

ST PETER'S EASTERN HILL

*Diocese of Melbourne - Anglican Church of Australia
Parish Church of the City since 1846*



ANNUAL REPORT - 2019

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Parish Governance Act 2013:
Schedule 1 (3.4)

Notice of Statutory Parish Meeting
Parish of St Peter, Melbourne

to be held on Sunday 24 November 2019
at 11:45am in the Parish Hall.



2019 ANNUAL MEETING - AGENDA

1. Convening of Meeting: acknowledgment of country and prayer
2. Attendance and Apologies
3. Tabling of 2019 Parish Electoral Roll
4. Minutes of 2018 Annual Meeting and Matters Arising
5. Special Reports and Invited Guests: (a) Pastoral Care Review, Shirley Nash
(b) Foundation Report & Feasibility Study, Krystyna Campbell-Pretty
6. Election: Parish Wardens
7. Vicar's Report
8. Parish Council and Churchwardens' Report, including: (a) Summary Report on Parish Support Process (b) Parish Council "Reflections" paper.
9. Treasurer's Report - 2018/19 Accounts & Budget (currently unaudited)
10. Reports by Other Parish Groups - tabled for discussion
11. Motion: Response to Wangaratta Synod Decision
12. General Business:
13. Appointments: Wardens, PC, Incumbency, Auditor
14. Close

The Rev'd Dr Hugh Kempster - Vicar and Chair of the Annual Meeting
Dr Stephen Duckett - Chair of Parish Council
Nick Browne - Secretary of Parish Council



Parish of St Peter, Melbourne

Minutes of Annual Meeting held
on Sunday 25th November 2018

in the Parish Hall.



1. Convening of Meeting and Prayer:

The meeting opened with prayer and an acknowledgment of country at 12.04 pm.

2. Attendance List & Apologies:

Present:

- Nicholas Browne
- Catherine McGovern,
- Stephen Duckett
- Rwth Stuckey,
- Daniel Ferguson,
- Kay Perugia,
- Craig Wilson,
- Bruce Kellett,
- Natalie Kellett,
- Peter Ondaatje,
- Katherine Barnett,
- Daniel Mitterdofer,
- Ree Boddé,
- Anne Scott Pendlebury,
- Geoffrey Wratten,
- Alae Taule'alo,
- Andrew Raiskums,
- Fr Philip Gill,
- Rachel Ellyard,
- Susan Southall,
- Helena Hughes,
- Fr Greg Davies,
- John Sturgess,
- Eleanor Newton,
- Lien Giang,
- Richard Holland,
- Peter Bryce,
- Guy Churchman,
- David Sprigs,

- Peter Yewers,
- Diane Clark,
- Fr Davie Peake,
- Rachel Rei,
- Stuart Hibberd,
- Warren Collins,
- Margaret Collins,
- Paul Jones,
- Geoff Sutherland,
- Margaret Sutherland,
- Jenneth Sasse,
- Rhonda Mach,
- Adam Blackmore,
- Helen Drummond
- Yanpu Zhang,
- Caroline Rutherford,
- Barbara-Anne Tané,
- Peter Wild,
- Carol O'Connor,
- Christopher Martin,
- David Aspin,
- Kelly Shang,
- Judith Chapman

Apologies: Paul Anderson, Rhys Arvidson, Carol Barnett, Peter Barnett, Gil Best, Dawn Best, Krystyna Campbell-Pretty, Cheryl Duff, Peter Griffin, Russell Horney, Nick Lambarde-Scott, Terry Porter, Liz Prideaux, Peter Prideaux, Antony Schepis, Terri Swan, John Taaff, Sue Wuttke

The apologies were noted

3. Minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting

3.1. Minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Moved: Nick Browne; Seconded: Di Clark; Carried.

3.2. Matters arising: None

4. Tabling of the Parish Electoral Roll

The Parish Electoral Roll was tabled

5. Vicar's Report:

Fr Hugh tabled and spoke to his printed report (See Annual Report 2018). Key points were reflections on the conclusion of the three year mission action plan.

- 5.1. Catholic Evangelism, especially the building of our 'public facing' ministry. Key events included Corpus Christi and Armistice Day. Corner Plaza and coffee cart will reinforce this.
- 5.2. Pastoral Care. Finances have meant that we have been unable to provide the level of stipendiary priestly ministry and care that we have offered in the past. The Vicar acknowledged the work of:
- Di Clark as coordinator of the pastoral care committee,
 - those offering the ministry of communion by extension.
 - Rhonda Mach and the other welcomers.
 - Alae Taule'alo and the RMIT Chaplaincy.
 - Carol O'Connor and the bookroom volunteers.

The reality of the church today is that all parishioners need to be pastoral care givers.

- 5.3. Children and Young People. The Vicar acknowledged the work of:
- Katherine Barnett and the children's ministry team, as well as Colleen Clayton and Lynda Crossley.
- 5.4. Anglo-Catholic Tradition. The Vicar acknowledged the work of:
- Peter Bryce as Head Server and the serving team
 - Andrew Raiskums, Sue Wuttke, Rhys Arvidson and the music team and choir.
- 5.5. Faith Development. We hope to build on the work previously done by Bp Graeme. The Vicar acknowledged the work of:
- Fr Greg Davies and the EfM partnership
 - Carol O'Connor for the recent retreat and the Advent program
 - Nick Browne and the ISS Committee
- 5.6. Social Justice. The Vicar acknowledged the work of:
- Helen Drummond and Krystyna Campbell-Pretty for the recent Foundation fundraiser,
 - Looking forward to the development of the social enterprise with the corner plaza.
- 5.7. Stewardship. We are an active church with numerous programs, but it is difficult to make ends meet. The Vicar acknowledged the work of:
- Catherine McGovern for her stint as Treasurer.
- 5.8. Governance. We are sitting on the 'edge' between two models of church: the pastoral model and the program model.
- 5.9. Volunteer of the Year: Fr Hugh presented his certificate of volunteer of the year to Rