skipton-Lismore; Clayton and Leongatha. The committee praises God for those congregations which have been able to encourage smaller churches in this way.

Special interest churches

There are a number of special interest congregations which have been encouraged and supported by the committee. These include the Deaf Presbyterian Church at Surrey Hills and the South East Samoan Congregation at Lyndhurst.

C. Financial

Budgeting

The committee receives a substantial amount of its funding from the Scots' Church Properties Trust, which is to be used for home mission and church extension purposes in Victoria. Churches are asked to indicate in January each year to give an estimate of the amounts they might be applying for in May for the subsequent financial year. Even though this is well ahead of time, the committee urges churches to be realistic in this estimation as this assists us in our budgeting process, which must be finalised by the end of February. There are occasionally wide discrepancies between the estimated figure given in January and the actual figure applied for in May, which makes budgeting very difficult.

The committee is keen for churches not to develop a welfare mentality and sometimes, after carefully considering all applications and the financial situation of the church, seeks to reduce the amount of subsidy below the amount asked for. In

doing so the committee is seeking to administer its funds wisely, to be fair to the wider church and to encourage the local church to seek the Lord and depend upon him for its needs.

Subsidies

The following subsidies have been given to churches for the 2016-17 financial year, to be paid only while ministry continues. Their primary role is to help churches become healthy and self-sustaining. Agencies of the church like the MDC are available to assist them in this transition including assistance in the development and implementation of strategic plans.

Congregation(s)	Paid in	Grant Approved
	2015-16	for 2016-17
Ararat AP	37,000	37,000
Bairnsdale AP	13,000	8,000
Brimbank AP	10,000	12,000
Cranbourne HMS	22,000	10,000
Daylesford AP (from	25,000	19,800
Evangelism Trust funds)		
Deaf Church	7,500	10,000
Eaglehawk HMS	19,000	14,000
Gisborne AP	5,000	-
Horsham AP	24,000	30,000
Leongatha HMS	35,000	28,000
Mt Evelyn	-	11,000
Sunraysia HMS	12,000	12,000
Templestowe HMS	19,547	12,000
Warburton AP	14,854	up to 30,000

Evangelism Grants

The committee is also responsible for an Evangelism Trust to be used to fund the work of Evangelism across the state. Many churches currently apply for Evangelism Grants of up to a total of \$1500 per year (Max \$1000 per event). Parishes receiving grants this year were Ashburton, Bairnsdale, Ballarat South, Belgrave Heights, Bendigo, Brimbank, Clayton, Croydon Hills, Daylesford, Eltham, Heathmont, Horsham, Hume, Koroit Port Fairy, Leongatha, Reservoir, Rochester, Sunraysia, Sunshine, Valley (Doreen), Warburton and Woori Yallock.

This trust has also been used to support the work of AFES in the universities (\$20,000pa) and to pay 25% of Second Ministry Worker Grants. Two important and unique projects have been supported from this fund; one at Daylesford and another at Bundoora. This year for the first time we are also supporting the teaching of evangelism at the Presbyterian Theological College.

Capital Grants

For some time now the committee has been receiving applications for Capital Grants. Often these requests are for large amounts and with limited resources we are often not in a position to make such grants. Whilst the current process is sometimes drawn-out, this has led to more careful planning on the part of the local church,

compared with an earlier application process where rushed applications were often submitted at preliminary stages of development. Churches are encouraged to plan carefully for their future building needs. The committee is very conscious that some churches planted many years ago still do not have permanent premises and have been operating in rented premises for many years. Other churches are in need of major upgrades. The committee continues to investigate ways in which it can assist churches and allow our Capital Grants budget to go further.

Currently some Capital Grants allocated in 2011 are still being spent or have just been spent. These include the following:

Ballarat West – a new worship centre



Clayton – renovations and extensions to enhance worship centre and facilities



Frankston – Extended Hall



New Capital Grants approved in 2015-16

Broadford - \$24,000 for demolition of unusable asbestos hall.

Canterbury - \$50,000 for new car park works.

Cross Cultural Grants

The committee has supported cross-cultural gospel work in the following congregations:

Congregation(s)	Paid in 2015-16	Grant Approved for
		2016-17
Bundoora - Iranian Worker (from	20,000	20,000
Evangelism Trust funds)		
Canterbury - Japanese Subsidy	24,000	24,000
Donvale - ESL Worker	15,000	15,000
Hawthorn	15,000	-
Korean North Balwyn -Subsidy	12,000	12,000
Reservoir	4,167	6,944
Samoan - South-East Subsidy	25,887	21,000
Sunshine - Sudanese Worker	15,000	18,500

Second Worker Grants

The primary purpose of this infusion of funds is to enable a church to attain the next level of development through the employment of a second ministry worker.

This is not a long-term MDC subsidy. This is 'seed' money to enable churches to experience a synergistic impact through team ministry. If the employment of a second ministry worker has no prospect of bringing a church to a level where it is able to fully fund the worker, any application for MDC funding will not be successful.

Alternatively, if this becomes apparent after funding has commenced, it will not be renewed for the second year.

The goal of this program is to help churches to establish a permanent part- or full-time position – it is not a subsidy to establish a ministry position that will expire with the end of the subsidy. It is exclusively a provision for visionary churches to take a step forward towards establishing team ministry. It carries a hope and intention that congregations will not only grow under the expanded ministry, but that existing members will share the vision and give accordingly.

In considering applications for second workers, the committee takes into account the financial position of the church applying and in some cases applications may be rejected if the church appears to have sufficient finances to fund the position themselves. We have supported second workers in the following situations:

Congregation/Worker	Paid in 2015-16	Grant Approved for 2016-17
		101 2010 11
Bundoora - Youth Coordinator	22,500	7,500 Jul-Dec
Burwood - Second Worker	10,000	10,000
Canterbury - Youth Worker	4,000	8,000
Donvale - Youth Worker	15,000	5,000 Jul-Jan only
Eltham - Assistant	7,500	2,500 Jul-Dec only
Frankston - Associate Minister	5,000 Jul-Dec only	-
Geelong West - Children's Worker	11,362	11,362

ESL (English as a Second Language or other appropriate programs)

As community demographics change many churches are realising the opportunities for the gospel which exist through teaching the English language to people who are keen to learn, and often also keen to learn about the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. We urge churches to be aware of their changing communities and to make the most of opportunities through ESL to share the gospel with many people. At least 16 PCV parishes currently conduct ESL classes and most of these have received ESL start-up grants from the MDC. During the reporting period, a \$1000 ESL Start-up grant was made to the Bendigo parish.

D. Statistical returns

One of the committee's responsibilities is to collect, collate and where possible analyse the annual statistical returns. The date for presbyteries to send these returns to the committee is the end of April each year. Many presbyteries do not submit this information in to the committee until much later in the year and no returns have been received from some presbyteries at the time of writing. Late returns make any

detailed analysis difficult. The collated statistical returns will be included in a supplementary report.

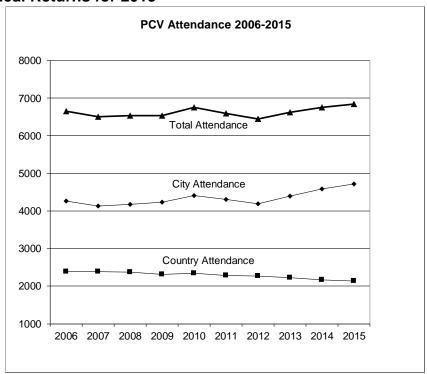
E. Summary of programs offered

The committee offers, through its director, a number of seminars and programs which are designed to assist a church in its growth and revitalisation. A full description is not included here but is available at the MDC website: mdcpcv.org.au/index.php/programmes

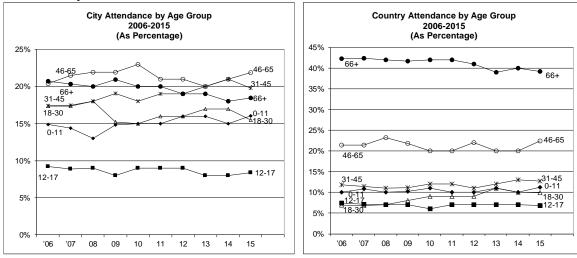
Congregation-based training programs include: Embers To A Flame, Prayer, Evangelism, Discipleship, Spiritual Gifts, Small Groups, Vision and Mission Planning, Encouragement, Forgiveness and Conflict Resolution, Revitalisation Training, Demographic Profiling, and Church Assessments.

In some circumstances there will be an expectation that if a church is to continue receiving financial assistance it will engage keenly in some of the process that may aid revitalisation. We also commend the use of our Healthy Churches Checklist as a diagnostic instrument.

PCV Statistical Returns for 2015

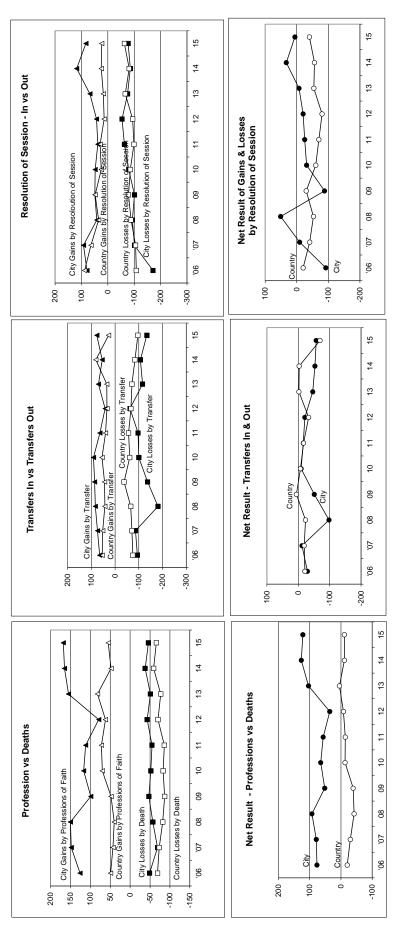


Total average weekly attendance at worship services across the Presbyterian Church of Victoria rose by 87 in 2015, to 6846. This is the PCV's third consecutive year of growth – up 397 since 2012. In 2015 Melbourne metropolitan presbyteries had a total increase of 127 (up 526 since 2012), whereas the total for rural presbyteries declined by 40.

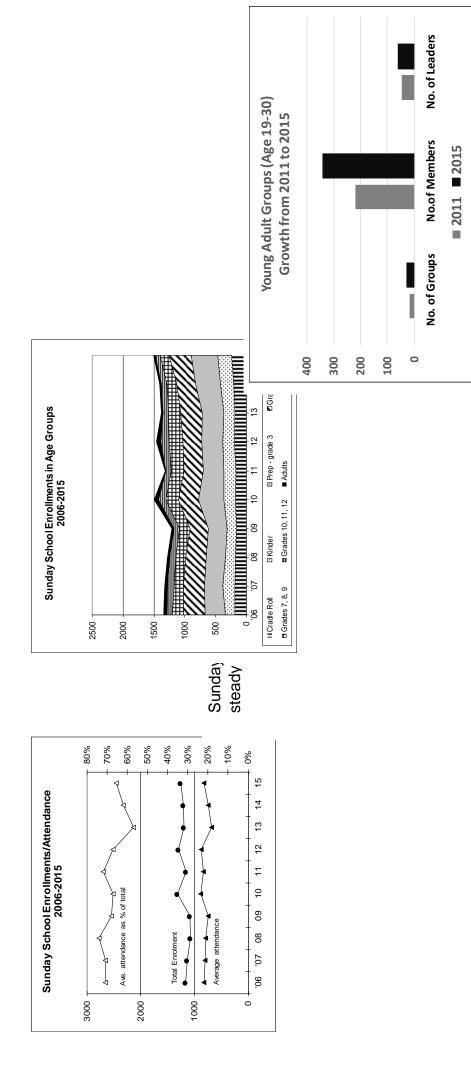


These graphs illustrate the different demographic profiles of city and country presbyteries taken as a whole. Churches in country parishes, on average, have a far higher percentage of attendees in the two highest age brackets. In city churches there is a more even distribution of ages.

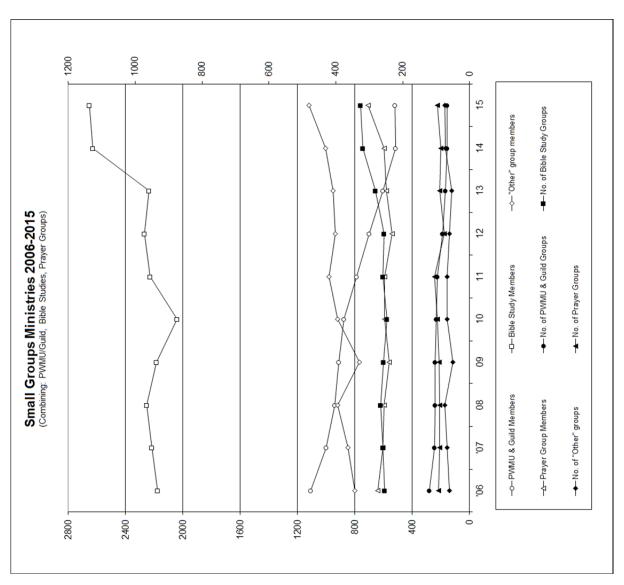
Membership Gains versus Losses 2006-2015



exceeded losses by death in city presbyteries, whereas the two categories almost break even in country presbyteries. Transfers Total PCV Membership (communicant members and adherents) fell by 88 persons in 2015 to 6729. Professions of faith again well out of the PCV exceeded transfers in, in both city and country.



Both Youth and Young Adult ministries have enjoyed strong growth in recent years.



The "open" markers on this graph are to be read against the left-hand axis, and the "closed" ones against the right-hand axis.

Year 2015 Tallies · Membership

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	٥	В					ပ					۵		Ш	L	
	Start of Year	f Year		Membership Gains	hip Gains				Membership Losses	ip Losses				End of	· Year	
Presbytery	Communicants Adherents as as at 1st Jan. at 1st Jan.	Adherents as at 1st Jan.	Profession of Faith	Txf from other Txf from other PCA Denom.	er	by Resolution of Session	Total Gains	by Death	Resolution of Session	Transfer to PCA	Transfer to other	Total Losses	A+B+C	Communicant s as at 31st Dec.	Adherents as at 31st Dec.	<u>н</u> +
Ballarat	335	46	2	4	0	2	11	10	15	6	0	34	358	313	45	358
Benalla	405	107	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	3	14	30	482	388	92	480
Flinders	627	02	32	2	9	9	49	13	36	11	8	89	829	618	09	829
Geelong	248	58	10	8	4	1	23	4	31	10	25	20	230	213	17	230
Gippsland	347	99	14	1	0	1	16	2	9	4	8	23	406	344	69	403
Kilnoorat	564	107	10	2	2	11	25	24	4	3	2	36	099	546	108	654
Maroondah	400	105	7	1	4	19	31	2	7	3	0	17	519	412	107	519
Melb. East	1007	184	27	10	10	3	20	14	9	18	32	20	1171	972	199	1171
Melb. North	273	388	53	16	7	2	81	4	19	2	16	44	866	622	376	866
Melb. West	803	101	49	12	9	20	117	8	6	2	36	28	696	871	92	963
Nth Wst Vic	244	33	19	9	0	2	30	10	7	10	2	32	275	252	23	275
Totals 2015	5553	1236	223	92	39	106	433	112	140	81	149	482	6740	5551	1178	6729
City	3410	848	168	44	33	83	328	46	77	42	92	257	4329	3495	834	4329
Country	2143	388	22	21	9	23	105	99	63	39	22	225	2411	2056	344	2400

Year 2015 Tallies - Attendance etc

	9			I		×	7	Σ	Z	0	۵										
							Estimated	d Age Group of To	stimated Age Group of Tot. Av. Indiv. Attendance	ndance				OFFICE BEARERS	ARERS		CAMPS HELD	CTH!	/S	SACRAMENTS	S
Presbytery	Average Morning Attendance	Av. Other (weekday, afternoon etc)	Av. Evening Attendance	Extra at Other and Evening	H+5	0-11	12-17	18-30	31-45	46-65	+99	K+L+M +N+O+	ELDERS	Elected Board Members	Lay Preachers D	Pastoral Carers C Deacons etc.	Camps Held	Attendance	Infants Baptised	Adults Baptised	Av. Attendance at Communion
Ballarat	309	13	12	3	312	32	6	19	44	82	139	325	28	73	16	5	0	0	2	0	273
Benalla	330	30	23	46	376	22	21	32	49	84	168	376	45	75	18	11	0	0	4	3	303
Flinders	726	38	139	40	992	117	93	100	117	115	224	992	26	102	20	12	3	17	9	8	268
Geelong	241	0	0	0	241	48	15	28	39	44	29	241	17	31	13	0	1	96	4	4	186
Gippsland	404	41	74	40	444	09	48	54	22	80	138	427	30	46	11	2	4	179	4	4	352
Kilnoorat	446	27	25	09	909	25	38	37	48	66	240	514	40	82	14	2	2	51	9	3	437
Maroondah	223	29	40	20	223	102	27	69	128	122	144	592	33	48	8	12	1	09	8	2	494
Melb. East	1270	124	509	117	1387	257	135	242	239	284	230	1387	89	88	13	21	3	545	18	11	758
Melb. North	812	48	125	104	916	134	62	94	145	158	100	693	46	75	10	18	3	25	8	16	661
Melb. West	829	115	135	212	1071	113	09	194	262	308	134	1071	22	87	20	38	9	279	15	11	784
Nth Wst Vic	254	0	0	0	254	98	15	43	35	40	98	255	14	39	11	0	0	0	2	4	226
Totals 2015	6204	465	844	642	6846	896	523	912	1163	1416	1670	6647	452	746	154	121	23	1252	92	99	5042
City	4220	354	648	493	4713	723	377	669	891	487	832	4509	278	400	71	101	16	926	52	48	3265
Country	1984	111	196	149	2133	240	146	213	272	429	838	2138	174	346	83	20	7	326	21	18	1777

Year 2015 Tallies · Children's Work

	Playgr	Playgroups (Age 0-4)	e 0-4)	Child (Primar)	Children's Clubs (Primary Sch. Age 5-11)	lubs 9 5-11)	Youth Sch.	Youth Groups (High Sch. Age 12-18)		Young A	Young Adults (Age 19. 30)	ge 19-	ū	rolment	Enrolment in Sunday School	School							C.R.E.	.:
Presbytery	No. of Groups	No. of Members	No. of Leaders	No. of Groups	No. of Members	No. of No. Leaders	No. of Groups	No. of Members	No. of Nu.	No. of Groups	No. of Members	No. of &	Cradle Roll &/or Creche	Kinder	Prep - grade 3	Grades (4, 5, 6	Grades G	Grades P	Adults En	Total At	Average Attendance 1	No. of Teachers	No. of Classes	No. of Teachers
Ballarat	٦	12	4	0	0	0	2	2	4	1	14	4	0	2	4	3	2	1	0	12	10	8	17	9
Benalla	0	0	0	1	34	6	4	24	8	0	0	0	0	0	8	10	7	2	0	30	16	4	7	4
Flinders	4	75	6	2	24	8	6	81	25	2	82	11	44	34	99	53	44	13	0	201	112	37	10	7
Geelong	3	89	8	1	35	9	3	31	6	0	0	0	12	2	5	9	0	0	0	12	6	9	11	8
Gippsland	2	34	18	3	140	90	5	62	19	2	19	2	28	13	25	14	0	0	0	52	28	4	14	5
Kilnoorat	2	13	28	1	11	3	3	48	6	1	10	4	13	21	16	16	9	0	0	69	42	19	3	3
Maroondah	3	49	8	1	100	12	1	20	4	3	28	3	4	13	47	39	3	0	0	102	29	37	2	9
Melb. East	9	74	13	7	78	12	7	132	37	2	121	18	89	99	88	62	37	36	20	294	220	61	56	13
Melb. North	2	82	27	3	63	11	9	115	25	2	23	2	31	22	131	109	46	24	0	363	228	122	3	5
Melb. West	2	27	9	0	0	0	1	8	3	6	44	12	27	27	36	38	1	3	1	102	29	42	1	1
Nth Wst Vic	1	25	3	1	12	3	2	20	5	0	0	0	10	3	14	7	1	0	0	25	21	20	0	0
Totals 2015	31	459	124	20	497	114	43	263	148	28	341	29	237	228	430	357	147	82	21 1	1252	820	360	94	58
City	22	307	63	13	265	43	24	356	94	24	298	49	174	187	358	301	131	92	21 1	1062	694	299	42	32
Country	6	152	61	7	232	71	19	207	54	4	43	10	63	41	72	99	16	9	0	190	126	61	52	56

Year 2015 Tallies - Small Groups

				Ī		ļ		ŀ		ŀ		ŀ			ļ		ļ		ļ		ŀ		
	Μd	PWMU	Guild	₽	Ladies Bible Study	ble Study	Christianity Explained		Mixed Bible Study		Men's Bible Study	Study	O Ā	Other Groups		Prayer Groups	sdnc	Communicant Classes		Teacher Training	guining	Special Outreach Occasions	Sutreach
Presbytery	No. of Groups	No. of Members	No. of Groups	No. of Members	No. of Groups	No. of Members	No, of Groups 4	Attendance No. of Groups		No. of Members	No. of Groups	No. of No.	No. of Groups	No. of Members	No. of No.	No. of Groups	No. of Members	No. of Groups M	No. of No.	No. of Groups	No. of Na	No. of Times	Total No. Attending or Contacted
Ballarat	5	29	2	34	3	27	0	0	8	49	0	0	3	25	-	8	46	0	0	-	2	16	261
Benalla	2	20	10	84	9	40	0	0	13	91	0	0	-	6	0	6	62	3	7	1	8	3	132
Flinders	3	20	7	32	10	43	1	3	20	162	2	27	8	91	13	12	120	6	33	1	7	38	2904
Geelong	1	9	1	9	10	54	1	30	13	121	9	59	4	87	14	9	69	0	0	0	0	15	742
Gippsland	4	24	1	4	2	14	1	17	20	203	0	0	9	103	3	10	22	2	10	3	23	17	1064
Kilnoorat	2	49	8	9/	6	28	0	0	16	98	2	18	10	138	22	4	33	1	9	0	0	8	915
Maroondah	0	0	0	0	9	47	0	0	28	256	1	4	6	190	13	8	46	0	0	0	0	7	455
Melb. East	3	22	0	0	15	94	2	24	32	342	2	13	16	260	28	11	105	2	13	1	9	20	388
Melb. North	2	33	1	4	11	29	20	92	37	365	2	2	11	09	12	8	49	1	9	9	30	9	1176
Melb. West	3	98	1	2	10	29	9	46	20	208	9	31	2	138	14	18	103	2	21	2	20	318	3761
Nth Wst Vic	3	18	2	18	2	13	4	27	12	89	2	22	2	22	3	3	20	1	1	1	2	8	327
Totals 2015	31	260	36	260	84	524	35	223	219	1981	23	149	. 22	1123	123	26	710	24	26	. 91	103	456	12125
City	11	114	6	38	52	318	29	149	137	1333	13	80	49	739	80	22	423	17	73	10	63	389	8684
Country	20	146	27	222	32	206	9	74	82	648	10	69	26	384	43	40	287	7	24	9	40	29	3441

this trial to the 2016 Assembly. We have commenced but not concluded this trial, and are not yet ready to introduce online The 2015 Assembly authorised the MDC to trial an electronic means of collecting the Statistical Returns and to report the results of collection across the PCV. We hope to be in a position to do this in a year's time.

lan Hutton CONVENER

Ministry Development Committee

General Operations	Year Ended 30th June 2016
Statement of Income and Expenditure	
Income:	
Common Fund Interest	141,307
Scots Church Property Trust	563,847
Sundry Income	4,297
Total Income	709,451
-	
Expenditure:	070.044
Grants & Subsidies to Congregations	370,611
Capital Grants Home Missions Officer	345,633
Office	123,831
Conferences	80,401 3,553
Committee	2,867
Total Expenditure	926,895
Total Experiulture	
Surplus/(Deficit) on General Operations	(217,444)
Movements in Funds	
Balance 1/7/15	1,466,842
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	(217,444)
Add Back Depreciation	6,570
Increase (Decrease) in Current Liabilities	10,524
Decrease (Increase) in Fixed Assets	(1,699)
Balance 30/6/16	1,264,792

Specific Trust Accounts

	Church Extension	Church Extension			
Statement of Income & Expenditure	<u>Vic</u>	Other States	<u>Evangelism</u>	Beneficiary	<u>Total</u>
Income:					
Common Fund Interest	27,714	830	166,796	52,671	248,011
Total Income	27,714	830	166,796	52,671	248,011
Expenditure:					
Grants	150,000	830	117,383	-	268,212
Home Missionaries Expenses	,		,	64,004	64,004
Total Expenditure	150,000	830	117,383	64,004	332,217
Surplus on Specific Trusts	(122,286)	0	49,413	(11,333)	(84,206)
Movements in Funds					
Balance 1/7/15	310,580	0	1,341,299	318,437	1,970,316
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	(122,286)	0	49,413	(11,333)	(84,206)
Balance 30/6/16	188,294	0	1,390,712	307,104	1,886,110
Perpetual Funds					
Balance 30/6/16	26,913	6,913	39,992	125,000	198,818



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT PLC COUNCIL: MAY 2016

In accordance with Article 13 of the College's Articles of Association, the Chairman presents this report to the Council, to be adopted as Council's 'Annual report on the Life and Work of the College' for 2015 to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria as per Article 41.

Presbyterian Ladies' College, by God's grace and providence, continues to be one of Australia's eminent independent schools for girls. We recognise the labour and vision of those who have gone before us, and the service of the current leadership.

Opportunity is being provided to our girls through outstanding academic instruction, broad co-curricular programs, innovative thinking, and developing leadership skills with a focus on service of others. Everything we do is within a clear Christian foundation, promoting Christian values and faith.

Principal and Staff

Our Principal, Mrs Elaine Collin, continues to provide visionary, passionate and professional leadership in every aspect of college life. She gives vision and delivery to such broad and diverse areas of college life as curriculum, senior staff positions, leadership and spiritual development, policy creation and review and renewal and expansion of the physical infrastructure of the campus.

Mrs Collin has provided exceptional leadership across all departments and aspects of the life of the college. Enrolments are high, our financial situation is sound, and academic outcomes continue to be amongst the best in the country. Mrs Collin is widely respected as a leading Australian educator.

She has our confident and prayerful support as she carries out her critical role.

We are also thankful for the supporting leadership provided by the College Deputy Principals, Mrs Anne-Marie Williams and Mr Tim Argall.

On behalf of Council, I express our deep admiration and gratitude for Ms Keiron Jones, who retired as Deputy Principal in 2015, for her leadership and service she has given the PLC community. We wish her every blessing in the future.

We are delighted to have Mrs Anne-Marie Williams join the leadership of the PLC community and look forward to working with her.

Mrs Cheryl Penberthy, as Head of Junior School, has demonstrated dedicated, enthusiastic and talented leadership.

We are also grateful for the leadership of Mr John Law in his ongoing role as Deputy Head of Junior School in support of Mrs Penberthy.

At every level of the college's life we are blessed with staff, both teaching and support, who invest remarkable professional and personal qualities in the education, nurture and development of our girls' academic abilities and character. We have a teaching faculty who are at the very top of their profession and whose priority is on

continued improvement and best practice. We believe they are unfailing in their commitment to fulfil the college's mission.

Students

The students of the college continue to impress us with all they achieve in every field. Music, drama and sports performances are always impressive, with many students winning awards and competitions at state and national level.

The Christian groups in the Junior School, the Senior School and the Boarding House have continued to grow and develop. In 2015, our main student Christian group in the Senior School, Christian Union, has been very active. Our annual prayer breakfast in May is well attended by our girls, staff, council and old collegians. Christian Family Fellowship Evenings are regularly held. Weekly Prayer Meetings for parents and friends are held in both the Senior School and the Junior School and the Staff Prayer meeting held in the Senior School each Thursday morning is well attended.

Our Personal Development, Life Skills, Health and Christian Studies programs remain a high priority, with a particular focus on character development, leadership, service of others, giving back, social work, support for the marginalised and underprivileged in our society and a proactive stand against the injustices in our world.

Our support and commitment to Neno Girls' School in Malawi has continued to grow within the college community, warmly embraced by the girls, staff and many of the parent groups. In 2015, we again sent a group of 10 girls and 2 staff to visit the girls and staff of Neno. This visit was an amazing and life changing experience for our PLC girls who were enthusiastically received by the Neno community. The impact of this visit has been significant not only for the Neno community itself but for many other girls and communities throughout Malawi.

We have also continued to grow our support to Indigenous students with our third student graduating from PLC this year and another girl starting in 2016 with us in Year 6 in the Junior School.

Leadership opportunities and programs foster the growth and development of leaders and are an important dimension of our personal development programs. We are aware many of the girls who graduate from PLC will go on to become the leaders of tomorrow, and we strive to ensure they have the skills and character to enable them to lead with dignity, grace and integrity.

Our girls of the Class of 2015 again achieved extraordinary results with the 2015 VCE and IB results being among the very best in Australia. Just over 29% of our girls achieved an ATAR of 98 or above, and 47% of our girls achieved an ATAR score of 95 or above, placing them in the top 5% of all Australian students. The median ATAR score was 94.4.

Reflective of this high achievement all of the Class of 2015 received a tertiary offer of their choice. This reward was the fruit of their hard work and talent, combined with the teaching quality and culture of PLC.

We congratulate the Class of 2015 on their outstanding results in their VCE and IB examinations and wish them well as they embark on this new chapter in their lives, whether by working, studying or in other new endeavours.

Financial

The 2015 audited financial statements have been submitted to the Council, through its Risk Management, Audit and Compliance Committee. These 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 Hamish Blair, Business Manager and the staff who manage the business, financial and practical affairs of the college. They work with grace and efficiency.

The operating activities for the year returned a surplus which is used to fund the capital works program.

Property Development

At the end of 2015 we redeveloped the Lower Ground Floor. This included: new classrooms, Year 8 and 9 Form rooms, new and enlarged microwave and food preparation area for the girls to use and a new stage area outside in the quad with a large glass canopy.

The major current project is the new Performing Arts Centre, just next to the Learning Resource Centre. It is a dynamic new hub for the performing arts to be taught, created, rehearsed, shared and showcased.

The 550 seat auditorium will meet the highest acoustical standards to support unamplified musical performance and drama. It also has state of the art lighting, variable acoustics, video projection and mixing and recording technologies.

The staff and consultants have put tremendous effort into the design of the different aspects of the complex to ensure it will be of premier quality and it will be intensely used by all sections of the college.

Our girls will begin using the complex from the start of 2017.

Council

College Council consists of 17 volunteers: five are appointed directly by the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, five are nominated by a selection committee which represents the Old Collegians and the Parents' Association and seven are nominated by the council itself. They set the vision, principles, values and priorities that govern the college, in continuity with the Christian and academic aims that are enshrined in the college's constitution. All appointments are for one year, with no restriction on renomination.

The council operates several sub-committees: the Executive and Finance Committee is chaired by the Council Chairman; the Property and Planning Committee was chaired by Mr Graeme Boyles (retired end of 2015); the Risk Management, Audit and Compliance Committee is chaired by Prof Greg Barton, and Group B Selection Committee (Old Collegians and the Parents' Association) is chaired by Mrs Catherine O'Leary.

The council has 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.

Two longstanding members of council retired at the end of 2015:

Dr Chris Morgan made a strong contribution to PLC since joining council in May 2001. Chris was on the special committee seeking a new principal when Elizabeth Ward retired and the exit debriefing. He was an inaugural member of the Risk Management Audit and Compliance Committee in 2006 until 2009, and a member of the Property and Planning since 2010.

Mr Graeme Boyles was vitally involved with PLC. We have received his steady counsel and input since November 2001. He immediately joined the Property and Planning Committee in 2001 and chaired that committee for the past three years.

Both Chris and Graeme leave with council's strong appreciation for serving to such a high standard. Their input has made a positive impact on the college and ultimately of benefit to our girls. We wish them the Lord's blessings as they take on new endeavours.

Mr Ben de Waard was appointed to council in 2015 and we look forward to the contributions he will make in the coming years.

Conclusion

It is a biblical principle of stewardship that we are to protect, grow and advance what we have been given responsibility for and by God's grace this is what we will continue to do.

I thank God for the many gifts and talents of the council members, our gifted and passionate Principal and staff who educate and guide our girls at the highest possible levels equipping them to be leaders in their future worlds. I thank God for our girls of the college and for their families.

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.

Russell Walley CHAIRMAN

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION (Min. 81)

Introduction

Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union (PWMU) has achieved a great deal this year with a smaller council than usual. Those who are serving PWMU in this capacity have taken on the responsibility of more than one portfolio so that all areas of the work are covered.

It's been a good year. All of the meetings and the speakers have been excellent. We have been dealing with many issues and seen good progress made in moving the work of PWMU forward.

Rallies

PWMU hold two rallies each year - the Thanksgiving Rally in August, which is usually a seminar on topics relating to mission work, and the Country Rally in April, which is held in a regional location to encourage and inform PWMU members unable to get to Melbourne meetings.

Thanksgiving Rally

In August 2015 Russell and Ruth Briggs from Pioneers conducted a program about who Pioneers are, what they do and so on. The missionaries we support with Pioneers were showcased with video clips and then participants prayed in groups for each of them.

Country Rally

This was held at Somerville PC in April 2016. It was hosted by the Flinders PA who conducted the morning program with council taking over in the afternoon. Ben and Penny spoke about their impending missionary service.

State Meetings

Two State Meetings are held each year, in March and June. They are morning meetings that give members the chance to hear a missionary speaker.

1. March State Meeting

Laszlo and Eva Mihalyi gave an interesting overview of their missionary service so far and their plans for the next term of service.

2. June State Meeting

Rhys and Rhondda Hall spoke of their work in South Sudan.

Annual Meetings

The Annual Service was a good time of worship with Rev Philip Burns preaching a thoughtful sermon.

At the Annual General Meeting, missionaries and agency representatives in attendance had the opportunity to speak briefly, followed by the formal business of the meeting.

Children's Work

Three issues of Dayspring magazine were produced. Stephanie Daffy took over the production of this in 2016 and is doing a great job. Council made the decision to make Dayspring free to subscribe to.

Dayspring Day was held in the September School holidays and the theme for 2015 was 'On His Majesty's Service'. Many attendees dressed up to suit the theme and all participated in games and activities designed to teach about missionaries and christian living. Thank you to Shona Archer for her work as coordinator. Cassie Hood has now taken over the organising of Dayspring Day.

Bursary Student

After a lengthy process, PWMU is now host to a new Bursary student. Chanreiso (Aso) Lungleng arrived at the beginning of June from the PTS at Dehra Dun. He is undertaking a Master's degree with the aim of enhancing his usefulness to the seminary in the future. It is expected that he will be in Melbourne for 3 or 4 years.

Promotion

PWMU State Council has been working hard to promote the work of PWMU in as many ways as possible.

1. Website

This is currently a 'work in progress' as work is undertaken to modernise it and make it more user friendly and interactive.

2. Advertising

PWMU aims to advertise meetings and events as widely as possible, so has been placing meeting notifications on the Minister's email network. PWMU was given the opportunity to promote itself at the Women's Ministries Conference held in Melbourne in May 2016.

3. Dayspring

Council undertook a promotion of the magazine to parishes, offering printed copies or emailed copies (to be printed in colour in the parish). Cards were distributed to advertise Dayspring Day.

4. Articles

Articles on meetings and events are regularly submitted to Fellow Workers, as well as being printed in the PWMU newsletter.

5. Member Information

Good, regular communication with members is a high priority. The regular postings are sent to as many individuals as possible, with email transmission being encouraged as a way of reducing postage costs. More work was done in this period on improving the quality of what is produced.

Financial matters

1. Mission support

PWMU Council facilitates the disbursement of financial support that members have raised for missionaries by sending remittances on to mission agencies. Nearly \$40,000 was disbursed in the financial year, a good effort from members and branches.

2. Council Grants

PWMU Council uses the interest earned on Trust funds to give regular grants to missionaries. Seven Homecoming grants (applied according to a formula

when a missionary comes back to Australia on home assignment) were paid in this period. As no one commenced missionary service there were no Departure grants paid, nor any Marriage and Baby grants. This year, PWMU Council agreed to commence payment of an annual amount to Australian based missionaries at the same rate as Homecoming grants. These missionaries have been missing out on receiving regular grants in the past because, as they are based in Australia, they did not 'come home' in the same way as overseas-based missionaries. PWMU Council also paid special grants from time to time as a need arose.

3. Sundry Funds Distribution

The regular distribution done annually in October after the Annual meetings is given to missionaries solely with APWM for their personal support. It is paid from the excess funds from the General Account. \$22,000 was paid in 2015.

4. Trust Funds Distribution

The interest remaining in trust fund accounts is disbursed annually in June. It is given for a missionary's personal needs or projects (not personal support). This year \$12,745 was given for various requests ranging from a fridge, airfares, car expenses, solar panels, speaker system etc.

Constitution

It was decided that the draft of the constitution produced in 2015 required further work prior to the AGM, so was not voted on. After the Annual meetings, further consultations were held with interested parties, and then the resulting draft was sent to the Deputy Clerk of Assembly and the Law Agent for comment. Both made significant contributions to improving the wording and layout of the document. The Law Agent was able to identify areas of concern from a legal point of view that has resulted in improvements to the draft. PWMU Council would like to thank Peter Philips and Geoff Cox for their consultation and the application of their expertise.

The new draft is appended for the perusal of members of Assembly, as it is expected that it will be voted on at the AGM in October, and, if passed by members, brought to the Assembly for its ratification.

Conclusion

Thank you to all members of the PWMU State Council for their dedication and hard work in the governance of PWMU. Thank you also to convenors who have undertaken tasks for PWMU on behalf of Council. Thank you to the Assembly for their continuing support to PWMU by providing an office space.

APPENDIX

Constitution of the Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union of Victoria

1. Name

The name of the organisation shall be the Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union of Victoria, hereafter referred to as PWMU.

2. Purposes

PWMU exists within the Presbyterian Church of Victoria (PCV)

- to encourage prayerful, personal and financial support of Victorian Presbyterian Missionaries and missionary enterprises of the PCV;
- · to promote general interest in missions and mission work;
- to provide information about the work of missionaries and mission enterprises of the PCV:
- to raise funds for the work of missionaries and mission enterprises of the PCV; and
- to do all things incidental to the attainment of the above purposes.

3. Membership

Anyone who is a communicant member or adherent in good standing of the PCV and who is interested in the work of PWMU is eligible to become a member of PWMU on payment of the annual membership fee.

4. Branches

With the approval of the session of a parish, members of PWMU may organise themselves into a branch of PWMU, which shall be under the jurisdiction of that session. Branches shall conduct their activities in accordance with this constitution and such bylaws and regulations applicable with respect to PWMU branches.

5. Regional Associations

With the approval of PWMU, members of PWMU may form regional associations or groups to organise larger PWMU gatherings. Regional associations shall conduct their activities in accordance with this constitution and such bylaws and regulations applicable with respect to PWMU regional associations.

6. Government

6.1 The Council

PWMU shall be governed by a Council of elected members.

- A maximum of twelve women, elected by the PWMU membership, shall form the Council.
- The Council shall appoint from its elected members a President, Vice-President(s), Secretary(ies), and a Treasurer.
- One third of the Council membership shall form a quorum.
- Each member of the Council shall have one vote except the President who shall have a casting vote only.
- In the event of a casual vacancy on the Council, the Council may appoint an eligible person to fill such casual vacancy provided that, such appointee must stand for election at the Council election next to occur if they wish to continue on Council.

6.2 Executive

There shall be an executive of the Council consisting of the President, Vice President(s), Secretary(ies) and the Treasurer.

- The executive shall be empowered to deal with matters that are deemed by two members of the executive to be urgent or confidential or sensitive.
- The executive shall report to the next regular Council meeting both the reasons it decided to meet and an account of any decisions made, for recording in the minutes of Council.

6.3 Elections for Council

The Council shall conduct an annual election for vacancies on the Council, and shall notify members in writing no less than 30 days before the date fixed for close of nominations

- Only women members of PWMU are eligible for election to the Council.
- All members of PWMU are entitled to make nominations.
- A person being nominated must sign a written statement indicating their acceptance of the nomination.
- Nominations shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary together with the signed acceptances no later than the date fixed for the close of nominations.
- If the number of nominations received does not exceed the number of vacancies, no election need be held, and the responsibility of making any appointment rests with the Council.
- If the number of nominations received exceeds the number of vacancies a ballot will be held to decide who will be elected to the Council. The voting papers shall be sent to all members at least 21 days before the date fixed for the close of voting.
- The election must be completed no later than 14 days prior to the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

7. State Level Meetings

The Council shall organise and hold regular meetings to promote missionaries and mission work during the year.

- At least one of the regular meetings held shall be a rally located in a regional centre.
- All meetings shall be open to all PWMU members and visitors.

8. Annual General Meeting

During the General Assembly of the PCV, the Council shall hold its Annual General Meeting and an Annual Service, and shall report to the Assembly.

9. Special Meetings

The Council may arrange for special meetings of Council or of PWMU members.

- Notice of such meetings must be given to all members at least 28 days prior to the meetings.
- Such notice shall state the business of the meeting.
- At the meeting only the stated business may be taken up.

10. Funds

The assets and income of PWMU shall be applied solely in furtherance of its abovementioned purposes and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the PWMU members except as bone fide compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of PWMU.

11. Review and Amendment of the Constitution

The Council shall review the Constitution at least once every ten years but members may propose amendments to the Constitution at any time.

- These must be submitted in writing to the Council for consideration.
- Proposed amendments to the Constitution considered by Council to be suitable shall be published for a period of not less than 60 days prior to their being considered at a meeting of PWMU Members duly convened for that purpose.
- At such meeting any or all proposed amendments to the constitution may be put to the vote and such amendments shall be approved upon a majority of not less than two-thirds of the PWMU members present voting in favour of the proposed amendments.
- Amendments approved by the PWMU members at a duly convened meeting shall only take effect after approval by the General Assembly.

12. Dissolution

Any proposal that PWMU be dissolved shall be published for a period of not less than 60 days prior to its being voted on at a duly convened meeting of PWMU members.

- At this meeting the proposal that PWMU be dissolved shall be approved upon a majority of not less than two-thirds of the PWMU members present voting in favour of said proposal.
- The approved proposal for the dissolution of PWMU shall then be submitted to the General Assembly of the PCV for its approval.
- If the General Assembly approves the proposal to dissolve PWMU, and subject to the terms of such proposal, the Council, or a committee appointed by the Council, shall ensure that:
 - all debts and liabilities and the payment of all costs, charges and expenses are satisfied.
 - o all physical property is sold or disposed of appropriately.
 - o all funds available for missions and missionaries are distributed.
 - o no assets are distributed for the benefit of members.
 - o any funds remaining, including funds which are subject to any declared or expressed trusts, are transferred to Australian Presbyterian World Mission Victoria Committee (APWM (Vic)), or any such entity whose objects are substantially similar to the objects of PWMU and which is not carried on for the profit or gain of its individual members, to be held and applied by the recipient subject to the terms of any such expressed trust.
- After these matters have been completed, the Council and any committee appointed by the Council to oversee the dissolution of PWMU shall cease to exist.

Esther Vayne PRESIDENT

PRIVACY OFFICER (Min. 61)

In October 2015 a report to the GAV relating to privacy made a number of recommendations relating to the:

- updating of the PCV Privacy Policy and Guidelines
- appointment of Fiona Bligh as the Privacy Officer for the PCV
- completion of a 'Personal Information Management Audit' of the PCV via the means of a survey
- commencement of a Privacy Program which covered both training and compliance in this area for the denomination
- resourcing of the PCV in the area of privacy compliance

Current Implementation Status

The October 2013 GAV approved the following – the current status of each provision is noted.

- 1. The PCV use and adapt the PCNSW privacy policy and guidelines for the Victorian Church environment. Any adaptations should be cleared legally by the PCV law agent. This will then form the PCV's Privacy Program Completed
- 2. The guidelines form the procedures, practices and systems integrated into our organisational governance framework relating to our privacy policy and enquiries and complaints. *Completed*
- 3. The PCV publish the privacy policy and guidelines online at all websites under the umbrella of the denomination. *Completed*
 - a. Hence the privacy policy and guidelines would be available on individual congregations' websites and all PCV organisation websites. The privacy policy and guidelines should also be published on the PCV website. Completed
 - b. It also suggested that the PCV publish the privacy policy, guidelines and Privacy Officer's contact details in an article about the new policy in 'Fellow Workers' to adequately publicise this information. *In process*
 - c. Finally all congregations and organisations should be notified of the new policy and guidelines either via a broadcast email or via a mail out *Completed*
- 4. The PCV appoint a Privacy Officer to whom all privacy enquiries and complaints are directed and this person's contact details are made available through the measures described in point 3 above. *Completed*
- 5. The PCV undertake a 'Personal Information Management Audit' (via a survey) of the entire denomination. *Completed*
- 6. The PCV record a short video on a smart phone or tablet of a PCV employee going through the new privacy policy and guidelines explaining how this affects practice in the denomination. This video would then be uploaded to youtube.com where it can be accessed and viewed by all PCV employees. The link to the video would then be emailed to all congregations and organisations with a request for employees to view it. Completed

- 7. The Privacy Collection Notice contained in the guidelines should be published on all material used within the denomination that collects personal information examples include, forms for church directory information, ministry forms including youth group camp forms, PYV camp forms, Kids' Club registration forms, and PWMU branch membership lists. It is envisaged that each congregation and organisation will be able to determine when to attach the Privacy Collection Notice and the training video would also cover this aspect. *Completed (and ongoing)*
- 8. A 'Compliance Program' is established and distributed to all congregations and organisations. *Completed*

Mrs Fiona Bligh PCV PRIVACY OFFICER

RECORDS (Min. 49)

The Presbytery Clerks met in terms of GAV 2005, Min. 112.7(b) for the purpose of perusing minute books of presbyteries, committees and church bodies. Eight personnel comprised 'the Committee' and were in attendance, with eight presbyteries and four Assembly Committee's records being checked. The records checked were generally well presented.

General Observations

The Kalamazoo binder is used by some presbyteries/committees but not all. They are excellent binders for minutes and are available from the Church Office. Both sides of the paper should be used and any blank spaces should be ruled through. In many cases the minutes are not signed after confirmation. Each page should be initialled by the signatory and where the page has been glued, the initial should cross both the glued and permanent page.

Specific Comments

It seems the minute recording in the case of congregational visitations by presbyteries could be tightened up a little. The Code at 4:117ff has been changed with clause 123 stating:

The committee shall prepare for the presbytery:

- (a) A report on the conduct of the visitation;
- (b) A proposed finding concerning the state of affairs of the parish or mission field:
- (c) Recommendations based on the finding.

For practical guidance, a particular presbytery uses the following format which incorporates what is required from the Code and gives a sense of direction to satisfactorily complete the task.

The Report:
We distributed the questionnaires on and met to consider them
before visiting the Parish. We visited the Parish or
and met with and and and
Questions were asked. Cups of tea/coffee were had.
Proposed Findings:
On the basis of the questionnaires and visit, the Committee finds:
(a)
(b)
(c)
Recommendations:
(a)
(b)
(c)

Andrew J Bray

ACTING CONVENER

SAFE CHURCH PANEL OF REFERENCE (Min. 99)

The Safe Church Panel of Reference consists of 5 members bringing a variety of skills and experience to this committee:

Convener – Rev Brian Harvey, Youth Ministries Director, Presbyterian Church of Victoria

Mrs Kathy James – Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care Co-ordinator, Presbyterian Church of Victoria

Mr Geoffrey Hui – Lawyer

Mr Chris Craig - Manager - Operational Policy, Policy & Quality, MacKillop Family Services

Mrs Fiona Bligh – Safe Church Facilitator, Safe Church Unit, Presbyterian Church of Victoria

The Safe Church Panel of Reference has met as required to consult with the Safe Church Case Manager in reference to particular complaints and related procedure whenever required.

Panel meetings always begin with prayer and devotions as members seek to be Christ-centred and to glorify the Lord in the difficult work of the Safe Church Unit.

The Panel must face into often complex and always grievous abuse-related situations which have arisen in our Church and carefully assess these from a number of aspects, including from both a Christian and legal responsibility point of view. The Panel thereafter makes recommendations and gives advice to the relevant body of leaders (be that members of a Session or Presbytery) who are responsible for responding to the situation, in alignment with the PCV Code Book, and the Safe Church Policy and Code of Conduct.

The Safe Church Unit receives on average an enquiry a week relating to possible abuse situations in the Church, as defined by the Safe Church Policy and Code of Conduct. For the period of February-June 2016 these enquiries grew to an average of two a week, perhaps driven by the increased awareness of the Safe Church Unit as a place of resource in our Church and also by the increased awareness of abuse in our community at large in Victoria.

Not all enquiries develop into a case – most enquiries result in advice and recommendations for local leaders working through a Safe Church related matter, with additional support and resources provided as requested as the matter progresses. A case however is a matter which by its gravity or the ongoing nature of the situation and individuals involved requires lengthy, often ongoing work and attention for it to be successfully resolved or managed according to the requirements of the Safe Church Policy and Code of Conduct.

Currently 40% of enquiries develop into a case. Some cases arising from enquiries have involved Victoria Police, Child Protection or the courts of Victoria.

Cases often involve an intense period of work and activity, generally spread over several weeks and months. For cases so far which have resulted in a police investigation and charges being laid and then progress to the courts of Victoria, the average time from notification to the Safe Church Unit to conclusion is approximately two years. Many hours of work are required during this timeframe.

An enquiry which does not develop further also requires several hours of time - a shorter enquiry may take 1-3 hours, a longer enquiry resulting from requests from leaders for ongoing resource and support may take as long as 5-10 hours, over some period of time. An example of this would be where an enquiry results in an external report to authorities necessitating the Safe Church Unit to wait upon external advice or resolution before any recommendations for internal PCV action might be taken.

The prayer support of the Church and the commitment to Safe Church PCV by leaders and volunteers in our Church has been amazing. The work of the Panel of Reference is greatly blessed by the wisdom and diligence of Church leaders facing into these very sad and difficult matters. The Safe Church Facilitator reports that the Panel's supervision, oversight and support for her in her role has been both invaluable and essential.

The prayer of the Panel is that the work may continue to protect and help the vulnerable in our Church, serve as a witness to our community and bring glory to God.

Brian Harvey CONVENER

ST ANDREWS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE (Min. 69)

Thanks be to God for how he is visibly growing and developing St Andrews Christian College.

This growth is evident in such areas as:

- Continued growth in student numbers (currently 556)
- Outstanding educational progress in our students.
 - Research and data (NAPLAN) exhibit that our students are not only well ahead of their counterparts in all assessment areas but also improving significantly faster than their state wide peers
- Ongoing improvements in infrastructure/buildings and grounds
- · Professional and spiritual growth amongst staff
- Ongoing expansion and improvement of programs and extra-curricular activities offered
- Overall community (parents and staff) satisfaction with St Andrews Christian College. Main positive attributes of the College identified in 2015 Satisfaction Survey include:
 - Strong Christian values and ethos
 - Integration of the College's vision and mission into College life
 - Overall quality of the College (particularly in the areas of learning and teaching programs, high academic standards, many opportunities for students, professional caring staff and good leadership)
 - Community spirit

Our expanding programs at St Andrews are testimony of a 'shalom' community who also understand that education is more than what happens within the four walls of a classroom and is more than just achieving a good VCE mark.

An excellent academic program is about enabling each student to achieve their best in the way God has made and gifted them. It is important that our children know they are made in God's image and made for a purpose in his kingdom.

This type of education is not just informational it is transformational!

St Andrews Christian College Mission Statement

To educate our students so that they are well skilled, understand life on the basis of biblical truth, and are motivated to walk with God and serve Him in their lives, so that they will be a positive Christian influence in the world.

In achieving our mission at St Andrews Christian College, the college continues to build on our four strategic priorities outlined in our Strategic Plan. These include continually growing as a Christ-centred college, fostering learning and teaching excellence, continually strengthening community and expanding college infrastructure.

Some areas of development for 2016 include:

Christ Centred College

- Building more mission and service opportunities for all our college community to impact the world for Christ
- Ongoing training for staff in Christian Education

Development of the Whole Child

- Growing our Student Leadership Program
- Expanding curricular and extra-curricular opportunities throughout the college
- Building our Wellbeing program/initiatives

Infrastructure Development

- Ongoing development of grounds and planning for future facilities
- Completing Stage 2 of the Innovation Centre (senior school, libraries, ICT, meeting rooms)

Building Community

- Growing our Community House Programs
- Sound practices to provide a safe and secure environment for all the community

Innovation

 Extending the integration of information and communication technology into classrooms and across curriculum areas as a tool for learning and teaching

Academic Excellence

- Growing the expertise of each faculty
- Continual professional development to support and grow staff
- Regularly reviewing and developing curriculum from a biblical perspective in line with the set national curriculum and cross-curriculum priorities
- Consistently measuring individual and collective student progress against national benchmarks in literacy and numeracy and assessing how our students can continue to improve these results
- Growing our Gifted and Talented program

Excellence in Christ

Our theme for 2016 is "Excellence in Christ", with our biblical focus being based on Philippians 4:8:

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things."

Excellence in Christ is not achieved by just striving for excellence but through focusing on Christ who encompasses all that is excellent.

Frederick Robertson (English Clergyman, born 1816) beautifully captures this thought with these words:

"What the world calls virtue is a name and a dream without Christ. The foundation of all human excellence must be laid deep in the blood of the Redeemer's cross, and in the power of His resurrection."

Please pray that St Andrews Christian College will continue to grow in providing an excellent Christian education for our children and that all our students come to know God as their Lord and Saviour and know their purpose in His Kingdom.

Being a "shalom" community (God-fearing, Bible-based, Spirit-led, Christ-centred) in the context of today's society is exciting, a wonderful privilege and yet a daily challenge. We are kingdom building by daily modelling how to love the Lord and each other in the context of education.

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates." Deuteronomy 6:5-9

St Andrews Christian College Senior School and Innovation Centre





Children in Fiji wearing St Andrews Christian College uniform The college participated in sending goods to an island in Fiji decimated in the recent

cyclone





Catriona Wansbrough PRINCIPAL

SCOTCH COLLEGE (Min. 47)

The work of the school chaplains, Rev Doug Campbell and Rev David Assender, together with that of Rev Grant Watson, ensures that the Christian message remains the central element of each boy's life at Scotch. The Scriptures are read in the three assemblies held each week in the Memorial Hall, at the Boarders' Chapel services each Sunday evening and at year group and house chapel services in the Littlejohn Chapel. Christian Education continues as a core study at all year levels and a staff prayer group meets weekly, as does the Christian Student Fellowship group. The two chaplains continue to provide pastoral oversight of our community of boys, staff and parents. In addition, the chaplains organise the annual Easter Prayer Breakfast and play an important role within the Year 9 Retreat Program, where each Year 9 boy spends two days at our Healesville Property undertaking activities requiring reflection on his life to date and the journey that lies ahead in the context of Christ's teachings.

Although education is about much more than a final set of examination results, the school quite rightly charges itself with improving outcomes in all that each boy takes on and academic examination results remain foundational to a boy's Scotch experience. The 2015 VCE results were again encouraging across the board, particularly when referenced to ability measures, with notable success being achieved in lifting boys into the top 10% of the population at VCE and in providing meaningful tertiary pathways.

- The median ATAR score was 88.40, compared to 90.25 in 2014;
- Two boys obtained the maximum possible ATAR of 99.95;
- 8.7% of the cohort obtained an ATAR of 99.00 or higher placing them in the top 1% of the population;
- 30.3% of the boys obtained an ATAR of 95.00 or more;
- 46.9% of the boys obtained an ATAR of 90.00 or more;
- There were 12 highest possible study scores across six subjects and five boys won VCE Premier's Awards;
- All but three of the 241 Year 12 boys were offered a first round tertiary place.

The School's measures of 'value add' indicate that the learning experiences of boys are clearly adding value to their academic performance relative to the Australian population across all ability ranges and highlight the expertise of the Scotch staff in influencing those factors, beyond innate ability, that make a difference. By way of example, from a cohort of 164 boys tested in both Year 5 and Year 12, 115 (70%) were in the top 50% of the population when in Year 5, and 152 of the same boys (93%) were in the top 50% of the population come the close of Year 12.

Boys continue to perform with distinction in national competitions. 19 boys won a prize in the Australia Mathematics Competition, placing them in the top 2% of candidates, with one boy winning a medal as a consequence of finishing in the top three in Victoria. The tenth medal won by a Scotch boy in the past 11 years.

Boys have also won German and Italian poetry competitions, won scholarships to allow them to travel to Bavaria for 10 weeks, been awarded *Swannie* awards for being the best speaker in their division of the Hawthorn region of the Debating Association of Victoria competition, been awarded bursaries in the Science Talent Search, represented Australia in the Physics Olympiad competition, travelled to Pittsburgh to compete (by invitation) in the World Individual Debating and Public Speaking competition, been awarded High Distinctions in the National Computational and Algorithmic Thinking competition, competed in the Model United Nations event held in Singapore, and gained success in advanced level music qualifications, gaining either an Associate of Music, Australia or a Licentiate of Music, Australia.

The school's Improvement Plan continues to be the main driver in shaping the strategies employed as we look to improve the learning outcomes for each boy. As part of this plan, this year will see the school implement our recent reviews of Design and Technology, Educational Support, Science and the Library, review the pastoral structures in Years 7 and 8, restructure the Services and Activities program to involve each boy with an immersion experience of service, review our academic care and teaching practices in Years 9–11 to best prepare boys for the demands of Year 12, continue to implement the Peer Observation Program for teachers (with additional focus on relational learning strategies and practices), and undertake a number of research projects with the International Boys' Schools Coalition, Swinburne University and Dr Michael Reichert, the 2015 Scotch College Foundation Fellow.

Places are keenly sought at all entry points for admission into the school. In 2015 there were 1455 boys enrolled in the Senior School, of whom 165 were boarders, and 430 boys in the Junior School. Of the boarders, 59, including four indigenous students, started on the Hill in 2014. This year began with 1454 boys in the Senior School of whom 157 are boarders. Nine boys are currently enrolled through our Indigenous Program, all bar one being resident on the Hill. The number of Full Fee Paying Overseas Students is similar to that of last year (23 compared to 21 in 2015). New overseas students come from Malaysia, China, Singapore, Hong Kong and Saudi Arabia. The Junior School started this year with one less Year 6 boy than predicted following a late January withdrawal. There were 79 new boys in the Junior School at the start of the year with demand from parents for places continuing to be very high. There is also strong demand for places at Year 7 and Year 9, as evidenced by the fact that 378 boys attended our recent placement tests as part of the 2017 admissions process.

As the Sir Zelman Cowen Centre for Science nears completion, the school's attention has turned to the next stage of its campus development: the construction of a home for Design and Technology. This will provide a state of the art home for Product Design and its related subjects, and, through the space vacated by such a move and that associated with the new home for Science, pave the way for the construction of a Student Precinct and Student Centre. The Building Development Plan for the next decade includes plans to renovate our boarding facilities (providing more modern and appropriate accommodation for both boarding staff and boys), the building of a new Sports Centre and Pavilion, and the possible conversion of the existing Glenn Centre into a new quadrangle providing homes for the Humanities, Languages and several day houses.

The facilities at the school's property at Healesville have been improved with the construction of a new kitchen and mess hall, allowing greater usage of the property throughout the year. In addition to the annual Year 9 retreats, Grade 3 boys from the Junior School are regular visitors to the site as part of their environmental and cultural studies.

The school's third science oration, delivered by Professor Ian Frazer, proved another great success and provided a focus for much scientific engagement around the school. The event was again well supported by the community.

This year, the school's fundraising attention has turned towards raising sufficient funds to cover the annual costs of our Indigenous Program in perpetuity. This venture, which has Old Boys Tony Briggs and Cyril 'Junior' Rioli as its patrons and the support of both the School's Foundation and the Old Boys' Association, was launched in May.

The School's partnerships with Hume Central Secondary College in Broadmeadows, Tiwi College on Melville Island and Chitulika High School in Zambia, continue to flourish. Our connection with Hume Central centres on Mathematics, English and Psychology, where Scotch staff offer tutoring and revision lectures to Hume students, and Art, where a number of Hume students again accompanied a group of Scotch boys on the annual Studio Art tour of Sydney, Canberra and Bundanon. Our connection with Tiwi College has been strengthened by the annual visit to Scotch by a group of students from Tiwi College and the visit by Scotch boys to Tiwi College as part of the biennial Tiwi Island football and Indigenous Partnership Program trips. The school is currently planning to raise funds to enable Chitulika High School to build an ablutions block, having already provided monies for the building of a science block and a library. Textbooks and other materials have also been sent to the school to assist with their academic program.

Music and drama, both housed in the James Forbes Academy, continue to flourish and cater for large numbers of boys. Many boys involve themselves in the drama program, either as part of the cast in one of the three major school plays and one musical the school stages each year in conjunction with girls from PLC and Ruyton, or as part of a backstage crew. The music department also provides opportunity for the various ensembles and orchestras to perform at one of the 50 or more concerts and recitals held throughout the year. Opportunity is also provided for boys to work with professional musicians and conductors giving them a greater insight into the world of music, whilst challenging them to produce music of the highest quality. Our Pipes and Drums Band has also achieved success this year, retaining the Adult Grade 3 Victorian Championships. The Band participated in the annual ANZAC day march and travelled to Scotland over the June holidays to compete in a number of competitions including the European Championships. Debating and public speaking continue to attract a good number of boys and achieve a great deal of success, individually and in the team competitions organised by the Debating Association of Victoria.

International tours, including those by our rowers to the United States of America to compete in the Head of the Charles, our basketballers to the United States of America, our debaters to New York and Singapore, continue to expand the horizons of our boys, as do the many sporting competitions against schools throughout Australia. Exchanges to Scotland, France, Germany, England, the

USA, India and South Africa provide individual challenges as boys move out of their comfort zones. The sporting program remains an integral part of each boy's journey through the school. Following their extended periods of dominance, our rowers and badminton team relinquished their positions at the top of the APS ladder, although the 1st VIII did win the Victorian Championships and finished third in the final of the National Championships. Although not an official APS sport, our Futsal team finished in first place in its competition, our cyclists won the Victorian Interschools Cycling Series and our footballers, soccer players and hockey team all won their annual fixture against Melbourne Grammar. For the first time in some 38 years, the Scotch Snowsports team captured the Victorian Interschools Cup. Individual boys have enjoyed success at both state and national level in a wide range of sports, including athletics, basketball, cricket, cycling, sailing, skiing, speed skating, swimming and volleyball.

Outreach and Social Services programs continue to be a significant feature of the school. The 2015 Sony Foundation Children's camp, which provides respite for parents of children with severe disabilities, was hosted in the boarding precinct in both McMeckan and School Houses just prior to Christmas. 14 Scotch boys and a number of staff and parents, along with students from other independent schools in the area, assisted with the running of the camp. One hundred and twenty boys and staff participated in the annual 24 Hour Hike raising some \$26,000 for the 'R U OK' charity, a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to encouraging all Australians to regularly and meaningfully ask anyone struggling with life, "Are you ok?". After a powerful school assembly address from one of our Indigenous students, covering his personal reflections on 'Closing the Gap' for Indigenous Australians, boys from the Indigenous Partnership Program raised funds for the Oxfam Closing the Gap appeal. The Indigenous Partnership Program presented boys with the opportunity to work with the girls of Worowa College, assist with the Fitzroy Star's 'Oz Kick' program, visit Tiwi College on Melville Island and host students from Tiwi College. Our recent collaboration with the Girraway Ganyi Consultancy Company has allowed boys in the Indigenous Partnership Program to undertake a cultural awareness program, and our indigenous students to participate in a First Aid mental health program. Boys involved in the Social Justice program held an art exhibition featuring works by Scotch boys and residents of Servants Community Housing, a local organisation that provides affordable accommodation and safe housing for those on low incomes. Activities have also been organised throughout the year by boys to raise money for the victims of the Fiji cyclone and for Amnesty International.

Cadets and Scouts remain important parts of the School's Services program. The Cadet Corps comprises over 150 boys from Years 9 to 12. In addition to the weekly activities, the boys in Cadets are involved in the annual Cadet Tattoo and Retreat Ceremony, which continues to be one of the highlights of the Scotch year, and the ANZAC Day parade, where they carry banners for various ex-service associations and assist veterans. The Scout Troop, which in general contains boys from Year 6 to Year 9, meets weekly in the hall of All Saints Church, located in Glenferrie Rd, and undertakes a variety of activities. The Troop also makes use of the excellent and recently renovated facilities at the School's Healesville property during its annual camp.

The school continues to work with those Old Boys who have made contact

concerning trauma and abuse suffered during their school years. The school has assisted such Old Boys in contacting appropriate agencies and authorities, and in offering a meeting with the Principal to receive an apology and through the support of the School Psychologist.

In conclusion, I can report, with confidence, that the school is maintaining its healthy place in the market place, with strong demand for places at all entry points. The school continues to look to improve and refine its programs, ensuring the opportunities and experiences it provides appropriately challenge and support each boy, allowing him to be best prepared to influence, by thought and deed, for the greater good in the dynamic world he will inherit. All this is accomplished within the framework set down in the Memorandum and Articles of Association of Scotch College.

On behalf of the Scotch College Council I have pleasure in transmitting this report.

The Hon Dr D A Kemp
CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

SELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT (Min. 78)

The Selection Committee is pleased to see a decline in committee vacancies, and notes that this has been in part due to a number of committees being dissolved. We do however note that the following committees have many vacancies.

- Church and Nation (7 vacancies)
- Christian Education and Nurture (4 vacancies)

After consulting the respective committees, boards, councils and other bodies, the Selection Committee brings the following nominations to the Assembly for their appointment to those bodies.

GAV Appointments

ad hoc Christian Schools Development Committee

Very Rev Dr A M Harman, Rev D Schulz, Rev M Wishart, Mr J Bligh, Rev J Cho, Mrs A Withers.

Convener: Mr J Bligh

ad hoc Committee for Sites Reserve Funds

[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]

Ballarat Rev M Crabb
Benalla Rev K R Ee
Flinders Rev D J Palmer

Geelong Very Rev Dr A M Harman

Gippsland Rev C Garrett
Kilnoorat Rev I Leach
Maroondah Rev D A Slater

Melbourne East Very Rev Dr C R Thomas Melbourne North Mr B Miller *or* Mr T Cullen

Melbourne West Mr D Wright
North Western Mr C Morrow

Australian Presbyterian World Mission [Vic] Committee

[10 Members nominated by GAV, 2 Members nominated by PWMU, all appointed by the Assembly]

RT 17: Rev T Archer [24], Mr D Bennett [17], Rev P J Burns [22] RT 18: Mrs L Ellis [25], Mrs W Pearce [22], Rev Dr F Chung [24]

RT 19: Mrs W Moody [25], Mr N Johnston [22], Mrs S White [22], Rev L H C Pearce

[19]

PWMU: Miss R Crocker [22], Mrs P Vandenberg [24]

Convener: Mr D Bennett [17]

Board of Investment and Finance [Trusts Corporation]

[10 Members, eligible for a second consecutive 5 year term]

RT 17: Mr I Bramley [17], Rev S Deroon [22], Mr M Smith [22]

RT 18: Mr M Duke [23]

RT 19: Rev B Oakes [24]

RT 20: Mr T Arnold [20], Mr A Letcher [20], Rev A Bray [25]

RT 21: Mr S Williamson [26], Mr J Bligh [26] Chairman: [Appointed annually by the Board]

Building and Property Committee

[3 Members]

RT 17: Rev M Tegart [24] RT 18: Rev P Phillips [17] RT 19: Mr D Wright [24]

Convener: Rev M Tegart [23]

Business Committee

[Clerk of Assembly, Deputy Clerk, Business Convener, Procurator, Law Agent, 3 Members of Assembly not conveners of other reporting committees, Clerks of Presbyteries during Assembly]

RT 17: Mr K Childs [22] RT 18: Rev P Mercer [19] RT 19: Mr D Fraser [24]

Convener: Rev D Carroll [22]

Christian Education And Nurture Committee

[11 Members, at least 6, including the convener, members of Assembly]

RT 17: Vacancy, Mrs M Girgis [22], Rev D Assender [22], Rev H Lim [18]

RT 18: Vacancy, Mr P Dakin [25], Rev M James [24]

RT 19: Vacancy, Vacancy, Rev A Humphries [24], Mrs A Harvey [20]

Convener: Rev M James [22]

Church And Nation Committee

[10 Members]

RT 17: Vacancy, Vacancy, Vacancy

RT 18: Vacancy, Vacancy, Rev D Combridge [20], Mr B Palmer [20]

RT 19: Vacancy, Vacancy, Rev D Middleton [19]

Convener: Rev D R Middleton [19]

Church Planting Committee

[6 Members, plus the Convener]

RT 17: Rev B P Johnson [21], Rev S North [24] **RT 18:** Rev T Fishwick [24], Rev A Boyd [24] **RT 19:** Rev J Hyunh [24]; Rev P Roberts [24]

Convener: Rev C B Garrett [22]

Clerkship Committee

Immediate Past Moderator (Convener), Law Agent, Convener Business Committee, Convener Maintenance of the Ministry Committee, Chairman of the Board of Investment and Finance, and the Moderator prior to the Immediate Past Moderator.

Code And General Administration Committee

[3 Members, plus *ex officio* the Clerks of Assembly, Business Convener, Procurator, Law Agent, Chairman of Trusts Corporation]

RT 17: Mr B Stasse [23] RT 18: Mr P Barton [23] RT 19: Rev G Nicholson [17] Convener: The Clerk of Assembly

Conciliation Committee

[3 Ministers and 3 Elders appointed annually, plus the Immediate Past Moderator of the Assembly as convener]

Ministers: Rev Dr R Carner [23], Rev P Orchard [17], Rev G Weber [19]

Elders: Mr V Vasiliades [23], Mr N Sharp [18], Mr B Downes [22]

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 17: Rev M Tegart [25] RT 18: Mr J Cawood [22] RT 19: Rev P Mercer [22] Convener: Rev P Owen [23]

Exit Students Committee

Convener of the Ministry Development Committee, Ministry Development Officer, Principal of the Presbyterian Theological College [or his faculty representative], Training Officer, Convener of the Church Planting Committee [whenever a Church planting placement is being considered], Convener of the Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee [whenever a chaplaincy placement is being considered], a representative of each candidate's Presbytery [preferably the convener of the Presbytery's Candidates' Committee or equivalent]

Convener: Convener of Ministry Development Committee

Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee

[10 Persons]

RT 17: Mrs L Garrett [25], Rev M Fagan [18], Rev C Le Page [18]

RT 18: Rev C Yat [24], Rev P Chang [22], Mrs T Orchard [17], Mrs A Robertson [19]

RT 19: Vacancy, Rev G Vayne [22], Rev P Court [22]

Convener: Rev M Fagan [18]

Maintenance Of The Ministry Committee

[6 Members]

RT 17: Rev M Crabb [21], Mr R Taylor [21] **RT 18:** Mr R Butcher [16], Mr D Wright [22] **RT 19:** Vacancy, Rev K D W Allen [21]

Convener: Mr D Wright [21]

METRO Committee

[6 Members]

RT 17: Rev C Le Page [19], Ms J Wort [24] **RT 18:** Rev H Easton [22], Rev T McIntosh [22] **RT 19:** Rev A Vines [24], Rev B Harvey [22]

Convener: Mr A May [17]

Ministry Development Committee

[6 Members, plus the Convener]

RT 17: Dr B Ellis [20], Rev M Wishart [23]

RT 18: Rev P Greiner [24], Rev G Vanderwert [22]

RT 19: Rev S Withers [25], Rev A Slater [23]

Convener: Rev I Hutton [21]

Safe Church Panel of Reference

[Safe Church Facilitator *ex officio*, 4 other members of the PCV, convener must not be the Safe Church Facilitator]

RT 17: Mrs K James [24]

RT 18: Mr C Craig [24], Mr G Hui [24]

RT 19: Rev B Harvey [24] Convener: Rev B Harvey [22]

Social Services Committee

[Convener and 9 Members]

RT 17: Mr T Cunneen [24], Miss R Strother [22], Mr G Hamilton [22]

RT 18: Mr B Miller [18], Mr D Gibb [19], Mrs R Rodgers [21] **RT 19:** Mr D Conradi [25], Rev G Lawry [25], Mr B Evans [21]

Convener: Mr R Lowe [15]

State News Committee

[2 Ministers and 2 Elders]

RT 17: Rev L Isham [24]

RT 18: Rev N Harvey [18]

RT 19: Mr A Zirngast [22], Mr P Betts [19]

Convener: Rev L Isham [23]

Theological Education Committee

[10 Members, plus ex officio the Principal and another member of the Faculty]

RT 17: Mr F Diack [25], Rev G Nicholson [25], Rev N Benfell [23]

RT 18: Mr D Wright [24], Rev P Owen [23], Rev I H Barker [22], Mr C Manners [22]

RT 19: Rev S Jones [25], Rev P Mercer [24], Mr B Georges [22]

Convener: Rev N Benfell [22]

Other Positions

ACCESS Ministries

Rev G Lawry, Mrs A Thomas

CCAP Blantyre Synod Malawi

Trustee for Orbus: The Clerk of Assembly

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

Leaders 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

[2 PCV, 1 PWMU + Convener (alternates between PCV & UCA Victoria/Tasmania)]

PWMU: Vacancy

GAV: Mrs C Closter, Mrs T Assender

Convener: Rev Dr J P Wilson

St Andrews Foundation

Mrs M Conradi, Rev R O'Brien, Mr C Morrow

Multifaith Advisory Group Representative

Rev G Bradbeer

[Appointee to report to Assembly through the Church and Nation Committee]

Cameron Garrett
CONVENER

SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE (Min. 93)

Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes

Mission

The mission of Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes is to provide, through prudent financial management, the highest possible quality of residential, community and health care, according to the meekness and gentleness of Christ. Aims are to meet individual needs and expectations, respect privacy and personal dignity, encourage independence as far as practicably possible, and to ensure resident, significant other, and staff satisfaction, in a culture of continuous improvement.

Property development

The committee is pleased to announce the construction of the administration building is now complete. The surrounding area of the building has been enhanced by the installation of access paths and landscaping. The staff have settled in well and are enjoying their new offices after working for many years in the old administration building with the limited space it offered.

The construction of the eight new apartments is well underway with an expected completion date of mid-September. The apartments taking advantage of beautiful vistas, are two and three bedroom homes and offer the highest standard of retirement living. They have a private entry and the convenience of garaged carparking with internal access.

With prices commencing from \$397,000 the committee believes the apartments are well priced to attract retirees seeking to live in a Christian aged care community.

Stage 2 of the development, the building of twenty apartments and a community centre, has planning approval from Yarra Ranges Council. The estimated cost of \$11m, includes \$2m for a community centre. With the approval of the General Assembly to proceed with Stage 2 of the development, the tender program and builder engagement could occur early 2017, construction commence in mid-2017, with completion in mid-2018.

Available funds for Stage 2 will come from reserves \$12.7m (estimated at 1/7/17), ingoing contributions held \$10m (estimated at 1/7/17), (includes \$3.6m ingoing contributions from Stage 1). Total \$22.7m. Estimated ingoing contributions derived from Stage 2 is \$8.8m.

A new centre for Pastoral Care

With the existing administration building now vacant it was agreed by the committee that it be used as a Centre for Pastoral Care. With funds from the J Sampson bequest the building will be renovated to provide pastoral care services for residents, their relatives and representatives and staff. The committee is most grateful to the Trust Corporation to receive the bequest.

Financial Position

The financial position of Kirkbrae remains sound with a clear understanding by the committee that expenditure needs to be controlled and funds allocated on a needs basis.

The committee wishes to thank members of the Trusts Corporation and Mr Michael Ellison, General Manager PCV for their advice and support.

Poor of Melbourne Bequest

The committee has provided funds to the Presbyterian and Scots' Joint Mission Flemington to financially assist needy families with the purchase of school uniforms, text books and to attend school camps.

St Andrew's Foundation - Application for grant

The committee was successful in receiving a grant from the St Andrew's Foundation for resident facilities and services. The grant was acknowledged with thanks to the trustees.

Mavis Smith Bequest

In February the committee decided a number of the older independent living units on the site required urgent upgrading if they are to meet the needs of future residents. The decision was made to upgrade six existing independent living units with renovations to kitchens and bathrooms with painting and cosmetic details to ensure a convenient and attractive result. With an estimated cost of refurbishment of each unit of \$18,000 the funding for the renovations were provided by the Mavis Smith Bequest and the Scots' Property Trust. The residents who have moved into the renovated units are very pleased with their updated kitchens and bathrooms. A further two units are to be upgraded during the next twelve months.

The Douglas Family Trust

The committee has provided funds from the trust to the Presbyterian and Scots' Joint Mission Flemington to support the mission's program of assisting individuals and families with food parcels. Additionally the committee provided funds to assist a member of Epping Presbyterian Church.

Thomas Hall Bequest

The Social Services Committee has been pleased to provide grants totalling \$26,796 to the following congregations for their young members and youth leaders to attend PYV camps in 2015/2016:

Bendigo Presbyterian Church	\$1730
Brimbank Presbyterian Church	\$200
Canterbury Presbyterian Church	\$1900
Cheltenham Presbyterian Church	\$200
Clayton Presbyterian Church	\$4306
Cranbourne Presbyterian Church	\$3000
Donvale Presbyterian Church	\$2535
Drouin Presbyterian Church	\$3065
Epping Presbyterian Church	\$2585
Hume Presbyterian Church	\$335
Mernda Presbyterian Church	\$115
Moe Presbyterian Church	\$900
Sunshine Presbyterian Church	\$580
Surrey Hills Presbyterian Church	\$2575
Warragul Presbyterian Church	\$300
Warrnambool Presbyterian Church	\$2470

The committee received the following message from Rev Brian Harvey, Youth Ministries Director. 'I wish to acknowledge and thank the Social Services Committee for their consistent and generous support for the PYV. A good number of young members of the church have been able to attend camps because of the funding received from the committee.' The committee gives thanks to God we can support our churches in this way.

The committee would encourage congregations to take advantage of the Thomas Hall Bequest by downloading an application from www.Kirkbrae.org.au and click on application forms.

Pastoral Care Kirkbrae and Tannoch Brae, Geelong

On Sunday 21 February after the morning worship service a farewell function for Rev Wally Gear was held to celebrate his nearly nine years of ministry to the Kirkbrae congregation. The function was attended by past and present members of the SSC and HCCC, Kirkbrae congregation, staff members and the Maroondah Presbytery. Many of the congregation spoke of how they will miss Rev Wally Gear for his ministry and friendship over the many years he has served the Lord at Kirkbrae. It was a day where all who attended joined together in a joyful atmosphere to give thanks to the Lord for the contribution Rev Wally Gear has made to Kirkbrae.

The SSC, HCCC and the Maroondah Presbytery are presently evaluating applicants for the chaplain vacancy at Kirkbrae. It is hoped a decision to fill the position will be known by the middle of August.

Janine Motyer with her warm, compassionate concern for the needs of the residents is a vital member of the pastoral care team. Janine is well respected and loved by all who know her and we give thanks to God for her pastoral care at Kirkbrae.

The Rev Andrew Bray, Chaplain of Tannoch Brae Senior Living, Bellarine, Geelong, has served the Lord at Tannoch Brae on behalf of the Social Services Committee with a caring ministry to the residents and staff for the past fifteen years. The committee is most thankful to Rev Andrew Bray for his continued ministry at Tannoch Brae.

Committee Membership

Miss Barbara Firth after ten years of faithful service on the Social Services Committee has now completed her term of office. Mr Jim Nuske and Mr David Gibb are stepping down as committee members. The committee is grateful for the contribution they have made with their time and talents and we thank God for all that they have done on behalf of the Kirkbrae residents.

The committee is pleased to welcome Rev Grant Lawry and Mr Dennis Conradi as new members.

Appreciation

To members of the committee who give of their time freely to meet the needs of the residents, a very sincere thank you for your support for the work of the committee.

The last twelve months has been a demanding time for Mr Mark Sketcher CEO of Kirkbrae as Stage 1 of the development nears its completion. The committee is

grateful to him for his oversight of the development and with his other responsibilities has filled the position as CEO with energy and commitment.

Committee Membership

Mr Robert Lowe (Convener)
Mr Bruce Evans
Mr Tom Cunneen
Rev Grant Lawry
Mr Greg Hamilton
Mrs Roberta Rodgers
Mr Bruce Miller
Mr Dennis Conradi

Miss Rosalie Strother

In Conclusion

'Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord!'

Psalm 31:24

Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes Constitution

To meet the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not for profit Commission the Social Services Committee and the Trusts Corporation have worked together to produce a constitution for Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes.

KIRKBRAE PRESBYTERIAN HOMES

CONSTITUTION

Definitions:

"the Assembly" means the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church

of Victoria

"the Church" means the Presbyterian Church of Victoria

"the Committee" means the Social Services Committee of the Presbyterian

Church of Victoria

"the Homes" means Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes

"the Regulations" means the regulations of the committee and any other

general regulations relating to committees that the

General Assembly enacts from time to time

"the Rules" means the Code Book of the Presbyterian Church of

Victoria

"the Trusts Corporation" means The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts

Corporation which is incorporated under the Presbyterian

Trusts Act 1890 of the State of Victoria ("the Act").

1. This is the constitution of Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes. It shall at all times be subject to the Rules and Regulations of the Church.

The Committee and the Assembly

- 2. The Assembly appoints from time to time whatever committees, boards and councils it needs to do its work.
- 3. On setting up a committee the General Assembly names it, sets out its membership, purpose and duties, and gives it other necessary directions, usually in the form of regulations.
- 4. All committees are required to conduct their business in accordance with:
 - a) the directions and regulations under which they were set up;
 - b) the rules of the church;
 - c) general regulations relating to committees that the General Assembly enacts from time to time.
- 5. The Assembly has established the Social Services Committee and formulated general regulations for the Committee.
- 6. The Committee is responsible to the Assembly for the planning, development, administration and oversight of all social services activities sanctioned by the Assembly.
- 7. The Committee has been endorsed as a deductible gift recipient under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.*

Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes

- 8. The Assembly has sanctioned the establishment of Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes as an activity of the Committee.
- 9. The objects of the Homes are:
 - a. To provide without discrimination, a Christian environment, affordable accommodation and related services for retired, aged and disabled persons, irrespective of their religious beliefs, racial origin, marital status, gender and financial situation.
 - b. To serve people with disability or disadvantage by providing compassionate care and support, including charitable services and acts.

To be a not for profit organisation, both in its operation and in its winding up. The assets and income of the organisation shall be applied solely in the furtherance of its above-mentioned objects and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the organisation except as bona fide compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of the organisation.

The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation

- 10. In accordance with the power established under the Act, the Assembly passed a resolution constituting The Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation as a permanent corporate body to hold the assets of the Church.
- 11. The properties, endowments, assets and liabilities of the Committee shall at all times be vested in the Trusts Corporation.

- 12. The Trusts Corporation is the corporate body under which all related business activities of the Homes are registered and operate.
- 13. The Trusts Corporation is approved as the residential aged care provider by the Commonwealth Government and is responsible for ensuring the Homes meet the Commonwealth Government's accreditation standards for the provision of aged care.
- 14. The Trusts Corporation is the registered owner of the Homes and is responsible for compliance with the State Government statutory requirements.
- 15. The Trusts Corporation is also responsible for:
 - a. Accepting funds which have been donated or bequeathed to the Church for the express purpose of providing accommodation and or care for the aged or disabled; or for children or family or general welfare purposes.
 - Holding and investing those funds.
 - c. Appointing an external Auditor.

The Committee

- 16. The Committee shall be appointed by the Assembly in accordance with the Rules and Regulations.
- 17. The Committee composition should include members with formal financial or ministry or social service qualifications; and/or expertise in key policy areas such as aged care, social work, health, property, business, legal, human resources, fundraising, marketing, residency issues, and Church policy and procedures.
- 18. The Committee shall meet monthly with the exception of January.
- 19. The CEO of the Homes may attend meetings of the Committee by invitation.
- 20. The Convenor, the Secretary and one member authorised by the Committee must meet all legal requirements, including the "key personnel" requirements as defined under the Aged Care Act.
- 21. The Committee is charged with responsibility for:
 - a. Planning, setting up, maintaining and operating social service activities, including aged care accommodation and services.
 - b. Providing accommodation, care, support and related services which conform to the standards laid down by relevant Federal, State and Local Government Departments and Agencies.
 - c. Soliciting donations and bequests and approving fund-raising activities consistent with the ethical and legal constraints of the Church and relevant Acts of Federal and State Parliaments.
 - d. Spending funds to achieve specified objectives.

- e. Administering assigned bequests and trusts in accordance with the Trust Deed.
- f. Preparing and maintaining a long-term strategic plan for the development of the Homes.
- g. Appointing, directing and, if necessary the terminating the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Homes.
- 22. The Committee shall prepare and present an annual report describing the significant activities undertaken by the Committee and the organisations it manages, in time for inclusion in the Assembly White Book. Monthly financial reports shall be presented to the Trusts Corporation. Budget forecasts shall be presented in time for inclusion in the Commission of Assembly White Book. An audited Statement of Financial Position and Performance shall be presented to the Assembly.
- 23. The Committee, working in conjunction with the CEO of the Homes, shall be responsible for the setting up of such sub-committees or appointing such Consultants as it shall consider appropriate for the effective meeting of its stated objectives and responsibilities.

The CEO

- 24. The CEO of the Homes shall be responsible for the management of all aspects and functions of the Homes consistent with the policies and strategic directives of the Committee including:
 - a. The leadership, development, management, performance and positioning of the organisation, including the development of a Strategic Plan and associated operating and capital budgets.
 - b. The preparation and submission of annual operating and capital expenditure Budgets for Committee endorsement and Assembly approval prior to the start of each financial year.
 - c. The management of all assets, resources, reputation and intellectual property of the Homes.
 - d. The management and reporting of all statutory compliance requirements and outcomes.
 - e. The appointment, direction, and if necessary, the disciplining and or dismissal of all subordinate staff either directly or indirectly.
 - f. Informing the Committee of items relating to changes in legislation which materially affect the operation or the future of the Homes.
 - g. Informing the Committee on matters which may affect the Church and/or its reputation.
 - h. Seeking the approval of the Committee on the expenditure of sums of substance which may not have been included or allowed for in a Budget.
- 25. The CEO of the Homes shall at all times act according to the instructions of the Committee

Amendment

26. This Constitution may only be amended or rescinded by resolution of the General Assembly.

Winding Up

- 27. If, on the winding up of the Homes, any property of the Homes remains after satisfaction of any debts and liabilities of the Homes and the costs, charges and expenses of that winding up, that property shall be distributed as follows:-
 - to another organisation with similar purposes and objectives which is not carried on for the profit or gain of its individual members and approved by the Assembly, or
 - b. for Charitable or Benevolent purposes which incorporated Body or Association or Purpose, as the case may be, shall be determined by the Assembly when authorising and directing the Committee to prepare a distribution of the surplus property of the Homes.
- 28. In the event of such winding up, the Deputy Commissioner of Taxation shall be notified of the date of dissolution of the Homes.

Robert Lowe CONVENER

Social Services Committee

Kirkbrae Year Ended 30th June		
Statement of Income and Expenditure		
Income:		
Donations & Gifts	161,681	
Bequests	20,000	
LSL Grant received	8,181	
Grants & Subsidies Received	6,338,199	
Interest & Investment Income	1,195,214	
Fees, Ingoings & Meals	3,348,070	
Profit/(Loss) on Sale of Asset	2,885	
Net Unrealised Gain on Revaluation of Investments	(812,123)	
Total Income	10,262,106	
Expenditure:		
Accounting & Audit Fees	30,250	
Depreciation	665,248	
Education & Training	51,421	
Fees Chaplaincy & Consulting	133,071	
Insurance Fire & General	83,628	
Residents Expenses	1,092,245	
Legal Fees	9,021	
Office Expenses	254,145	
Personnel Related Costs	7,882,102	
Property Expenses & Improvements	1,031,993	
Total Expenditure	11,233,122	
Surplus/(Deficit) on General Operations	(971,016)	
Movements in Funds		
Balance 1/7/15	2,589	
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	(971,016)	
Decrease / (Increase) in Current Assets	339,992	
Decrease / (Increase) in Fixed Assets	(4,580,442)	
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Decrease / (Increase) in Separately Invested Funds	3,106,954	
(Decrease) / Increase in Current Liabilities	2,063,554	
(Decrease) / Increase in Non-Current Liabilities	43,087	
Balance 30/6/16	4,718	
Perpetual Funds		
Balance 30/6/16	39,150	
Separately Invested Funds		
Balance 30/6/16	23,093,738	
	, ,	

Social Services Committee

Specific Trust Accounts	Year Ended 30th June 2016
Statement of Income and Expenditure	
Income:	
Interest & Investment Income	53,971
Total Income	53,971
Expenditure:	
Grants	41,547
Total Expenditure	41,547
Surplus on Specific Trusts	12,424
Movements in Funds	
Balance 1/7/15	398,079
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	12,424
Balance 30/6/16	410,503
Perpetual Funds	
Balance 30/6/16	50,000

STATE NEWS COMMITTEE (Min. 74)

Under the very capable editorial skills of Mrs Chiara Bilyj, 'fellow workers' has continued to be published on a quarterly basis (March, June, September and December) providing, as it is intended to do, 'general interest news items, articles and viewpoints from individuals, congregations, committees and courts with the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, from the wider denomination and beyond...'

To help Chiara in her task, the committee has authorised the purchase of a newer, more powerful computer.

Steps are also underway to re-establish a website, as authorised by the 2015 General Assembly.

Also in line with last year's deliverances, approaches have been made to all Assembly committees to ascertain the possibility of developing a partnership that would enable 'fellow workers' to be a conduit in disseminating news on behalf of, and in conjunction with, those committees which, at present, publish occasional newsletters. This would be much in the same way as 'fellow workers' already includes material from APWM (National) and PIM. The committee thanks those committees that have responded to our request for a 'yes', 'no' or 'maybe' in reply. At the time of compiling this report, the SNC is still hoping to hear from more of its fellow committees.

Pleased as it is with 'fellow workers' as it presently is, the committee would like to see it expand both in size and content, which is one reason for contacting the other committees of the PCV.

A perusal of the Queensland ('Pres News' – 24pp quarterly, with an Assembly 'special') and New South Wales ('The Pulse' – 24pp bi-monthly) equivalents contain many of the types of articles that would be suitable for publication in 'fellow workers'. For example, there have been in-depth articles on the same-sex 'marriage' debate and each issue also includes at least one article of a devotional nature. Both of these (and others) would be at home in 'fellow workers'.

Our 16 pages needs to be increased if articles such as these are to be included, with 24 pages being the next most economical number. That, of course, immediately brings us to the matter of finance, which again brings us back to using 'fellow workers' in conjunction with other committees which have an allowance in their budget for publishing.

Neil Harvey CONVENER

State News Committee

Year Ended 30th June 2016
1,422
7,098
8,521
2,000
13,820
(6,910)
8,910
(389)
58,159
(389)
57,770

THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE (Min. 71)

Membership of the TEC

The Theological Education Committee (TEC) is pleased to report that the college is in good heart. It has a growing number of candidates who have a strong sense of call to the ministry and obvious spiritual gifts for a variety of ministries within the Presbyterian Church of Victoria and other church and mission agencies.

The committee now has a full complement of members (10) and the Principal, Rev Peter Hastie, and the Academic Dean, Rev Dr Jared Hood, both attend as well. The membership is as follows: Rev Neil Benfell (Convener), Rev Philip Mercer (Secretary), Mr Brad Georges (Treasurer), Rev Ivan Barker, Peter Owen, Stephen Jones, Graham Nicholson, Mr Fraser Diack, Craig Manners and Dennis Wright. The membership has been deliberately recruited across a range of metropolitan and regional presbyteries to reflect city and country interests. It has representatives from the Presbyteries of Kilnoorat, Flinders, Melbourne East, Melbourne West, Melbourne North and Maroondah.

The TEC - Governance

The committee has met 11 times in 2015 -16:

2015 – 23 October, 27 November, 11 December 2016 – 29 January, 26 February, 18 March, 15 April, 27 May, 15 July, 26 July, 2 September

Committee members have also attended the college end-of-year dinner (23 November 2015) and the Graduation and Commencement Service held in Assembly Hall on 4 March 2016.

In addition to full committee meetings and other college functions, the various governance and finance sub-committees have met separately as well.

The committee has also undergone finance and governance training with the BIF on 15 July 2016, and wishes to record its thanks to the General Manager, Mr Michael Ellison, and the Chairman of the BIF, Mr Iain Bramley, who kindly conducted the training. It has also undertaken Safe Church Training with the Safe Church Facilitator, Mrs Fiona Bligh, on 29 January 2016 and distributed relevant Privacy Policy documents to all its members.

The committee's membership also includes those who have served previously with the Trust Corporation, the BIF, the Presbyterian schools as well as PCV churchplanting representatives and others with significant financial and governance experience.

The TEC is a working committee with a full agenda of business each month. It operates as a cooperative whole, and its support for the college and our faculty is prayerful and whole-hearted. The office-bearers of the committee, Rev Neil Benfell, Philip Mercer and Mr Brad Georges, have made significant commitments of time to the college. During the development phase of the Strategic Plan and the Master Plan for the new library, members have been required to attend additional meetings in Melbourne. This has meant that some members have occasionally spent several days each month serving the needs of the college.

Candidates for ministry

One of the major functions of the committee is to be responsible for the direction of all presbyterian ministerial candidates at each stage of their training. We are pleased to be involved in such a critical task for the church. In one sense, the future of the church is determined by the training it provides its leaders. We are encouraged that the number of candidates for the pastoral ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria has now grown to 20.

Their names (in alphabetical order), presbyteries and anticipated year of exit are as follows:

Nicholas Arundell	(Geelong)	2017
Jordan Brown	(Geelong)	2017
Oliver Blythe	(Melbourne East)	2019
Andy Buchan	(Melbourne North)	2016
Samuel Christian	(Flinders)	2019
Matt Cole	(Flinders)	2017
Matt Deroon	(Geelong)	2019
Lam Paul Gak	(Flinders)	2017
Cameron Griffiths	(Maroondah)	2016
Paul Jang	(Melbourne East)	2017
Wayne McArdle	(Gippsland)	2018
Luke McSeveny	(Geelong)	2017
Greg Matthews	(Melbourne East)	2016
Damien Meeuwissen	(Maroondah)	2018
Joel Mestry	(Flinders)	2016
Ben Nelson	(Melbourne East)	2017
Joel Otten	(Flinders)	2018
Chris Shaw	(Melbourne North)	2018
Jesse Walz	(Geelong)	2017
Bryce Wiegandt	(Geelong)	2019

The number of candidates from each of the presbyteries is:

Geelong (6)

Flinders (5)

Melbourne East (4)

Melbourne North (2)

Maroondah (2)

Gippsland (1)

Total: 20

Projected exit date for candidates:

2016: Andy Buchan, Cameron Griffiths, Greg Matthews, Joel Mestry (4)

2017: Nicholas Arundell, Jordan Brown, Matt Cole, Lam Paul Gak, Paul Jang, Luke McSeveny, Ben Nelson, Jesse Walz (8)

2018: Wayne McArdle, Damien Meeuwissen, Joel Otten, Chris Shaw (4)

2019: Oliver Blythe, Samuel Christian, Matt Deroon, Bryce Wiegandt (4)

The number of students (candidates and non-candidates) who are presently studying at the college:

Semester 1, 2016 – 30FT, 38PT - Total: 68 Semester 2, 2016 – 32FT, 38PT - Total: 70

The Strategic Review

The committee has now completed the strategic review of the operations and structure of the college, which was first commenced under convener, Rev David Palmer, and carried forward under Rev Kevin Maxwell. The full report of the review will be sent by email to all Assembly members who request a copy. They are confidential to the committee and not for general publication.

If you need a copy please contact susie.cloete@ptc.vic.edu.au

In 2013 the Assembly resolved to request the committee to undertake a strategic review of the college. This project commenced in earnest in April 2015 with the appointment of a facilitator, Mr Stuarte Kerdel, who is an experienced leader in education and a practising management consultant.

A significant part of the process of the strategic review was the gathering of data from the various stakeholders of the college. A representative cross-section of ministers, office-bearers and employees of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria were invited to participate in the review by way of either completing a questionnaire, or by engaging in a formal interview with the facilitator.

The strategic review made a series of recommendations that are designed to ensure that the college maintains a clear focus on its mission and revises a number of current administrative and financial arrangements that complicate its work and efficiency. In summary form, the main recommendations are as follows:

- That the college adopt the Mission Statement stated in the new Policy Registry
- That the college adopt the policies related to the governance process
- That the Principal be given responsibility and accountability for the college budget
- That provision for appropriate staff and training be given for this development
- That systems be implemented to maintain budget and expenditure control
- That the college investigate options for upgrading library technology
- That the college investigate increasing the number of full-time faculty and staff
- That the college advertise more widely, especially to attract more women students
- That the college investigate ways to provide more support to ESL students

Significantly, the review suggests that any future developments in staffing and student catchment should only be considered after the financial management of the college has been reviewed and reformed, the financial viability of the college in its present setting has been secured, and the Assembly approves such initiatives.

As mentioned above, the review has suggested several administrative proposals. A number of these are summarised in Recommendation 13:

'That the PTC financial management systems should be reformed to provide more direct accountability, and place responsibility where it can best be delivered so that budget parameters can be carefully observed while there is budget flexibility to meet priorities'.

The review of college administration has already resulted in significant alterations and improvements in the business functions of the college. Clarification of lines of authority between the college office and the central church office have made for less duplication of effort, clearer communication, and with less need for time spent sorting out misunderstandings and errors.

The college has received helpful assistance in these matters from the church office and the Board of Investment and Finance. The General Manager has been especially helpful in re-arranging aspects of the business administration. His actions have meant many of the review's recommendations have been substantially met, although they remain the occasion of regular discussion between the college and the BIF and its officers.

The strategic review encompassed the present ministry of the college, and also considered possible developments in the future services that the college could offer to our denomination, or to the wider body of Christ. Clearly these proposals in relation to wider advertising for women students, ESL support and greater assistance for the Principal so he can engage in more promotion require careful consideration by the committee during the next year. All have important policy, financial and budgetary implications, and the Assembly would be approached first to obtain denominational approval and support for such developments.

Finally, one of the most important recommendations of the review proposed that the committee investigate the possibility of increasing the proportion of full-time (academic) staff. The work of the faculty is very labour-intensive and leaves little time for proper staff development and wider publishing. If this policy continues, it will likely have a number of long-term consequences that could affect the successful operation of the college. This matter has been the subject of frequent informal discussion to date, and the matter will be an important aspect of the TEC agenda for 2017.

College office staff

Over the course of the year, several changes have occurred in the staffing of the college office. Our receptionist of ten years, Alicia Noble, resigned in May 2016. Alicia had suffered a serious illness throughout 2014-15 and had returned to work after three bouts of major surgery in 2015. She returned to her role on reduced hours in late 2015 but decided to resign after the Graduation and Commencement Service in March 2016. Alicia gave exemplary service to the college throughout her period of service. She worked hard, showed real initiative, and was a cheerful presence within the college. Alicia always maintained a positive attitude and brought a spirit of optimism to the workplace. Her presence is certainly missed.

Mrs Sophia Urbano, the College Registrar, resigned in early March 2016. We wish her God's blessing for the future. Sophia had served the college faithfully for over five years and had become a good friend to staff and students. She was always willing to go the extra mile in serving students. Sophia was kind and gentle in all her dealings with others and had an impressive Christian witness.

In God's providence, Miss Rachel Arnold, who had served as the acting Administrative Officer during Alicia's illness, was willing to become the College

Registrar from April 2016. Rachel is very competent in her work and a good team member. Miss Susie Cloete was also appointed to the position of Administrative Officer from June 2016. The college office is now functioning efficiently in support of the Principal, faculty and students.

We are grateful that the Lord answered our prayers for reliable Christian staff and good management in the office. The changes in staffing during this past year have certainly added extra pressure on existing office staff, the Principal and faculty. The committee is grateful to all college personnel for their dedicated service and willingness to finish tasks, sometimes well after hours.

The college library

Since the 2015 Assembly the committee has been working steadily to develop plans for the extensions to the college library. Three local architectural firms, Andrew Czapnik Architects, Specline Pty Ltd and Sheppard and Dwyer were approached in January 2016 to provide proposals for extending the present library building.

The committee received presentations from all three and eventually decided to invite one architect, Mark Dwyer, to provide further development plans for the library, together with a whole-of-site plan. This latter plan, which showed where the library would sit within the whole property, also indicated where other future development possibilities could occur on the site. This was deemed necessary to avoid compromising any plans for other buildings that may be required in the future.

On receipt of these plans, the committee requested more detailed plans and elevations of the library proposal. Mark Dwyer has provided these and they will be presented to the Assembly on screen for discussion. The committee will also seek approval from the Assembly to proceed with the library development in line with the plans to be presented.

The committee has also approached the BIF for advice with respect to the finances for the project. The committee convener will outline the BIF's advice to the Assembly during the committee presentation.

Further, the strategic review also recommended that, 'the college conduct an expert investigation of options with a view to carrying out a substantial upgrade to the library technology.' Such a review is best carried out when the library facilities are extended, with the upgraded technology included in the total project. A professional and up-to-date review will necessitate fees, and the college will apply to the BIF for funding for this review, and for the inclusion of new technology within the overall library project.

New Testament lecturer

In October 2015 the committee recommended the appointment of Dr Trevor Burke as Lecturer in New Testament Studies to the Assembly. The committee did not do this lightly. Dr Burke was the preferred candidate from 17 other applicants. He impressed on every measure required by the committee, especially with respect to his views on scripture, the Westminster Confession and ministerial life and training.

Dr Burke had received unqualified commendations from two former professors at Moody Bible Institute, Dr Kenneth Stewart and Dr Thomas Cornman, both of whom now hold senior positions at Trinity International University in Chicago and Covenant College in Georgia. He also received unqualified references from Professor John Lightfoot at Durham University and Dr Brian Rosner at Ridley College. Dr Bruce Winter had also been engaged by the committee to undertake further reference

checks. Both Dr Winter and the committee had questioned Dr Burke closely about a number of issues relating to the prospective length of service that would be involved in his appointment to PTC and he assured us that there would be no problems.

Dr Burke subsequently travelled to Melbourne with his wife, Yvonne, and temporary housing for them was provided at the college. While an application was pursued for a 457 Visa, Dr Burke was assisted through loans and gifts for living costs, though he was not employed or paid by the college.

The 457 Visa was approved on 28 April 2016. However, just over a week later Dr Burke suddenly informed the Principal on Tuesday 10 May, that he had decided to return to the United Kingdom and was resigning his position. He said his decision was non-negotiable.

This came as a complete shock to the Principal since all the signs were for a settled commencement. Dr Burke indicated at the meeting that he wished to move to Cambridge in the UK, where he owns a small house. His eldest son, Luke, is engaged in scientific research at Cambridge University and his youngest son, Simeon, had just completed an MPhil in New Testament there.

Dr Burke had given no previous indication that he had considered a change of mind. In fact, all his communications with the Principal, both verbal and written, had been friendly and positive.

The next day, Wednesday 11 May, he rang the Principal and informed him that, on reflection, he wanted to discuss the situation further with a view to reconsidering his position.

The Principal met with him, offered him any assistance that he felt he needed, and sought to address one or two specific requests that he made in relation to college activities and overseas travel in December 2016. The Principal also explained to him the seemingly impossible position that the college would face in finding replacement lecturers at such short notice for second semester, given that Dr Burke had chosen a different syllabus from the normal one for the Greek exegesis course. The meeting concluded on a hopeful note.

However, the following Tuesday 17 May, Dr Burke asked the Principal to meet with him in his office where he reiterated his desire to resign and refused to enter into further discussion. He said his decision was final and that he would leave in early July after the exams and marking for Semester 1 were complete. He said he wanted to return to Cambridge and he needed to be there in time for his son, Simeon's, graduation on 15 July 2016.

The Principal reported this information to the committee, which resolved in its meeting on 26 May 2016 that 'The Principal obtain a formal written resignation from Dr Burke, confirming that his period of service would conclude on 13 July 2016.' The committee also resolved 'to write to the BIF and inform them that Dr Burke would be returning to the UK permanently, providing them with a letter of his resignation effective from 13 July 2016, and also requesting them to pay all his entitlements up to the date of his formal termination.' The Principal was also requested to meet with the BIF to discuss matters relating to Dr Burke's resignation. In addition to paying Dr Burke's legal entitlements, the BIF also resolved to provide an *ex gratia* payment to Dr Burke. Dr Burke and Mrs Burke departed Melbourne on Wednesday 13 July 2016.

With Dr Burke's decision to leave, the college was placed in a difficult position regarding New Testament classes for Semester 2. The Principal and Academic Dean immediately approached Dr Milne, Harman and Rev John Ellis to consider helping the college through the vacancy. They graciously agreed to teach the subjects NT 302/502, NT 428/438 and NT 628/638. Both Dr Milne and Harman hold doctoral qualifications in New Testament and were happy to teach. The Rev John Ellis, who has a research Master's degree, also agreed to participate in English exegesis of the set texts. We thank God for the willingness of these scholars to assist the college in the interim.

The committee received an advice from the Clerk of the General Assembly on 25 July 2016 that it was unnecessary for the committee to seek new terms of appointment for the position of lecturer in New Testament because the terms of appointment and the budget had already been approved at the 2014 Assembly. The Clerk informed the Principal that, in his opinion, the General Assembly would be relieved and encouraged to see a proposal for another candidate at the October 2016 meeting, or a process set in place that would enable the Commission of Assembly 2017 to make such an appointment.

Library Extension

For some time, there has been a need to enlarge the PTC library in order to accommodate all the resources necessary for students to receive a well-rounded, quality theological education.

The Theological Education Committee, in collaboration with an architect, has progressed to the preliminary design stage for the extension of the College Library and now wishes to proceed with this project.

Rev Neil Benfell CONVENER

FACULTY REPORT 2015-16

TEC and faculty

I wish to record my thanks to the members of the TEC, particularly Neil Benfell (Convener), Philip Mercer (Secretary) and Brad Georges (Treasurer) for their energy, involvement and sacrifice in serving the college. I feel privileged to serve in my role as Principal and I am especially grateful for the support such capable, enterprising and loyal colleagues.

This also includes our faculty members, Rev Dr Jared Hood and Felix Chung and our adjunct lecturers, Dr John Wilson, Allan Harman, Douglas Milne, Karl Hood, Rowland Ward, Stuart Burgess (University of Bristol), Richard Belcher (RTS Charlotte), Rev John Ellis, Martin Pakula, Neil Chambers, Richard O'Brien, Andy May, Bruce Riding, Brian Harvey, Mr Ben Nelson, Ms Wendy Bytheway and Mrs Gillian Asquith, all of whom have played an invaluable role in our ministry.

I am also deeply grateful for the involvement in the college of Dr Douglas Milne and Allan Harman, previous Principals of the college, for their generosity and willingness to assist me whenever they can.

College Commencement and Conferral of Degrees

The 2016 academic year commenced on 4 March in the Werner Brodbeck Hall in the Assembly Hall building. We have held the service here for the last four years because it is a central location and makes the ceremony more accessible to the wider church. On this occasion we were blessed in having a small musical ensemble provided by Ian Jones and other musicians from Surrey Hills Presbyterian Church.

We are grateful to the The Scots' Church for allowing us to use the Werner Brodbeck Hall as well as the upstairs Robert White Hall for the reception. Our guest speaker for the occasion was Rev David Cook, the Moderator-General of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. Dr Mark Harding, the retiring Dean of the ACT, was a special guest and presented prizes.

Faculty and administrative positions

The following administrative positions are held within the college:

Rev Peter Hastie (Principal and Pastoral Dean)

Dr Jared Hood (Academic Dean)

Dr Felix Chung (Pastoral Studies; Missions Co-ordinator/Projects Supervisor/Director of Postgraduate Studies)

Ms Rachel Arnold (Registrar)

Ms Susie Cloete (Administrative Officer)

Mrs Heather Rickard (Library Administrator)

The staff works together harmoniously.

Teaching staff

The following faculty members and adjunct staff were lecturing in the college throughout 2015:

Semester One

Faculty staff: Rev Peter Hastie, Dr Jared Hood, Dr Felix Chung

Adjunct lecturers: Dr Allan Harman, Dr Douglas Milne, Dr John Wilson, Rev David Cook, Rev Simon Manchester, Rev Charlie Skrine, Dr Karl Hood, Mr Ben Nelson, Rev Martin Pakula, Ms Wendy Bytheway and Mrs Gillian Asquith

Semester Two

Faculty staff: Rev Peter Hastie, Dr Felix Chung, Dr Jared Hood

Adjunct Lecturers: Dr Douglas Milne, Dr Allan Harman, Dr Stuart Burgess, Dr Richard Belcher (MA Intensive), Dr Rowland Ward, Dr Karl Hood, Rev Martin Pakula, Rev Brian Harvey, Mr Ben Nelson.

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, one short course has been been run in first and second semesters.

In Semester 1 Rev David Cook, Simon Manchester and Charlie Skrine taught the ACT MDiv/BTh/BMin subject PC 489/689, *Introductory Preaching*, which was very well received. We had around 90 people in attendance. In Semester 2, Dr Richard Belcher, took an MA (Theol) Intensive in mid-August entitled, 'Theology and Preaching of Old Testament Wisdom Literature'. This course generated significant interest. 40 students were enrolled, which was encouraging. Many ministers took advantage of this course as part of their annual study leave to investigate a difficult part of scripture for both interpretation and preaching.

The college also offered short courses in the evenings. In the first semester Rev Bruce Riding took a six-week short course in Study Skills. This was part of the Academic Studies in Theology (ASTC) program. In second semester Rev Brian Harvey took a six-week course on Youth Ministry.

In semesters 1 and 2 Dr Chung taught a Chinese short course that drew 20 students.

One course that created a lot of interest was the Tony Parle Memorial Lecture series in Christian apologetics. Professor Stuart Burgess from the University of Bristol gave a twelve-hour series of lectures on the subject of Intelligent Design over three days, 19-21 July. Approximately 100 people attended the lecture series.

Dr Burgess also spoke at Surrey Hills and Bundoora Presbyterian Churches to full congregations. Mrs Joyce Parle, wife of the late Rev Tony Parle (Epping Presbyterian Church), kindly sponsored the series. The series was recorded in video format and will become available on the web in due course.

Academic issues

Throughout 2014-15 the staff addressed a number of issues that have the potential to extend the range and the accessibility of our academic program.

1. Intensives

The faculty are continuing to monitor the academic load for students who are Presbyterian candidates. The introduction of the Intensive Program in the first two weeks of the first semester each year has relieved a lot of academic pressure for our candidates. These intensives include such subjects as study skills, grammar and language, biblical theology, introduction to Greek language, polity, apologetics, Christian worship, introduction to Hebrew language, philosophy, ethics and Presbyterian Church history.

The concentrated instruction period over two weeks requires different assessment methods that we continue to review.

2. Timetable

We have continued the lecture program around three main days each week in semesters 1 and 2, running from Tuesday to Thursday each week; although on Fridays we have had limited lectures as need arose. Lectures have also been occasionally held during evenings. Our rationale for introducing this change was to cut students' travel time during the week and provide more space for uninterrupted reading, reflection and writing.

3. E-learning

The faculty has continued to roll out an e-learning program as new subjects are taught at the college. Students electing to do the ASTC (Academic Studies in Theology Certificate) are able to receive HECS and Centrelink benefits if they qualify to undertake the course. This course is on a stable and user-friendly e-platform. We are exploring how we can offer a limited number of MA (Theol), MDiv and BTh subjects online. Students are now able to do a series of subjects online for the MA (Theol).

4. Peer review prior to publication

The faculty has introduced a policy of peer review for any articles/books by individual staff that will be published in the public domain. We believe this is consistent with best practice in educational institutions and especially theological colleges.

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.

Voluntary student prayer meetings are held weekly. Jordan Brown, one of our candidates, has organised these meetings for us.

Chapel services are held daily (Tuesday-Thursday) where members of the college meet for prayer, praise, bible reading and preaching. Staff and students have shared the preaching responsibility in Semester 1. In Semester 2 we have mainly scheduled students to preach. Students who lead the services and those who preach are followed up by the Principal to discuss their contributions to the service. We have also invited some international visitors in Semester 2.

Every Thursday, the chapel service is based around a 10 minute video presentation from the mission field, entitled 'Dispatches From the Front', followed by 15 minutes of prayer, involving staff and students in prayer triplets. In first and second semesters we have had around 17 episodes where we have visited churches and mission outreach in North Africa, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam. Our aim is to engender within students a passion to fulfil the Great Commission and a burden for a lost world.

Our Pastoral Care Groups meet five times every semester. Students have participated in studies on the book of Nehemiah. These are important meetings where the opportunity arises to study the scriptures together and reflect on Christian leadership, ministry issues and spiritual warfare.

Dr Felix Chung also provides a personal pastoral dimension to the program as the Pastoral Studies and SLE Co-ordinator. In this capacity he meets with students on an individual basis to mentor and prepare them for a life of Christian service in the ministry. He meets with Presbyterian candidates by arrangement, as well as a number of other students.

Ministry formation

One of the most important elements in developing a ministry mindset and identity is through the ACT subject of Ministry Formation, taught by the Principal. This course explores the biblical and theological foundations of ministry, the idea of calling, the imperative of gospel-preaching, and the ideals and ethics associated with pastoral office. This course has been popular with students. It involves an extensive reading and presentation program.

In the last year, in addition to the set curriculum, the course has focused on the autobiography of a pastor who began a church in very difficult times in a most unlikely place in the UK, and through prayer, the means of grace, evangelical preaching, discipleship, leadership training and faithful pastoral care, led a church that underwent constant spiritual renewal for 35 years. Students have also read and discussed in class Paul Tripp's book, *Dangerous Calling*, and Samuel Miller's *Addresses to Theological Students in the Theological Seminary at Princeton*. Students have found a good deal of encouragement in the reading program and class interaction.

We have also reinstituted the ACT course, PC 315/515 on Christian Worship. This is now a compulsory subject that replaces the intensive on Reformed Worship. We believe this a step in the right direction and will be helpful to future ministers in conducting biblically-based and more sensitively nuanced corporate worship services that are appropriate in the various settings in which our churches are located.

Dr Felix Chung coordinates the Supervised Learning Experience (SLE) and Supervised Field Education program (SFE). He meets with candidates to discuss any issues and organise placements as well as maintaining contact with their supervisors.

The SLE program is a comprehensive experience that requires a candidate to remain in a congregation for two years where, in conjunction with regular meetings with his ministry supervisor, he undertakes a guided reading program that will initially focus on prayer and preaching over a two-year period. The program requires candidates to read a book throughout the year with their pastoral mentors. This year candidates have been required to read Mark Dever's, *Nine Marks of a Healthy Church*. Candidates not only discuss the book with their mentors but also complete summaries and reflections of its contents.

The candidate is also required to preach six sermons that are reviewed by faculty over the two-year period.

The SFE program is a more intensive form of the general SLE program. It also requires a guided reading program, regular meetings with a ministry mentor, and the review of 8 sermons by faculty over the second two-year period. The ultimate aim of the SFE program is to ensure that supervising ministers play a greater role in the development of students, especially in the areas of prayer, preaching, training/discipling and pastoral strategy.

College mission

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. The mission this year will be held from 9-19 December in both Warrnambool and Mandurah, WA.

The team to Warrnambool will be accompanied by Dr Jared Hood and Felix Chung. Peter Hastie will be working with the team going to WA. The rationale for the two separate teams is to allow each of the students the greatest opportunity for using his gifts and also to expose them to interstate situations where they could conceivably serve at some future time. We believe it is important for our students to have a wide view of mission. Thus exposure to places further afield is a useful training activity in developing a spiritual concern for our whole nation. Over the last few years the college has conducted ministry in Darwin, NT and in Launceston, Tasmania. Visiting regional centres, like western Victoria, and other states like WA is part of this strategy.

Candidates' wives

Throughout 2015-16, the wives of the Presbyterian candidates have met regularly for bible study, prayer, and mutual support. These meetings take place each month on the first evening of the month and there are also occasional social get-togethers. Once a month there is also play-date with children at the college. Some of the wives travel considerable distances to attend the meetings.

The group holds two planning meetings each year at the beginning of each semester. On occasions, the group has invited guest speakers such as Sandy Carroll, Melissa Easton, Susie Vines, Yvonne Huynh and Tracy Humphries 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.

Ministry conference

At our annual Ministry Conference in March, 120 people attended the program. It was entitled, 'Preaching on OT Narrative, Romans and the Cross.' Rev David Cook, Simon Manchester and Charlie Skrine were the main speakers. David Cook showed how a series of sermons in Romans could be undertaken. Simon Manchester preached a series on the 'Suffering Servant of Isaiah' in the light of Easter and Charlie Skrine did a series on the resurrection and also one on the Jacob narratives in Genesis. The conference was also combined with a preaching unit within the ACT syllabus and enabled David Cook to cover 18 of 36 hours at the conference.

Australian College of Theology

Peter Hastie and Jared Hood attended the annual Consortium Conference in Sydney in June 2016. This is a valuable meeting that involves a significant interchange of information on the present higher education context, best practice in teaching and learning at a tertiary level, ACT academic data, business planning and cost of program change, board–faculty relationships and planning for strategic change in theological education.

One of the most useful aspects of the conference is the extent to which we are able to engage with other educators in theological education on an informal basis.

The PCV needs to understand that the ACT is moving to university status and this has implications for the qualifications required by lecturers at PTC. If we want to be able to draw on ministers within our own denomination as lecturers in the future – which is certainly desirable - then the General Assembly will need to take a more proactive role in helping those who would be suitable for this role to obtain the necessary qualifications required. This is a strategic priority for our church. If we do nothing we will one day find ourselves without adequate staff to teach at the college and we will be forced to put our training into the hands of others that we may not consider to be our first choice.

Engagement with the denomination

The college staff play a significant role in the denomination. Apart from their work at the college, which is quite intense and demanding, they also maintain commitments in the wider church.

Rev Peter Hastie attends Bundoora Presbyterian Church and Kangaroo Ground Presbyterian Church, where he is the Moderator. He regularly preaches in Presbyterian churches in both Melbourne and regional Victoria. He participates in the Presbytery of Melbourne North and was present at the Ministers' Family Camp at Phillip Island. He is a member of the GAA College Committee. He also convenes the Victorian sub-committee of the Reception of Ministers' Committee and serves on the National Journal Committee. He is a regular contributor to *Australian Presbyterian*.

Dr Jared Hood also preaches regularly in a number of Presbyterian congregations.

Dr Felix Chung attends Canterbury Presbyterian Church and is a member of the Presbytery of Melbourne East. He has been regularly invited to preach in Chinese and evangelical churches in and around Melbourne throughout the last year.

From July to November both staff and students will be visiting around 41 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 October 2015 the Principal has represented the college at the Wattle Park Gospel Chapel, the Reformed Church (Box Hill), AFES end-of-year dinner (Geelong), various ACT meetings in Sydney, the Bible League Annual Dinner, the Loyal Orange Lodge Dinner (where the college received a generous donation), and the CMI Conference in Hobart (Tas) and Newcastle (NSW) as a speaker. He is also a Trustee of the Geneva Trust which provides books to our students.

Dr Jared Hood serves as the editor of *The Reformed Theological Review*. He performs a vital role in maintaining theological direction and certainty within the church. He represents the college on the important Academic Committee of the ACT, which makes recommendations on curriculum and course design.

Dr Felix Chung represents the college on the Research and Ethics Committee at the ACT and serves as the Chinese moderator for courses in Chinese offered by the ACT. He regularly publishes journal articles in missiology for international publications.

Library

The Swanton Library strives to serve the needs of the PTC students, faculty and staff in terms of study requirements/assessments and research work. The library is constantly evolving to meet these varied needs. As such, the collections are continually in a state of care and growth.

The library now has a collection of 29,000 monographs, and continues to subscribe to some 120 journals/serials each year.

The library continues to develop its main collection. Monthly orders for books cover the main areas of theology, biblical studies, church history etc. also focusing on the current years subjects offered to students.

Annually, this includes new publications relevant to the college and its research requirements, updating of commentary series (eg. E.P./N.S.B.T. etc.) as well as latest publications from particular publishing houses, authors etc.

Allan Harman collection – this valuable collection continues to grow as a result of the generosity of the Harman family. There are now several hundred important books in it. All recorded, catalogued and shelved and a Chinese 'Reference' collection has begun.

We are very grateful to Veronica Kocsis who has been covering the paperback books in a voluntary capacity for the past two years. This has been a great help to the library. She does this each week in a voluntary capacity.

John Paton Fellowship

The JPF is the fellowship of students at the college. Jesse Walz serves as the President and Jordan Brown is the Prayer Co-ordinator. This group plays an important role in the life of the college, especially in organising social events for staff and students and for arranging support for missionaries that we support – Lazlo and Eva Mihalyi in Europe and Daniel and Courtney Denness in Nepal.

Need for candidates

I have been impressed by the quality of the students that we have at the college, especially those who graduated in 2015. The college has done a fine job in preparing them for the ministry in the short time we have them with us. Brett Cummins, Stephen Jones, Luke Brownley and Daniel Dixon recently returned to the college to share their experience of ministry with the JPF members. The number of candidates has been growing over the last two years and we are praying for more.

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).

College property

The library facilities have reached their current limit. The need for a new library is becoming increasingly urgent. My hope is that in 2017 a door will open that will enable the college to add a new library that will add to the attractiveness of the college for students.

Thank you

I would like to record my thanks to the members of the TEC, especially the convener, Neil Benfell, for his warm support of me, the staff and students of the college. I am also deeply grateful for the goodwill of the other members of the TEC. I want 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, Miss Rachel Arnold (Registrar), Miss Susie Cloete (Administrative Officer) and our Library Administrator, Heather Rickard, who make it a pleasure for staff and students to come to the college.

Peter Hastie PRINCIPAL August, 2016

Theological Education Committee

General Operations	Year Ended 30th June 2016
Statement of Income and Expenditure	
Income:	
Bequests	87,741
Donations & Gifts	1,241
Common Fund Interest	277,175
Rental Income	83,902
Sundry Income	1,963
Grant for Payroll	15,000
Bookshop Trading Profit	3,165
Tuition Fees	475,528
Profit/(Loss) on sale of assets	(3,554)
Total Income	942,161
Expenditure:	
Personnel	489,586
Property	62,706
Office	43,373
Library	54,190
Audit Fees	10,984
Accommodation Units Expenses	31,757
PTC Media Expenses	2,806
General Expenses	103,316
Total Expenditure	798,717
Surplus on General Operations	143,444
Movements in Funds	
Balance 1/7/15	1,603,061
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	143,444
Add Back Depreciation	75,353
(Increase)/Decrease in Current Assets	(14,199)
Assets Purchased	(9,582)
Increase/(Decrease) in Current Liabilities	15,271
Increase/(Decrease) in Non-Current Liabilities	18,697
Balance 30/6/16	1,832,044
Perpetual Funds	
Balance 30/6/16	965,159

Theological Education Committee

Specific Trust Accounts

Year Ended 30th June 2016

Statement of Income & Expenditure

	Building <u>Fund</u>	Bursary <u>Trusts</u>	Diaconal	Fernside <u>Trust</u>	Library <u>Trusts</u>	Prizes <u>Trusts</u>	Other <u>Trusts</u>
Income:	<u>runa</u>	ITUSIS	Diaconai	ITUSL	ITUSIS	ITUSIS	Irusis
Donations & Gifts	34,362	63,392	_	_	16,557	5,000	_
General Mission Program	04,002	95,764			10,007	0,000	
Common Fund Interest	20,823	107,763	20,191	146,732	11,876	16,636	33,872
Total Income	55,185	266,919	20,191	146,732	28,433	21,636	33,872
						 _	
Expenditure:							
Bursaries	-	19,888	5,752	-	-	-	-
Property Expenses	43,761	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prizes	-	8,727	-	-	-	11,014	-
Manse Allowances	-	-	-	97,379	-	-	-
Scholarships	-	189,150	-	-	-	-	-
Library Expenses	-	-	-	-	80,701	-	-
Expenses paid from General Fund					(54,190)		
Total Expenditure	43,761	217,765	5,752	97,379	26,510	11,014	0
Surplus on Specific Trusts	11,424	49,154	14,439	49,354	1,922	10,622	33,872
Movements in Funds							
Balance 1/7/15	170,831	129,010	163,651	30.810	_	102,648	205,586
Plus Surplus/(Deficit)	11,424	49,154	14,439	49,354	1,922	10,622	33,872
Plus Decrease (Increase) in Bank	158	-	- 1,100	-	270		-
Add back depreciation	-	_	_	_	3,677	_	_
Index Perpetual Balances	-		-	(15,371)	-	-	-
Balance 30/6/16	182,413	178,163	178,090	64,793	5,869	113,270	239,458
Perpetual Funds							
		Bursary		Fernside	Library	Prizes	Other
		<u>Trusts</u>		<u>Trust</u>	<u>Trusts</u>	<u>Trusts</u>	<u>Trusts</u>
Balance 30/6/16		757,682		1,187,953	98,964	30,515	52,225

TRUSTS CORPORATION (Min. 75)

Introduction

The Trusts Corporation was formed by resolution of the General Assembly having been empowered to do so by the Parliament of the State of Victoria which enacted the Presbyterian Trusts Act 1890 ("the 1890 Act"). 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 1890 Act. 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 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 at 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.

Annual Result

The Trust Corporation is pleased to be able to report that the Church's financial assets have grown in the past year. Common Fund Investments have yielded an income of \$4.4 million after operating costs, and they have increased in value by a further \$3.0 million as a result of capital gains. This presents an overall return of 9.1%. A total of \$4.5 million was distributed to Church committees, groups and congregations.

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, or
- 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

The Common Fund is 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.

The Common Fund also includes the Income Suspense Account which represents the balance of income not yet distributed. In accordance with section 14B of the 1890 Act, the amount in the Income Suspense Account can only be distributed to those committees and trusts which have funds invested in the Common Fund. Investment returns generated by the Common Fund are paid into the Income Suspense Account and then distributed as interest to various trusts at rates determined by the Trusts Corporation. Funds invested in the Common Fund are not entitled to capital gains (or losses).

Separate Investments

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 on Behalf of Committees, Congregations and Other Church Bodies
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

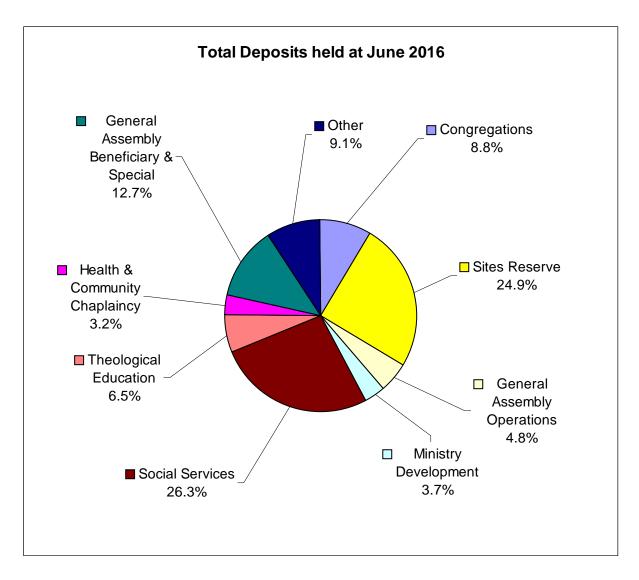
the funds within the specific purposes relevant to each trust and in accordance with the committee's regulations.

	June 2015	Balance as at 30 June 2016				
	Total Invested	Common Fund	Separate Investments	Total Funds Invested	% of Total	
Social Services	26,690,511	504,372	23,093,738	23,598,110	26.3%	-11.6%
Sites Reserve	21,604,694	10,941,874	11,476,644	22,418,518	24.9%	3.8%
GA - Beneficiary & Special	10,789,361	9,571,943	1,811,299	11,383,242	12.7%	5.5%
Congregations	8,331,169	815,537	7,075,997	7,891,535	8.8%	-5.3%
Theological Education General Assembly	5,482,725	5,886,600	-	5,886,600	6.5%	7.4%
Operations	5,349,544	4,284,836	-	4,284,836	4.8%	-19.9%
Ministry Development	3,635,976	3,349,721	-	3,349,721	3.7%	-7.9%
Health & Community						
Chaplaincy	3,049,998	1,604,613	1,315,509	2,920,122	3.2%	-4.3%
Maintenance of the Ministry	2,139,972	2,180,042	-	2,180,042	2.4%	1.9%
Christian Education &						
Nurture	1,375,493	1,414,594	-	1,414,594	1.6%	2.8%
Church Planting	1,043,721	1,140,111	-	1,140,111	1.3%	9.2%
APWM (Victoria)	916,339	918,954	-	918,954	1.0%	0.3%
METRO	843,521	832,550	-	832,550	0.9%	-1.3%
PWMU	731,572	736,234	-	736,234	0.8%	0.6%
Presbyterian Youth in						
Victoria	430,904	448,079	-	448,079	0.5%	4.0%
Church & Nation	398,337	418,773	-	418,773	0.5%	5.1%
State News	58,159	57,770	-	57,770	0.1%	-0.7%
Total Deposits	92,871,998	45,106,601	44,773,188	89,879,789	100.0%	-3.2%

It is often assumed in view of the substantial funds invested by the Trusts Corporation on behalf of the church, that the Trusts Corporation is able to allocate some of these funds to worthy ministries within the church. This is not the role or function of the Trusts Corporation. It has a mandate to invest and manage, and has no discretion to allocate or assign funds to meet various needs. All it can do is distribute income earned from the investment back to those trusts and purposes which are invested with the Trusts Corporation either in the Common Fund or Separately.

The chart below shows the relative percentages of trust funds which are allocated to the various ministries and bodies of the church. The allocation of funds in this way is generally determined by the purposes of the underlying trusts and bequests as well as the decisions of the Assembly where it has discretion to do so. Should the Assembly desire to allocate or reallocate funds to new ministries, it should look to these entities rather than the Trusts Corporation. The questions for the Assembly to consider would be a) which of these current purposes would the Assembly want to take funding from in order to meet the "new" needs and b) does it have the freedom at law to apply the funds to a new purpose.

The most obvious instance where the Assembly has the capacity to act in this way is in relation to the Sites Reserve balances which represent 25% of the total funds available to the church.



Annual Results

The annual interest rates paid on amounts invested in the Common Fund for the year ended 30 June 2016 were:

Common Fund interest rates paid on funds

Common r una interest rates para on runas	
Perpetual and Specific Trusts	12.0%
General Trusts - first \$600,000	12.0%
General Trusts - balance above \$600,000	8.5%
Sites Reserve accounts and Deposits - first \$600,000	8.0%
Sites Reserve accounts and Deposits - balance above \$600,000	5.0%

The Common Fund Reserve decreased from \$35,453,369 to \$31,948,650 during the year primarily as a result of realised and unrealised capital losses on investments.

The Common Fund Balance is comprised of the following amounts:

Common Fund	\$
Balance of Trusts and Committee Funds	45,106,601
Income Suspense Account	3,363,246
Common Fund Reserve	31,948,650
Total Common Fund	80,418,497

Common Fund Movements		\$
Opening Balance 1 July 2015		84,056,194
Income	3,736,421	
Less Expenses	(263,346)	
Capital Gains/(Losses)	(3,241,372)	
. ,	,	231,703
Distributions		(4,678,720)
Decrease in Committee & Other F	-unds	809,320
Closing Balance 30 June 2016		80,418,497

After several years of good performance, the capital value of equities markets declined during the year to June 2016 with the ASX 300 accumulation index gaining 2.4% including dividends (2015 5.6%). The performance of the Common Fund was approximately 0.3% (2015 gain of 9%) for the year.

The total funds invested by the Trusts Corporation at 30 June 2016 was \$125,191,685 (2015 \$132,630,911) which is comprised of the Common Fund balance plus the Separate Investments.

Future trends

The balance of the Income Suspense account reduced from \$4,305,544 in 2015 to \$3,363,246 at June 2016. This was primarily due to a reduction in the income from \$4.7 million in 2015 to \$3.7 million in 2016, while distributions to committees and other entities remained roughly the same at \$4.6 million. The balance remaining in the Income Suspense account is available to be distributed to the committees and other trust funds which are invested in the Common Fund. While the distributions exceed the income earned, the balance of the Income Suspense account will continue to decline. Ultimately it will become exhausted. At that time, interest distributions will need to be matched to the income earned for the year as there would be no other source of funds to maintain the distributions at existing levels.

Given the current investment climate of low interest rates and returns, this is becoming increasingly likely. It is expected that the Trusts Corporation will need to begin reducing the common fund interest rate paid on committee and other trust funds within the next two years. The plan is to begin this process before the balance of the Income Suspense account is exhausted so that the reduction in distributions can be managed over a longer period of time to lessen to immediate impact of reductions to distributions. This is likely to impact on all classes of funds invested in the Common Fund.

The Trusts Corporation will be happy to answer questions on the accounts at the Assembly. Because of the amount of detail in the accounts, it would appreciate notice being given so that accurate and full answers can be provided.

Investment Committee

The Trusts Corporation is responsible for ensuring that the investment of funds is prudent, and to periodically review the investment objectives and performance. Its Investment Committee has met regularly throughout the year with our financial advisers and has continued to monitor the Trusts Corporation's investment portfolio in the light of our advisers' recommendations.

The Trusts Corporation works with appropriate asset allocation benchmarks and targets against which investment performance can be measured. It continues to give careful attention to maintaining and following ethical investment guidelines. The position of the Common Fund at 30 June is reflected in the table below.

Asset Classes	Portfolio %	Benchmark %	Range %
Australian Equities	41.8	40.0	25.0-50.0
International Equities	11.8	10.0	5.0-15.0
Fixed Interest Securities	44.1	45.0	35.0-65.0
Cash	2.3	5.0	3.0-7.0
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	

The default asset allocation for separately invested funds is 70% of funds in growth assets (equities) and the balance in cash and fixed interest securities.

Scots' Church Properties Trust

On 7 June 2016 Justice Sifris handed down his judgment on 8 preliminary questions which had been determined as key to the proceedings. Among other things the judge found that:

- The payment of \$5.5 million lease premium received on 7 April 2008 from APN DF2 Project 2 Pty Ltd under the ground lease was distributable income under the provisions of Clause 7 of the Scots Church Properties Trust Deed.
- There was no distribution of the lease premium as contemplated by clause 7. The consequence is that there was a breach of trust. Neither party contends that the acquisition of the Assembly Hall was in breach of trust.
- The Trustees were not authorised to deduct \$6.9 million from the annual monies distributable under clause 7 of the Trust Deed for the renovations and improvements to the Assembly Hall.
- The purchase of Assembly Hall for \$4.5 million by the SCPT Trustees constitutes an unauthorised investment of the SCPT.
- The sum of \$11.4 million (\$4.5m + \$6.9m) used to acquire, develop and improve the Assembly Hall has been used or applied by the Trustees in breach of trust. The Assembly Hall is charged with the repayment of this amount plus interest.

The full judgment is available online at http://aucc.sirsidynix.net.au/Judgments/VSC/2016/T0297.pdf

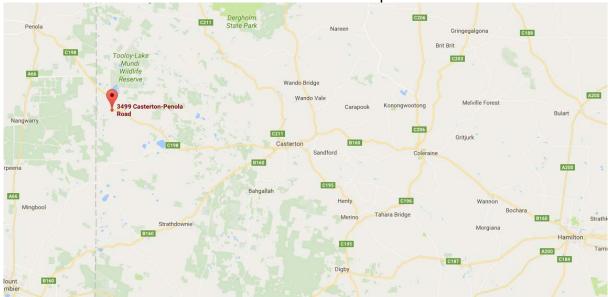
It should be noted that the judgment made is an interim decision. There is still more to be done. The final remedies will depend upon resolution of the next part of the case which must of necessity include a consideration of any relief under the Trustee Act 1958 which is the subject of a related proceeding.

The proceedings to deal with the remainder of the matters are set down for trial and fixed for hearing commencing on 5 October 2016, to be heard on 5, 6, 10, 11 and 13 October 2016 and 7, 8, 9, 10 and 14 November 2016.

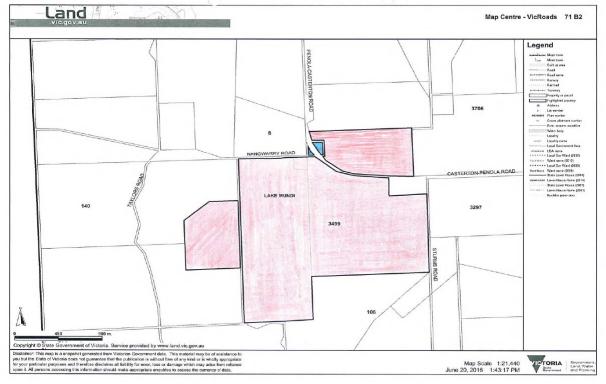
As the matter remains before the Court, the Trusts Corporation is constrained in what it is able to say about the matter.

Lake Mundi Property

The Trusts Corporation received correspondence from a solicitor acting on behalf of John Leonard Carmichael offering \$1,000 to purchase Lot 1 on Title Plan 080411P Lake Mundi. The solicitor alleges that the land has been fenced in with Mr Carmichael's land since 1978 and he or his father have been paying rates on the land since that time. The property is about 100km west of Hamilton within 10km of South Australian border as shown in the attached map.



The property of 1.148 hectares is bisected by a road and has an address of 3499 Casterton-Penola Road Lake Mundi. The diagram below shows the property owned by the church shaded blue, and the property owned by Mr Carmichael shaded red.



As far as can be determined, the Assembly has not approved that this property be used for any congregation of the church. It is recorded in the property register

maintained by the Moderator under Lake Mundi. After inquiry, the Trusts Corporation is recommending that the Assembly accept the offer subject to the purchaser meeting our legal costs.

Karnkendi Campsite

For some years the Presbytery of Penola and the Presbyterian Church of South Australia has been keen that the title deeds to the Karnkendi Campsite be transferred from the PCV to the trustee of the South Australian church.

Karnkendi Campsite is located in Nelson in Victoria, just east of the South Australian border. This is within the bounds of the Presbytery of Kilnoorat.

At Church Union, the Handley property commission determined that:

"pursuant to the Presbyterian Trusts Act 1971 (South Australia) and the Presbyterian Church of Australia Act 1971 (Victoria) the Karnkendi Conference Centre be awarded to the Continuing Church of South Australia and Victoria as the case may be with the legal title to remain vested in the Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation", Minute 274(a)

For many years the campsite has been managed and maintained by the Church in South Australia. The Presbytery of Kilnoorat has indicated that it has no desire to maintain or manage the property.

The former Law Agent advised that in order to effect the transfer from the Trusts Corporation to the relevant South Australian trustee body, the Trusts Corporation should first satisfy itself that the South Australian body has capacity to act as a Trustee of this property, then to invite the General Assembly of Victoria and the General Assembly of South Australia each to resolve that the property be transferred from the Victorian body to the South Australian body, subject to such trusts as attach to it.

The current Law Agent has provided advice to the Trusts Corporation that the South Australian Trusts Corporation has the capacity to act as a Trustee of the property. The Trusts Corporation now invites the Assembly to resolve to transfer the property.

Hawthorn Presbyterian Church

Some time around 2014 a query arose in relation to insurance. It appeared that the insurance premiums being paid by the Camberwell congregation were considerably more than those being paid by the Hawthorn congregation for what appeared to be buildings of a similar size and type. In response to the query, Ansvar the insurer conducted building valuations at its own expense. The valuation from Ansvar prior to the June 2014 renewal showed a valuation of \$10,409,500 for the Hawthorn properties. At the time the insured sum was \$4,790,841. (As an aside, this was what led Ansvar to commence valuations on all church properties throughout the state.)

On the basis of the valuation, the broker issued a cover note to the congregation for the assessed value of \$10.4 million. In October 2014, the Board of the Hawthorn congregation advised the broker to reduce the insured sum to \$5,690,000, and subsequently reduced the contents insurance from \$666,985 to \$225,000.

While congregations are free to arrange their own property insurance, in this instance the congregation has elected to insure under the policy which is negotiated and in the name of the Trusts Corporation (as have most congregations). Consequently the Trusts Corporation is intimately involved in any matters which arise and in regular contact with the broker Arthur J Gallagher.

The Trusts Corporation has been in correspondence with the congregation a number of times on this matter requesting that the Board take steps to ensure that the property is adequately insured. Presbytery has been copied with recent correspondence. In 2015 the Trusts Corporation commissioned an independent valuation of the Hawthorn properties from Charter Keck Cramer to confirm or otherwise the valuation provided by the insurer. That valuation was consistent with the one provided by Ansvar. The organ was not included in that valuation so a comparison of the total is not available. The valuation for the church itself was \$5,827,140 compared to Ansvar's valuation of \$6,206,000. The current insured sum is \$3,858,750.

The church is subject to various heritage overlays and classifications. In the event of a partial loss it would need to be reinstated to its original condition. The board has sought to justify its position by arguing that in the event of a total loss it would build something different which would be accommodated within its insured sum. It also relies on a one page estimate from Mulholland to restore the building in the event of a partial loss. We have been advised that the estimate by Mulholland is inadequate for the purpose of establishing the level of insurance cover required. The Trusts Corporation has received correspondence from the Board dated 31 July 2016 affirming its position in the matter.

The broker advised in April 2016 "The current Sum Insured of \$3,675,000 for the church is not sufficient for a total loss and it is also not sufficient for a partial loss of significant value where the heritage listing would still need to be taken into consideration."

The recommendation of the Trusts Corporation is that the Assembly instruct the Hawthorn Board of Management to provide insurance cover for the church building for a sum not less than \$5,500,000.

In the event that there is a loss which is not covered by the insurance policy, it is possible that the trustees could be found to be personally liable for such loss. In light of the failure to insure the church for a sum which is close to either of the valuations this possibility is heightened.

According to the Register of Trustees kept by the Moderator of the Assembly in accordance with s21 of the 1890 Act, the trustees of the Hawthorn properties are:

- 1. Jack Cathie
- 2. Jillian Bradshaw
- 3. Marion Jennings
- 4. Richard Tabe

There is some uncertainty as to whether any or all of the above persons are capable to act as trustees.

The Assembly has a mechanism for dealing with such situations, provided for in s9 of the 1890 Act as follows:

9. If in any case the person or all the persons in whom any property is vested die or be absent from Victoria for six months in succession or cannot be found or resign or be removed from office or become otherwise incapable of holding such property, of which incapacity the General Assembly shall be the sole and final judge, and if those who are lawfully authorised to elect or appoint a successor or successors to such person or persons refuse or neglect to do so for the space of one month after being called upon by the Moderator to make such election or appointment, or if there be no person lawfully authorised to elect or appoint such successor or successors, then forthwith the Moderator may by certificate in writing under his hand in the form and to the effect in Part I, of the First Schedule to this Act declare that there are no trustees of such property and thereupon such property shall vest in the corporate body of trustees, and the certificate shall have the same effect as if the trustee or trustees who had died or left Victoria or could not be found or had resigned or had been removed from office or become otherwise incapable of holding such property had duly executed a conveyance or transfer of the property in the same manner and for the same estate.

The congregation has been aware of this situation since mid 2015 but as yet has failed to attend to the matter. In early 2016, presbytery was requested by the Moderator to seek confirmation as to whether or not the trustees as named in the register are capable of acting in that capacity. We understand that there has been no response to date.

The lack of capable trustees is a risk for the Assembly which is not confined to insurance. Without capable trustees the church is unable to deal with its property. This is not confined to transactions which the church may want to initiate but extends beyond that to those initiated by third parties. In fact in early 2015, a neighbour of the church's land at 573 Glenferrie Road Hawthorn gave notice of an application to amend the property boundaries. The church was unable to respond or make representation in the matter due to the lack of capable trustees.

In view of the above, the Trusts Corporation recommends that the Assembly take action in accordance with s9 of the 1890 Act to address the current situation.

Iain Bramley CHAIRMAN

APPEAL 1 (Min. 52)

From: Mrs Rhonda Aubert

Re: Decision of Presbytery of Maroondah

PRIVATE PAPER

COMMUNICATION 1 (Min. 101)

Clerk's Report on Presbytery Communications

15 August 2016

The Clerk reports that he is in possession of two notices, in accord with GAA Code of Discipline, Rule 9:18:

- a) from the Presbytery of Flinders stating that on 26 August 2014 it deposed John Rickard, formerly Minister of Dandenong Presbyterian Church, from the Ministry of the Word and Sacraments of the Presbyterian Church of Australia;
- b) from the Presbytery of Gippsland stating that on 16 May 2016 it deposed Mark Smith, formerly Minister of Scots Presbyterian Church Drouin, from the Ministry of the Word and Sacraments of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

sincerely,

John P Wilson (Clerk of Assembly)

COMMUNICATION 2 (Min. 77)

Presbyterian Inland Mission

to State Assemblies 2016

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Acts 1:8

Even today, there are places in our nation that, because of their isolation and remoteness, feel a lot like the 'ends of the earth.' In many of these places, there is very little gospel witness and solid Biblical teaching is hard to find. People living in these areas have little opportunity, humanly speaking, to hear the Biblical truths that they desperately need to hear.

For over a hundred years, the Presbyterian Church of Australia has been finding ways and means to take the Good News of Jesus into our nation's out-of-the-way places. As we continue now into this second century of service, one of PIM's greatest needs is for willing workers to join us in this Gospel mission. A number of our patrol areas remain vacant, and new teams are needed to re-establish Christian witness in these areas.

In the second half of 2016, the PIM team will be increasing our efforts to recruit new people to join us. We will be looking for men and women who know and love Jesus, who have the desire and ability to faithfully share the Gospel with others and who are available to live and work in remote areas. If you know of people in your congregation who might be suitable for this type of service, please encourage them to contact the PIM CEO, Andrew Letcher, for more information about these exciting opportunities to take the Gospel to fellow Australians.

Please join with us in praying that the Lord of the harvest would raise up new workers to go into His harvest field. You can stay up to date with the ministry of PIM by following our Facebook page or visiting our website www.pim.org.au.

Because the Gospel of Jesus Christ is not just for those who live in convenient locations!

Rev Les Fowler Andrew Letcher
Convener Chief Executive Officer

convener@pim.org.au ceo@pim.org.au

COMMUNICATION 3 (Min. 21) From: Hawthorn Board of Management

The Secretary
Board of Management
Hawthorn Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 10
Hawthorn, Victoria 3122

28th September, 2016

The Clerk of Assembly Presbyterian Church of Victoria, 156 Collins Street Melbourne, Victoria. 3000

Dear Assembly Clerk:

The Board of Hawthorn Presbyterian Church wishes to communicate the following information to the Assembly in response to the information contained in the Trust Corporation's report to the Assembly.

The Board has given careful consideration to both areas of building insurance:

- 1. Partial loss: The cost of repairs in the event of, for example, damage through a fire that doesn't destroy the building entirely
- 2. Total loss: The cost of rebuilding if the church is completely destroyed

With regard to a partial loss, the board obtained an estimate of the costs that could be involved to repair serious damage (from a hypothetical fire). This estimate was provided by Mulholland Restoration & Decorating, a respected firm with a 69-year history in the field of Heritage building restoration and particular experienced in church restoration. Mulholland's estimate of restoration costs was \$1,860,000. Even if the costs turned out to be much higher, the board believes the current amount of insurance (\$3,675,000) would be sufficient to cover this kind of event.

With regard to a total loss, the board took the following into consideration:

- a) That a total loss would release the congregation from the requirement to meet Heritage regulations
- b) That the existing church stands on land of approximately 2,000 square metres and has a seating capacity of 600
- c) That when rebuilding after a total loss, the current building regulations would need to be met
- d) That the current regulation on parking requirements for a new church building would require the congregation to construct a building considerably smaller than the existing one.

The board consulted the Boroondara Council planning department on the regulation regarding parking requirements and was advised that:

- e) If the church was a total loss and a new building was to be erected on the site, the new building would have to comply with the parking requirements
- f) The normal parking requirements for a 600 seat church would be 180 car spaces

- g) There is a provision in the planning regulations for seeking a reduction in the amount of car spaces required, but it would be up to the Council to decide whether or not to approve a reduction. While it is theoretically possible to get a reduction, we have been advised that:
 - i. The area in which the church is located has a shortage of on-street parking
 - ii. With the amount of residential development going on in the area the pressure on available parking is likely to increase
 - iii. The Boroondara Council is very firm on parking requirements and rarely allows reductions in the number of spaces required for new buildings
 - iv. There can be no prior assurance taken by the Church or any other party that the Council would vary the parking requirements if the church was to erect a new building on the site

The Hawthorn board recognises that the local obstacles to a reduction in parking are great and the probability of a exemption is extremely low. Furthermore, bearing in mind the prevailing attitude in our society these days towards Christian churches, we believe that it is unlikely that any significant concession would be granted by the Council. The board therefore believes that even if the 180 spaces were to be discounted to, say, 90 spaces, this would still be problematic, considering the site is only approximately 2,000 square metres in size.

Therefore, in the event of a total loss, the congregation would be required to build a church that seated only as many people as it would be able to provide on-site parking for. This would clearly require a much smaller building.

The board believes the current level of insurance on the church of \$3,675,000 would be sufficient for constructing a new building and on-site parking within the regulations.

Peter Parkes Board Secretary.

Yours faithfully,

COMMUNICATION 4 (Min. 22)

From: Scots' Church Board of Management Re: Assembly Hall Litigation

PRIVATE PAPER

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

The Rev. J. Wilson Clerk of Assembly Presbyterian Church of Victoria 156 Collins St MELBOURNE VIC 3000

October 4, 2016

Dear John.

Presbytery of Melbourne West Reference anent PIM Mission Churches

At its meeting in Sydney last month, the General Assembly of Australia received and considered a reference from the Presbytery of Melbourne West which had been forwarded through the General Assembly of Victoria.

The following extract from the minutes of the Assembly shows the Assembly's response.

90. Reference (ii): A reference from the Presbytery of Melbourne West seeking clarification as to the delineation of powers and responsibilities between PIM and a presbytery in relation to PIM missions churches was laid on the table and received. Mr A. Deeming stated the reference.

Questions were asked of the person stating the reference.

It was moved, seconded and agreed the reference be sustained.

The Rev. B.M. Meller moved:

That the Assembly:

- (1) Affirm that a minister without charge whose name appears on the roll of a presbytery is subject to the jurisdiction of that presbytery in matters of life and doctrine but does not, by that fact, become subject to the authority of the presbytery in matters of employment except if it becomes necessary to receive permission to work outside of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. Thus, a minister employed by PIM whose name appears on the roll of a presbytery is not subject to the direction of that presbytery in relation to his employment but is accountable to the PIM.
- (2) Notwithstanding the resolutions recorded at GAA BB 2010 Min. 34(5)(d)-(e) and GAA BB 2013 Min. 96(12)-(14) by which ministries of the PIM in Darwin and then Alice Springs were placed under the jurisdiction of the General Assembly of Victoria and the presbyteries of Melbourne West and Melbourne North respectively declare that henceforth churches founded and maintained by PIM are to be



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- regarded as mission churches of PIM subject to its exclusive governance and iurisdiction.
- (3) Authorise and request PIM to exercise, in the operation of any such mission church, the powers normally exercised by a presbytery until such mission church shall have reached the stage where it may be transferred to, and received by, a presbytery as a congregation within a pastoral charge or home mission station as those terms might be interpreted within the relevant state church.
- (4) Amend the regulations of the PIM by:
 - (a) Adding these words at the end of clause 9: "as the Committee shall determine"; and
 - (b) Adding a new clause after clause 10 as follows:

Mission churches

In the fulfilment of its responsibilities, and after consultation with the relevant presbytery, PIM may establish mission churches which shall remain under its governance and control until they may be transferred to a presbytery as pastoral charges or home mission stations as those terms might be interpreted within the relevant state church.

Until any such mission church shall be transferred to a presbytery, PIM shall exercise the powers of a presbytery.

(5) Request PIM, in consultation with the Code Committee, to bring to the next meeting of the Assembly any further changes to its regulations that might appear necessary to enhance the government or operation of its mission churches.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Because they are employed by PIM, Messrs C. Morrow and A. Letcher did not participate in the debate or the vote.

The import of these decisions is that, from the rising of the Assembly, the Presbytery of Melbourne West has been relieved of responsibility for the Darwin Mission Church; the Presbytery of Melbourne North has been relieved or responsibility for the Alice Springs Mission Church; and the General Assembly of Victoria has been relieved of jurisdiction over both.

Although the resolution does not say so, I would wish to add my personal appreciation to the Victorian Assembly and the name presbyteries for the careful attention that has been provided to these PIM churches in a situation where a lack of clarity has been a source of some anxiety. I would also add that in some respects a lack of clarity remains and much prayerful wisdom will need to be applied to find a pleasing and productive way forward. As the PIM Committee moves forward, I would ask that the Victorian church continue in earnest prayer that the gospel of peace might go forward in the remote regions of Australia with demonstrable grace and power.

Yours sincerely,

Bruce Weller

Bruce Meller

Assembly Clerk

Presbyterian Church of Australia

OVERTURE 1 (Min. 84)

From: Australian Presbyterian World Mission (Vic) Committee Re: Name of the General Mission Program

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

In the light of:

- a) the confusion that has been and is being caused among the congregations, boards and treasurers of the PCV who believe that they are contributing directly to the financial support of our APWM (Vic) missionaries because they give to the General Mission Program, and
- b) the ongoing need for increased financial support from within the PCV for our APWM (Vic) missionaries separate to any giving to the General Mission Program.

Now therefore the APWM (Vic) Committee humbly overtures the Assembly to take these premises into consideration and:

- 1) Change the name of the General Mission Program (GMP) to the 'Gospel Advancement Program' (GAP)
- 2) Advise all sessions and boards of this change and the reasons for this decision

or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

Yours in our common Lord and Saviour,

Philip Burns SECRETARY

Philip & Burns

OVERTURE 2 (Min. 92)

From: Maintenance of the Ministry Committee Re: Manse Allowance

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

In the light of:

- a) the emerging trend of ministers wishing to own their own homes and reside in their homes and seek payment of a Manse Allowance from their congregation.
- b) the historically accepted principle of Presbyterianism that 'The Pastor and people must so nearly cohabit together as that they may mutually perform their duties to each other most conveniently,' as found in the Form of Presbyterial Church Government, see PCV Rule 1:4(b).
- c) the current Maintenance of the Ministry Committee regulation 7(g) in regard to the payment of a Manse Allowance being sparse and general in nature.

Now therefore, the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee humbly overtures the Assembly to take these premises into consideration and agree to alter its regulation 7(g), so that it will read as follows:

7(g)

- Rent free occupation of a suitable dwelling preferably within two kilometres of any congregational worship centre of the charge; or
- ii. If the minister lives in his own home, an amount equivalent to rent as an additional non-cash benefit, provided that where that home is located more than two kilometres from any congregation worship centre in the charge, an amount equivalent to the lesser of the rental of a suitable dwelling in that locality or the rental of a suitable dwelling within two kilometres of any congregation worship centre in the charge. In this case, the committee must satisfy itself that the presbytery has approved the arrangement

or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

Signed:

Dennis K Wright
CONVENER

Maintenance of the Ministry Committee

Dated: July 29th 2016

OVERTURE 3 (Min. 85)

From: HCCC and SSC jointly Re: Proposed merger of committees

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

In the light of:

- a) The Health & Community Chaplaincy Committee (HCCC) and the Social Services Committee (SSC) are currently involved in the delivery of various aspects of social service provision, social responsibility and compassionate care on behalf of the General Assembly. In short:
 - (i) The Social Services Committee currently administers Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes and a range of trusts with terms related to benevolent/social service activities (eg Thomas Hall, Poor of Melbourne, Douglas family, Mavis Smith)
 - (ii) The Health & Community Chaplaincy Committee currently administers professional and volunteer chaplaincy in health, community and aged care along with pastoral care of PCV ministry families including a range of ministry family support programs. The HCCC also administers 3 specific trusts, two with hospital based terms (Harold Hughes and Walton trusts) and one with a wider Children/Social services ambit (Phillipa Burnett Trust).
- b) At present, the Presbyterian Church of Victoria does not demonstrate at the denominational level a co-ordinated approach to the following types of ministries:
 - Family & community programs centring on the alleviation of poverty, homelessness, domestic violence, crisis support and the provision of foster and respite care,
 - (ii) Alcohol/drugs of addiction support & family support
 - (iii) Asylum seeker ministries and refugee response
 - (iv) Disability services (apart from deaf ministries) eg respite, holiday grants etc, congregational awareness of special needs.
 - (v) There may be several other ministries of this kind which could be identified.
- c) Some of these ministries are currently and demonstrably at work in individual PCV congregations (eg Scots Flemington Joint Mission) but at present, as noted above there is no defined denominational approach to activities of this kind.
- d) There is a clear biblical mandate for the church to show the outworking of our faith in our love for others, not least the poor and disadvantaged in our society. Following the clear example of Christ during his ministry, Galatians 2.10 and James 2 clearly demonstrate this as one of the key concerns of the apostles and the early church.

In Calvin's Institutes 3.7.6 we find these words:

The Lord enjoins us to do good to all without exception, though the greater part, if estimated by their own merit, are most unworthy of it. But Scripture subjoins a most excellent reason, when it tells us that we are not to look to what men in themselves deserve, but to attend to the image of God, which exists in all, and to which we owe all honour and love. But in those who are of the household of faith, the same rule is to be more carefully observed, inasmuch as that image is renewed and restored in them by the Spirit of Christ. Therefore, whoever be the man that is presented to you as needing your assistance, you have no ground for declining to give it to him. Say he is a stranger. The Lord has given him a mark which ought to be familiar to you: for which reason he forbids you to despise your own flesh (Gal. 6:10). Say he is mean and of no consideration. The Lord points him out as one whom he has distinguished by the lustre of his own image (Isaiah 58:7). Say that you are bound to him by no ties of duty. The Lord has substituted him as it were into his own place, that in him you may recognize the many great obligations under which the Lord has laid you to himself. Say that he is unworthy of your least exertion on his account; but the image of God, by which he is recommended to you, is worthy of yourself and all your exertions. But if he not only merits no good, but has provoked you by injury and mischief, still this is no good reason why you should not embrace him in love, and visit him with offices of love. He has deserved very differently from me, you will say. But what has the Lord deserved? Whatever injury he has done you, when he enjoins you to forgive him, he certainly means that it should be imputed to himself. In this way only we attain to what is not to say difficult but altogether against nature, to love those that hate us, render good for evil, and blessing for cursing, remembering that we are not to reflect on the wickedness of men, but look to the image of God in them, an image which, covering and obliterating their faults, should by its beauty and dignity allure us to love and embrace them.

e) The Social Services Committee recently received from the Clerk of the Assembly a discussion report from the PCV archives of the Presbyterian Social Services Committee, 1971. This pre-church union document outlines plans for a Family Welfare, Child and Youth Care division for the PCV along with an Aged Person's Care division (subsequently Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes).

This discussion report interestingly reflects momentum in the church pre-union to consider further engagement in Social services activities along strikingly similar lines to the activities noted above.

- f) With the formation of the Uniting Church in 1977 and the subsequent redistribution of assets, structural framework & capacity it seems clear that the Social Services activities of the PCV were of necessity, somewhat curtailed in scope and subsequently centred around the development and operation of Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes and the administration of various specific trusts.
- g) With an appropriate level of denominational co-ordination, encouragement and support it is likely that a high level of the PCV's denominational resources (people, time and funds) could be further released into important community ministries such as those noted. This could also provide ample opportunities for growth in life, faith and service for many PCV congregational members, not least in encouraging the further engagement of our children and youth.

- h) It should also be noted that the ability to provide high standards of governance is an ongoing challenge for our PCV Committees including the engagement, retention and succession of skilled and well qualified Committee Conveners.
- i) The demands of high level oversight for Kirkbrae's Aged Care facility and the HCCC's engagement with external healthcare services and the Victorian State Government all require the ongoing commitment and expertise of an engaged and qualified Committee. This is deemed essential to meet increasing obligations for Government accreditation, to adhere to professional standards and to provide strategic direction in line with the ministry and ethos of the PCV.
- j) There is potential to harness existing PCV resources for greater use as follows:

Structural:

Social Services Committee through Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes has DGR (Deductible Gift recipient) or Charity status.

Organisations with DGR status are entitled to apply for benevolent grants from a range of sources (eg St Andrews Fund, Melbourne City Council and the Victorian State government)

HCCC has the capacity to make an annual appeal across PCV congregations.

Missional:

Kirkbrae: Potential for a designated portion of annual profits to be made available for Social Service Ministries as part of the wider mission of the PCV.

Potential to organise, communicate and co-ordinate denominational projects that further release existing resources at the parish level (people, money and time) eg foster care.

Now therefore the Social Services Committee together with the Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee humbly overture the Assembly to take these premises into consideration and:

Agree to prepare a proposal for the merger of the Social Services Committee with the Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee by forming an ad hoc committee to develop the proposal and request the committee to bring it to the 2017 GAV,

or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

Signed:

Health & Community Chaplaincy Committee Convener Social Services Committee Convener

Rev Miles Fagan and Mr Robert Lowe to state the overture.

OVERTURE 4 (Min. 86)

From: Presbytery of Gippsland Re: Responding to Moral Failure

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

In the light of:

- a) The rarity of discipline cases;
- b) The importance of discipline cases;
- c) The complexities of the Code of Discipline.

Now therefore the Presbytery of Gippsland humbly overtures the Assembly to take these premises into consideration and:

- Endorse the PCNSW document 'Responding to Moral Failure' as a useful guide for presbyteries that engage in disciplinary proceedings http://mmpcnsw.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Responding-to-Moral-Failure-within-the-PCNSW-v7.pdf
- Request the Code and General Administration Committee to develop a PCV customised edition of the 'Responding to Moral Failure' document which better reflects the PCV

or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

Signed

S Deroon CLERK OF PRESBYTERY

Minute Extract

Dated: 10th August 2016

Persons to State the Overture: Cameron Garrett, Heath Easton

OVERTURE 5 (Min. 82)

From: Presbytery of Gippsland Re: Privacy and emails

PRIVATE PAPER

PETITION 1 (Min. 88)

From: Presbytery of Geelong Re: Rule 4:89b and the parish of The Leigh

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

This petition shows that there remains uncertainty in regard to effecting property transfer or disposal under current Rule 4:89 and GAV Minute 14:1-3, in relation to the union of two or more congregations, or the dissolution of a congregation, in that:

- a) Whilst it appears that the Code allows for the transfer of property from one congregation to another, the BIF are of the opinion that the Model Trust Deed may not.
- b) Whilst the Assembly has resolved "there is no in-principle reason why the property of the uniting congregations could not be made available for the benefit of the united congregation" there remains no certainty that property will be held in trust for the newly united congregation.
- c) A parish, or Presbytery, may resist seeking the warranted dissolution of a congregation within a united parish, or even a standalone congregation, due to the uncertainty of whether or not the surplus property would be held in trust for the parish or Presbytery.
- d) In the event of a union of two or more congregations, there is no certainty that any surplus property can be sold, potentially restricting the new congregations financially and/or encumbering it with assets expensive to maintain.
- e) The Model Trust Deed may not allow for the transfer or disposal of surplus property to benefit another congregation potentially resulting in ineffective assets and unrealised resources for ministry.

Now therefore the Presbytery of Geelong humbly petitions the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria to take these premises into consideration and to ask the BIF to seek Counsel's opinion as to whether the provisions of the Model Trust Deed allow for such transfer and disposal of property as outlined in GAV 2015 Min 14.1, and, if not, recommend the necessary changes to the Model Trust Deed needed to achieve this outcome and proceed with such change that would make this outcome permissible

or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

Signed: Dated: 14th June 2016

Extracted from the minutes of the meeting of the Presbytery of Geelong held on 14th June 2016 by me: G (Bert) Stasse, Clerk.

The names of the persons appointed to present the petition are Dr Allan Harman and Rev Daniel Combridge.

PETITION 2 (Min. 89)

From: Presbytery of Melbourne West Re: MDC Funding for the Brimbank Parish

To the General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

This petition shows that:

- a) Brimbank Presbyterian Church is an Appointment Parish of the Presbytery of Melbourne West. It began as a church plant of Melton Presbyterian Church. At the 2003 General Assembly of Victoria it was granted Project Charge status.
- b) The ministry commenced in 2004 under Andres Miranda, an exit student, who was later ordained and appointed as an assistant to Reverend Peter Owen who was the minister at Melton at the time.
- c) Reverend Miranda resigned in early 2006 and left in April. By the end of June there was only one member of the church left. The Melton Session sent supply preachers for evening services and numbers grew again. This was a very difficult time for the ministry.
- d) In 2007 Reverend Owen moved into the Brimbank Manse and split his time between Melton and Brimbank. On the 19th of September 2007 the Presbytery declared Brimbank to be a separate congregation with the status of an appointment parish. Reverend Owen was appointed as the minister from the 1st of January 2008.
- e) The ministry steadily grew over the years. Three local elders were ordained and the communicant membership grew. In 2012 Reverend Owen established a preaching place at Point Cook. On the 29th of August 2012 the Presbytery moved that Point Cook be declared a separate appointment parish, effective January 1st 2013. Reverend Owen was appointed as the minister.
- f) Adam Humphries was appointed to Brimbank PC as an exit student, commencing January 1st 2013. He was ordained on August 10th 2013 and appointed as the minister to Brimbank PC.
- g) Important details about the years 2013-2016
 - a. The offerings have increased slightly, from \$1,033 to \$1,147 a week. This equates to around \$6,000 extra a year.
 - b. In addition to the Ministry Development subsidy grant, the church has relied upon a sustentation grant from the Maintenance of Ministry (~\$10,000 each year) and money from the Thornbury Trust (~\$17,000). Last financial year Brimbank PC was able to end reliance on the Thornbury Trust.
 - c. The total number of communicant members has remained steady with a current number of 32. 13 communicants have left but 12 new ones, who are very committed, have joined.
 - d. There are 78 people associated with the church and 33 of those are children under 18. There are several large families.
 - e. Average attendance at church services this year has been 40 people.

- f. Reverend Humphries has preached on financial giving and it is raised in the membership course for all new members. The matter has also been raised with the congregation through the ministry of the elders.
- g. The Board of Management has worked hard at developing a healthy budget and has developed good principles of stewardship.
- h) The ministry at Brimbank PC has had its ups and downs. It's a 13 year old ministry that has had 3 ministers. As a parish, it's almost 9 years old but the majority of the congregation joined only in the last 5 years. Most people at the church (members and non-members) do not come from Presbyterian backgrounds and many of the ideas about commitment to a church (in terms of finances, attendance and service) have been foreign to them. There has been a lot of teaching in these areas and there has been much growth in maturity.
- i) Brimbank PC is placed in a strategic area with lots of housing growth and young families. There are very few reformed churches in the area. The church is making good connections in the community, particularly with the staff of the Sydenham Neighbourhood House where services are held. Brimbank PC runs evangelistic events and provides discipleship for its members.
- j) The Ministry Development Committee has supported the work of ministry at Brimbank since 2004. The money has gone directly to the Brimbank parish since 2007. Thus the limit of subsidy funding has been reached, requiring that Brimbank petition the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria for a further five years support.

Now therefore, the Presbytery of Melbourne West humbly petitions the General Assembly to take these premises into consideration and:

authorise the Ministry Development Committee, at their discretion and subject to Ministry Development Committee guidelines, to provide grants to the Brimbank Presbyterian Church for a further five years from 2016-2017 through to the end of July 2021 in order to maintain full-time ministry at Brimbank

or do otherwise as in their wisdom they many consider appropriate.

Signed:

Adam Humphries PRESBYTERY CLERK

Dated: August 17th 2016 ... Rev Adam Humphries and Rev Aaron Boyd were appointed to present the petition.

Extracted from the minutes of the meeting of the Presbytery of Melbourne West on August 17th 2016 by me: Adam Humphries, Clerk

PETITION 3 (Min. 90)

From: Presbytery of Ballarat Re: Dissolution of Stockyard Hill congregation

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria

This petition shows that:

- a) Until the General Assembly has had a report made to it and formally agreed (4: 90 (b)) the final dissolution of a congregation cannot be executively declared by the presbytery.
- b) The congregation of Stockyard Hill has not met for worship since the 6th April, 1997.
- c) The church building was sold on 8th June, 2000 and a congregational meeting held on 22nd November in a private dwelling to deal with consequent and financial matters.
- d) There is no record of a report to and request for the final dissolution of the congregation in the minutes of the General Assembly and there are no presbytery minutes available for this period either in the archive or in presbytery records.
- e) It is therefore overdue and necessary for the dissolution of the congregation to be dealt with by the General Assembly and the presbytery.

Now therefore the Presbytery of Ballarat humbly petitions the General Assembly to take these premises into consideration and agree to the final dissolution of the Stockyard Hill congregation and authorise the presbytery to make that executive declaration:

or to do otherwise as in its wisdom it may consider appropriate.

The petition will be presented on behalf of the Presbytery by elder Stewart McKerrow and Rev. Steven North.

clerk of presbytery

PETITION 4 (Min. 23)

From: Chalmers (Auburn) Presbyterian Church Re: Sale of Manse Property

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria

This Petition shows that:

- a) The matter arises out of a letter from the Board of Chalmers to the Presbytery of Melbourne East on 11 August 2015 and subsequent evaluation of various options in regards to sale/re-development of The Manse property at15 Rathmines Road East Hawthorn. Renovation of this property to bring it up to manse standard is estimated at \$400,000. This money is currently not available to Chalmers.
- b) Chalmers has for 12 of the past 20 years been a self-supporting congregation with income from, very generous Offerings, Investments and Telstra mobile phone relay station providing sufficient monies to cover on-going running costs. The change in PCV Common Fund Investment Policy for the past 8 years and bank fixed interest have meant that those incomes are no longer enough to support Chalmers as an on-going Full Charge into the future. The subsequent reduction in capital reserves mean that current resources will last about 12 Months from July 2016
- c) A Chalmers Board Recommendation was received to a Congregational Meeting on Sunday 17 July and the Congregation endorsed the following actions

The Congregation seek the approval of the Presbytery of Melbourne East and the Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria through petition to:

- a) Sell the Manse property at 15 Rathmines Road East Hawthorn
- b) Apply the proceeds from that sale to purchase a suitable property to act as manse for the Church
- c) Use a portion of the funds to revitalise the physical Church by:
- Repainting the inside of the Church
- Re-blocking the floor structure
- Re-polishing the floor boards in Church and Hall
- Enclose the back porch of the hall
- Re-surface the current parking lot. Install new gates and fences to enable better use of the space
- Remove asbestos cement shed from parking lot
- Replace existing Notice Board
- Repair windows and replace window guards
- Allow interior building changes to make music a major part of the Ministry
- d) Place the remaining monies to the Site Reserve Fund for Investment
- e) Draw from the proceeds of that Investment from the Site Reserve Fund repatriate \$50,000 per year for five (5) years to Chalmers to provide seeding monies while the Church is re-vitalised

f) On our doorstep is Auburn State School which now has 500 pupils (up from 200) and Swinburne University's continued expansion attracts local and foreign Christian scholars and interest groups seeking a place for worship and pastoral comfort.

Now therefore the Board of Chalmers Presbyterian Church humbly petitions the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria to take these premises into consideration and support the Board's quest of re-vitalising the physical Church and ensuring not only the continuance of the 115 year ministry at Chalmers, and also by re-vitalising the Church buildings and facilities to help attract new members and families from the vibrant and burgeoning local population.

Or for the Assembly do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate

Reverend Trevor Cox, and Chalmers Board Members David McDonald, Peter Francis and Graeme Boyles were subsequently appointed to present the petition

Signed: David McDonald Secretary of Chalmers Board

Dated: 9th August 2016





















PETITION 5 (Min. 87)

From: Presbytery of Melbourne North Re: Epping Sites Reserve funds

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

This petition shows that:

- a) The rectification and expansion work done at Epping Presbyterian church is a capital expense, this the BIF acknowledges.
- b) The work needed to rectify a building fault at Epping Presbyterian church ought to be considered a part of the original build and not maintenance. As such it is covered under BIF regulation 10 b (i).
- c) The original building plans for Epping Presbyterian church, which were approved by the BIF, made provision for the future installation of audio/visual equipment. By the grace of God, the congregation has grown to the extent that this aspect of the original building plan is now required.
- d) Epping Presbyterian church's request for access to sites reserves or accrued interest falls within the probate of 10b(ii) which allows, with Presbytery and BIF approval, for the allocation of monies for 'any other purpose within The Presbyterian Church of Victoria that will serve the cause of the gospel and the building up of the Church provided that, if the congregation determines to apply such moneys to other than its own needs, Presbytery and the BIF are satisfied that reasonable account has been taken of the congregation's own foreseeable capital needs.'
- e) The provision of effective audio equipment in order that the preaching of the gospel might be clearly understood is of no small matter and certainly 'serves both the cause of the gospel and the building up of the church.'
- f) Epping Presbyterian church is part of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.
- g) While there has been the practice to view clause 10b(ii) as guiding the use of monies (10a) when spent on 'others,' the clear and plain reading of 10b(ii) is to give a further use by the local church of monies held in trust for its application. The clause clearly envisages a broad range of congregational needs.
- h) The use of the conjunction 'if' in the clause 10 b(ii) introduces a condition or proviso that where a congregation determines 'to apply such moneys to other than its own needs... then certain conditions must be met. This conditional clause can only make sense if the congregation can determine to use such monies either on itself or on others.

- i) The use by the BIF of Epping Presbyterian church's APR in determining not to grant access to accrued interest has no basis in the BIF regulations.
- j) What a congregation has in its operating account, which are to be applied first and foremost to the running of the church specifically the paying of the stipend, ought not he taken into account when deciding how to distribute sites reserve monies which are to be used for capital expenses.
- k) In the case of Epping Presbyterian church, the \$240,000 it had in its operating accounts will fund a budget deficit over the next 5 years. Indeed, the current APR, which the BIF has, clearly shows that in this calendar year the congregation of Epping Presbyterian church has budgeted for a \$25,000 deficit which it will fund from their own operating account.
- I) The release of all interest from Epping Presbyterian Church's sites reserve for a period of 3 years is essential in the church's efforts to be revitalised. This would enable the congregation to explore employing a 2nd worker and funding such a position from its own resources.
- m) In refusing Epping Presbyterian church's request and then stating that the congregation ought to use funds in their operating account to pay for this capital expense the BIF has over stepped its authority by seeking to direct how the local church manages its own affairs. The BIF is not in the best position, nor does it have the authority to direct how a congregation use their local funds. The court which has this task and authority is the Presbytery.

Now therefore The Presbytery of Melbourne North humbly petitions the Assembly to take these premises into consideration and:

Direct the Board of Investment and Finance to:

- a) release \$27,500 from Epping Presbyterian church's site reserve or accrued interest and for this to be forward to Epping Presbyterian Church as a matter of urgency, and
- b) release all interest from Epping Presbyterian Church's sites reserve for the next 3 years, commencing with the calendar year 2016, and for this to be forwarded to Epping Presbyterian Church when it becomes available.

or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

Extracted from the minutes of the meeting of the Presbytery of Melbourne North on 30 August by me, Don Elliott, Moderator.

Rev Nello Barbieri and Rev Neil Chambers were appointed to state the petition.

PETITION 6 (Min. 94)

From: Social Services Committee Re: Seat on Presbytery for Rev Matt James

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

This petition that:

- a) There was uncertainty as to the process by which to grant the Kirkbrae Chaplain a seat on the Presbytery of Maroondah which has only been resolved this week,
- b) The responsibility to request a seat on the presbytery for the Kirkbrae Chaplain resides with the Social Services Committee who appoints the full-time Chaplain to Kirkbrae,
- c) Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes is in the Presbytery of Maroondah,
- d) Rev Matthew James has been appointed as Chaplain to Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes, commencing 1 February 2017,
- e) Rev Matthew James has been a valued member of the Maroondah Presbytery since exiting to the Croydon Hills parish, and
- f) Rev Matthew James would like to continue as a member of the Presbytery of Maroondah.

Now therefore the Social Services Committee humbly petitions the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria to take these premises into consideration and grant Rev Matthew James a seat on the Presbytery of Maroondah as from 1 February 2017,

or do otherwise as in their wisdom they may consider appropriate.

Rob Lowe to state the Petition

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

URGENT MEETING of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA DECEMBER 2016

PROCEEDINGS OF AN URGENT MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA

At Melbourne, and in the Werner Brodbeck Hall within the Assembly Hall, Friday 2 December 2016 at 10:30am.

1. Constitution

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria met by order of the Moderator. Moderator's chaplain Rev Rod Waterhouse constituted the Assembly with worship with the reading of scripture from Jeremiah 29 and prayer.

2. Confirmation of the Roll

The Clerk reported that the Roll of Assembly is what it was in October 2016 save for any whose names ought to be removed.

3. Apologies

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

Ministers: Keith Allen, Tony Archer, Ivan Barker, Keith Bell, Tony Bird, Robert Boan, Graham Bradbeer, John Brennan, David Brown, Philip Burns, Robert Carner, John Cho, Trevor Cox, John Cromarty, Rob Duncanson, Kyung Ee, Heath Easton, Don Elliott, Alan Every, Wally Gear, Peter Greiner, Charles Green, Marvin Hagans, Peter Hastie, Allan Harman, Neil Harvey, Ian Hutton, Matt James, Michael Jensen, Stephen Jones, Ian Leach, Hui Lim, Douglas Milne, Bill Medley, Steve North, Richard O'Brien, Peter Orchard, David Palmer, Len Pearce, James Playfoot, Bruce Riding, Peter Roberts, Chris Siriweera, Gary Stephens, John Sutherland, Mark Tonkin, Gerald Vanderwert, Willem Vandenberg, Andrew Venn, Graeme Weber, Walter Zurrer.

<u>Elders</u>: John Angelico, Malcolm Browning, Drew Chittenden, Geoff Cross, Keith Ferres, Neil Gilmour, Ralph Kop, Andrew Letcher, George McConaghie, Endre Papajcsik, Peter Prendergast, David Selman, Norm Sharp, Bert Stasse, Peter Winstanley.

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Sustain the apologies.

The motion was seconded and approved.

4. Approval of Meeting

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Approve the action of the Moderator in convening the urgent meeting of the Assembly under the provision of rule 5.38.

The motion was seconded and approved.

5. Welcomes

The Moderator welcomed members and visitors to the Assembly.

6. Business Committee

The report of the Business Committee was received.

The Business Convener moved:

That the Assembly:

1. Determine the time for speakers to be as follows:

Rev Ben Johnson – 15 minutes All other speakers – 5 minutes Question time – 15 minutes

- 2. Appoint a Ballot Committee for the Assembly consisting of:
 - a. Ministers: Andrew Vines (Convener), Luke Brownley, Adam Humphries;
 - b. Elders: Bert Stasse, Doug Fraser.
- Approve the business.

The motion was seconded and approved.

7. Warrnambool Congregation Business

Rev Ben Johnson addressed the Assembly, explaining the Warrnambool congregation's building and property heritage and changing needs and the manner in which the congregation proposed to address those needs with the rationalisation of its properties and the construction of a new facility adjacent to the church building.

Rev Ben P Johnson moved:

That the Assembly:

Approve the request of the Warrnambool Congregation to access their Sites Reserve money to fund the new hall facility (approved by the Kilnoorat Presbytery, the PCV Building and Property Committee and the PCV church architect), including any monies that are deposited after 2 December 2016, coming from Sites Reserve interest, transfer of congregational 'manse reserve' or money from the sale of old halls.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The vote was unanimous.

8. 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 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.

9. Ballot Committee discharged

The Clerk moved:

That the Assembly:

Thank and discharge the Ballot Committee.

The motion was seconded and approved.

10. Dissolution

The business of Assembly now being concluded, the Moderator closed the meeting with the prayer.

CLERKS J P Wilson P W Phillips

Certificate

I certify that the minutes of this Assembly, having been carefully scrutinised, are hereby confirmed in terms of minute 8 thereof.

RWWhile

Rev Robert W White Moderator

BACKGROUND DOCUMENT From the Warrnambool Congregation

Thank you for meeting to consider the urgent business of the Warrnambool Congregation seeking to access its Sites Reserve Money to build a new hall for which plans had been out to tender before the GAV in October.

As previously advised in a letter to the Moderator dated 26 October 2016 and circulated to Assembly members, at a congregational meeting, 24 October 2016, the Warrnambool Congregation resolved to accept a tender for building its new hall facility and the Kilnoorat Presbytery approved this (subject to approval by the Church Architect and the Building and Property Committee of the General Assembly) at its meeting, 25 October 2016.

Approval was also given by the Presbytery for the Warrnambool congregation to utilise its Sites Reserve money of \$1,111,411 to aid in the funding of this project.

Subsequent to this however, further issues regarding future deposits to the Sites Reserve were raised in a letter to the Moderator dated 1 November 2016 which was also circulated to Assembly members.

At a Congregational meeting, 13 November 2016, the Warrnambool Presbyterian Church passed the following motion:

The Warrnambool Presbyterian Church seeks Presbytery and Assembly approval to access their Sites Reserve money to fund the new hall facility (approved by the Kilnoorat Presbytery, the PCV Building and Property Committee and the PCV church architect), including any monies that are deposited after 2 December 2016, coming from Sites Reserve interest, transfer of congregational 'manse reserve' or money from the sale of old halls.

The Kilnoorat Presbytery approved this request at an urgent meeting, 22 November 2016, resolving the following:

Min 16/216 It was resolved that the Warrnambool Presbyterian Church, having received approval from the Presbytery of Kilnoorat, seek Assembly approval to access their Sites Reserve money to fund the new hall facility (approved by the Kilnoorat Presbytery, the PCV Building and Property Committee and the PCV church architect), including any monies that are deposited after 2 December 2016, coming from Sites Reserve interest, transfer of congregational 'manse reserve' or money from the sale of old halls.

Rev Ben P Johnson (on behalf of the Warrnambool Presbyterian Church)

Notice of Motion:

When this matter is before the Assembly, Rev Ben P Johnson will move: That the Assembly:

Approve the request of the Warrnambool Congregation to access their Sites Reserve money to fund the new hall facility (approved by the Kilnoorat Presbytery, the PCV Building and Property Committee and the PCV church architect), including any monies that are deposited after 2 December 2016, coming from Sites Reserve interest, transfer of congregational 'manse reserve' or money from the sale of old halls.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

For the LORD your God is a merciful God; he will not abandon or destroy you or forget the covenant with your forefathers, which he confirmed to them by oath. (Deuteronomy 4:31)

The Business Committee received the papers from the Warrnambool Congregation and the Notice of Motion from Rev Ben Johnson proposed to be submitted to the Assembly. It has resolved to transmit to the Assembly these papers, having deemed them competent and respectful.

Agenda

The proposed business is to receive and deal with Warrnambool Congregation's application to use its Sites Reserve funds for expenses incurred with the erection of a new hall facility as approved by the Presbytery of Kilnoorat.

It is suggested that Rev Johnson be allowed to speak to the question of the use of funds first, followed by questions from the floor, then for Rev Johnson to move his Notice of Motion.

Dean Carroll CONVENER

PROPOSED DELIVERANCE

That the Assembly:

1. Determine the time for speakers to be as follows:

Ben Johnson – 15 minutes

All other speakers – 5 minutes

Question time - 15 minutes.

Appoint a Ballot Committee for the Assembly consisting of:
 Ministers: Andrew Vines (Convener), Luke Brownley, Adam Humphries
 Elders: Bert Stasse, Doug Fraser

3. Approve the Business.

WARRNAMBOOL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Living life to the full

(03) 55622029 admin@wboolpresychurch.org.au

25 Manifold St Warrnambool, VIC 3280

26th October, 2016

To the Moderator Rob White

Re: Need for an urgent meeting of the GAV

We write requesting you call an urgent meeting of the GAV (under rule 5:38) for the purpose of considering the Warrnambool Congregation's application to use its Sites Reserve Money for expenses incurred with the erection of a new hall facility that the Presbytery has approved.

The Warrnambool Congregation has long held a desire to build a new hall facility attached to its traditional church building and the latest attempt to do this began in 2009. It has been a long, but carefully staged process, starting with the commissioning of an architect to draw concept plans for two options (one being a new hall facility, the other being a significant renovation of our old halls). In 2012, it was resolved to build the new hall facility financed by the sale of existing properties including a Bowling Green and a cottage. Following subdivision works, the two properties were sold and the money from the sale was deposited in Sites Reserve.

In 2014, an architect was commissioned to draw schematic drawings and a planning permit was obtained. In December 2015, the congregation resolved to advance these drawings to design documentation ready for tender. On the 15th of August this year, the Warrnambool congregation received a financing plan which included using their Sites Reserve Funds for the new build *and on that basis* they resolved to put their plans out to tender. The tender due date happened to be the last day of Assembly - the day on which the regulations for accessing Sites Reserved funds changed!

At a congregational meeting on the 24th of October, the Warrnambool congregation resolved to accept the tender of BDH constructions and on the 25th of October, the Kilnoorat Presbytery approved the congregation's plan to erect a new hall facility according to Baumgart Clark's design (Project No 1525). The Presbytery also

approved their application to Sites Reserve for \$1,111,411 to fund this project (See minutes below).

We believe that this project has carefully progressed according to the rules of our church but with the passing of GAV 2016 Minute 96.1, the Warrnambool Congregation now finds itself in need of the Assembly's approval to access their Sites Reserve money. In the building industry, to go to tender but then not accept a reasonable tender is seen as unethical. Builders invest a lot of time and resources into the tender process and their quotes only stand for a limited period of time. We believe it would damage the reputation of the Warrnambool congregation in their town to pull out of this process at this very late stage - something they would have to do if they are to wait until May or October 2017 before having access to their Sites Reserve money approved by a regular sitting of the Assembly.

Thank you for considering our request for an urgent meeting of the Assembly to approve the Warrnambool Congregation's application to their Sites Reserved funds.

With regards in our Lord,

Rev Ben Johnson Kilnoorat Presbytery (ben@wboolpresychurch.org.au, 0405 546513)

Rev Toby McIntosh
Robert Prout
Robert Prout
Rev Peter Philips
Rev Neil Benfell
Rev Andrew Bray
Rev Dr Allan Harman
Kilnoorat Presbytery
Kilnoorat Presbytery
Kilnoorat Presbytery
Geelong Presbytery
Geelong Presbytery

Rev Neil Chambers Melbourne North Presbytery
Rev Nello Barbieri Melbourne North Presbytery

Rev Stephen Deroon Gippsland Presbytery
Rev Cameron Garrett Gippsland Presbytery
Rev Ivan Barker Maroondah Presbytery
Rev Clinton Le Page Maroondah Presbytery
Rev John Huynh Melbourne East Presbytery

Rev Kevin Maxwell Benalla Presbytery

Rev Philip Burns North Western Victoria Presbytery
Rev Russell Grinter North Western Victoria Presbytery

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Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Kilnoorat Presbytery held at Warrnambool on the 25th October 2016

16/205 It was resolved to receive the correspondence from Warrnambool Session concerning the building program which the Warrnambool Congregational meeting held on the 24.10.16 wished to bring to the attention of the Presbytery

16/206 It was resolved to approve the alterations and building of the new hall construction according to the design documentation of Baumgart Clark Architects, project Number 1525

16/207 It was resolved that Presbytery notes that approval is subject to the plans also being approved by the Building and Property Committee of the General Assembly.

16/208 It was resolved that Presbytery approve the expenditure of \$1,111,411 from the Warrnambool Sites Reserve account to aid in the funding of this project.

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WARRNAMBOOL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Living life to the full

(03) 55622029 admin@wboolpresychurch.org.au

25 Manifold St Warrnambool, VIC 3280

1st November, 2016

To the Moderator and Clerk of the Assembly,

Thank you for considering calling an urgent meeting of the General Assembly of Victoria for the purpose of considering the Warrnambool Congregation's application to use its Sites Reserve money for expenses incurred with the construction of a new hall facility that the Presbytery has approved. (Letter dated 26th of October 2016 cosigned by the required Assembly delegates)

Subsequent to my discussion with the Clerk on Tuesday the 1st of November, I attach below the Congregation and Presbytery authorities.

I would also like to present two issues related to the original request and seek your wisdom as to how they can be included in the business of this urgent meeting to prevent the need for a subsequent one.

Firstly, just recently Warrnambool has discovered that money received from the sale of a manse in the 1980s when we had local trustees has been mistakenly held in "reserve" by our congregation. We intend to transfer that money to the Sites Reserve account as soon as possible.

Secondly, we are also in the position where our church halls may sell soon. There is a company that has been doing diligence the last few months and has written that they hope to make an offer within the month. If that money is received, it would be transferred to the Sites Reserve account. As can be seen by the funding proposal approved at our congregational meeting, at this stage the congregation has approved a bridging loan until the halls might be sold. However, should the halls sell, we would like to draw on the Sites Reserve money to pay out the loan as soon as practicable.

The purpose of the urgent Assembly meeting as requested in the original letter is as follows: -

to "consider the Warrnambool Congregation's application to use its Sites Reserve money for expenses incurred with the erection of a new hall facility that the Presbytery has approved."

We believe this wording accommodates the above two eventualities, and for the information of the Assembly we advise that by the Assembly date of December 1, we anticipate the Congregation and Presbytery will have approved use of a new Sites Reserve total for the balance of the building project; that is, including the local "Manse Reserve" plus funds from any sale of the halls deposited in Sites Reserve.

Thanks for your consideration,

Rev Ben Johnson, Senior Minister Warrnambool Presbyterian Church 0405 546513 ben@wboolpresychurch.org.au

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Minutes of the Extraordinary Congregational Meeting of the Warrnambool Presbyterian Church held at Warrnambool on the 24th October 2016

- to accept the tender of BDH Constructions and ancillary costs (\$1.85 million)
- authorise the Property Planning Committee to manage the construction phase to completion.
- propose that Philip Hunt and David Benfell be authorised to sign on behalf of the Trust Corporation in relation to the new build.
- to seek the Presbytery's approval of the congregation's decision to accept the tender of BDH Constructions and ancillary costs and authorise the Property Planning Committee to manage the construction phase to completion.
- to seek the Presbytery's approval of our application to Sites Reserve for expenses incurred with the new build according to the funding proposal approved at the Congregational meeting.

Project Cost	\$1,849,014
funded by:	
Funds from Balance Sheet Sites Reserve	\$252,615 \$1,111,411
Other Fundraising Bridging Loan Total	\$200,000 \$284,989 \$1,849,015
Balance Sheet items during project:	
Allocated Reserves remaining on Balance Sheet Working Capital	\$345,277 \$161,338
End of Project	
Proceeds from Hall Sale Sites Reserve after loan extinguished	\$850,000 \$565,000

ASSEMBLY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES 2016 - 2017

ad hoc Committee for Sites Reserve Funds

[Immediate Past Moderator (Convener), Assembly Clerk, Law Agent, General Manager, Chairman, Board of Investment and Finance, a nominee from each interested Presbytery]

Ballarat Rev M Crabb Benalla Rev K Ee Flinders Rev D Palmer Geelong Rev Dr A Harman Gippsland Rev C Garrett Kilnoorat Rev I Leach Maroondah Rev A Slater Melbourne East Rev Dr B Thomas

Melbourne North Mr B Miller *or* Mr T Cullen

Melbourne West Mr D Wright
North Western Mr C Morrow

Australian Presbyterian World Mission [Vic] Committee

[10 Members nominated by GAV, 2 Members nominated by PWMU, all appointed by the Assembly]

RT 17: Rev T Archer [24], Mr D Bennett [17], Rev P Burns [22] **RT 18:** Mrs L Ellis [25], Mrs W Pearce [22], Rev Dr F Chung [24]

RT 19: Mrs W Moody [25], Mr N Johnston [22], Mrs S White [22], Rev L Pearce [19]

PWMU: Miss R Crocker [22], Mrs P Vandenberg [24]

Convener: Mr D Bennett [17]

Board of Investment and Finance [Trusts Corporation]

[10 Members, eligible for a second consecutive 5 year term] **RT 17:** Mr I Bramley [17], Rev S Deroon [22], vacancy [22]

RT 18: Mr M Duke [23] **RT 19:** Rev B Oakes [24]

RT 20: Mr T Arnold [20], Mr A Letcher [20], Rev A Bray [25]

RT 21: Mr S Williamson [26], Mr J Bligh [26] Chairman: [Appointed annually by the Board]

Building and Property Committee

[3 Members]

RT 17: Rev M Tegart [24] RT 18: Rev P Phillips [17] RT 19: Mr D Wright [24] Convener: Rev M Tegart [23]

Business Committee

[Assembly Clerk, Deputy Clerk, Business Convener, Law Agent, 3 members of Assembly not conveners of other reporting committees, Presbytery Clerks during Assembly]

RT 17: Mr K Childs [22] RT 18: Rev P Mercer [19] RT 19: Mr D Fraser [24] Convener: Rev D Carroll [22]

Christian Education And Nurture Committee

[11 Members, at least 6, including the convener, members of Assembly]

RT 17: Vacancy, Mrs M Girgis [22], Rev D Assender [22], Rev H Lim [18]

RT 18: Vacancy, Mr P Dakin [25], Rev M James [24]

RT 19: Vacancy, Vacancy, Vacancy [24], Mrs A Harvey [20]

Convener: Rev M James [22]

Church And Nation Committee [10 Members]

RT 17: Vacancy, Vacancy, Vacancy

RT 18: Vacancy, Vacancy, Rev D Combridge [20], Mr B Palmer [20]

RT 19: Rev C Duke, Vacancy, Rev D Middleton [19]

Convener: Rev D Middleton [19]

Church Planting Committee

[6 Members, plus the Convener]

RT 17: Rev B Johnson [21], Rev S North [24] **RT 18:** Rev T Fishwick [24], Rev A Boyd [24] **RT 19:** Rev J Hyunh [24]; Rev P Roberts [24]

Convener: Rev C B Garrett [22]

Clerkship Committee

- a) a convener (who shall be a past-moderator of the General Assembly) appointed by the General Assembly for a three-year term; and
- b) the immediate past moderator, the Moderator, the Law Agent, the Convener of the Business Committee, the Convener of the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee, and the Chairman of the Board of Investment and Finance.

Convener: Rev D Brown [19]

Code and General Administration Committee

[3 Members, plus *ex officio* the Clerks of Assembly, Business Convener, Procurator, Law Agent, Chairman of Trusts Corporation]

RT 17: Mr B Stasse [23] **RT 18:** Mr P Barton [23]

RT 19: Rev G Nicholson [17]

Convener: The Clerk of Assembly

Conciliation Committee

[3 Ministers and 3 Elders appointed annually, plus the Immediate Past Moderator of the Assembly as convener]

Ministers: Rev Dr R Carner [23], Rev P Orchard [17], Rev G Weber [19]

Elders: Mr V Vasiliades [23], Mr N Sharp [18], Mr B Downes [22]

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 17: Rev M Tegart [25] RT 18: Mr J Cawood [22] RT 19: Rev P Mercer [22] Convener: Rev P Owen [23]

Exit Students Committee

Convener of Ministry Development Committee, Ministry Development Officer, Principal of Presbyterian Theological College [or faculty representative], Convener of the Church Planting Committee [whenever a Church planting placement is being considered], Convener of the Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee [whenever a chaplaincy placement is being considered], a representative of each candidate's Presbytery

Convener: Convener of Ministry Development Committee

Health and Community Chaplaincy Committee

[10 Persons]

RT 17: Mrs L Garrett [25], Rev M Fagan [18], Rev C Le Page [18]

RT 18: Rev C Yat [24], Rev P Chang [22], Mrs T Orchard [17], Mrs A Robertson [19]

RT 19: Vacancy, Rev G Vayne [22], Rev P Court [22]

Convener: Rev M Fagan [18]

Maintenance Of The Ministry Committee

[6 Members]

RT 17: Rev M Crabb [21], Mr R Taylor [21] **RT 18:** Mr R Butcher [16], Mr D Wright [22] **RT 19:** Rev K Maxwell, Rev K Allen [21]

Convener: Mr D Wright [21]

METRO Committee

[7 Members]

RT 17: Rev C Le Page [19], Ms J Wort [24] **RT 18:** Rev H Easton [22], Rev T McIntosh [22] **RT 19:** Rev A Vines [24], Rev B Harvey [22]

Convener: Mr A May [17]

Ministry Development Committee

[6 Members, plus the Convener]

RT 17: Dr B Ellis [20], Rev M Wishart [23]

RT 18: Rev P Greiner [24], Rev G Vanderwert [22]

RT 19: Rev S Withers [25], Rev A Slater [23]

Convener: Rev I Hutton [21]

Safe Church Panel of Reference

[Safe Church Facilitator *ex officio*, 4 other members of the PCV, convener must not be the Safe Church Facilitator]

RT 17: Mrs K James [24]

RT 18: Mr C Craig [24], Mr G Hui [24]

RT 19: Rev B Harvey [24] Convener: Rev B Harvey [22]

Social Services Committee

[Convener and 9 Members]

RT 17: Mr T Cunneen [24], Miss R Strother [22], Mr G Hamilton [22]

RT 18: Mr B Miller [18], Mr D Gibb [19], Mrs R Rodgers [21] **RT 19:** Mr D Conradi [25], Rev G Lawry [25], Mr B Evans [21]

Convener: Mr R Lowe [15]

State News Committee

[2 Ministers and 2 Elders]

RT 17: Rev L Isham [24] **RT 18:** Rev N Harvey [18]

RT 19: Mr A Zirngast [22], Mr P Betts [19]

Convener: Rev L Isham [23]

Theological Education Committee

[10 Members, plus ex officio the Principal and another member of the Faculty]

RT 17: Mr F Diack [25], Rev G Nicholson [25], Rev N Benfell [23]

RT 18: Mr D Wright [24], Rev P Owen [23], Rev I H Barker [22], Mr C Manners [22]

RT 19: Rev S Jones [25], Rev P Mercer [24], Mr B Georges [22]

Convener: Rev N Benfell [22]

Commission for Church Institutions

The Moderator (chairman), Clerk of Assembly, Deputy Clerk, Business Convener, Law Agent, Rev Douglas Robertson, Ivan Barker, Andrew Bray, John Cho, Trevor Cox, Phil Daffy, Luke Isham, Graham Nicholson, Chris Siriweera, Graeme Weber and elder Dr Robert Baldock, with five members to form a quorum.

Selection Committee

Metro:

H Lim (18), R Carner (19), D Carroll (17), R Butcher (19), J Angelico (17)

Non-metro:

C Garrett (Convener) (19), N Harvey (17)

ad hoc Committee for the Merger of SSC and HCCC

Rev P Court (Convener), M Fagan, P Phillips, Mrs K James and Mr R Lowe

Other Positions

ACCESS Ministries
Rev G Lawry, Mrs A Thomas

CCAP Blantyre Synod Malawi

Trustee for Orbus: The Clerk of Assembly

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

Leaders 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

[2 PCV, 1 PWMU + Convener (alternates between PCV & UCA Victoria/Tasmania)]

PWMU: Vacancy

GAV: Mrs C Closter, Mrs T Assender

Convener: Uniting Church appointee this time

St Andrews Foundation

Mrs M Conradi, Rev R O'Brien, Mr C Morrow

Multifaith Advisory Group Representative

Rev G Bradbeer

[Appointee to report to Assembly through the Church and Nation Committee]

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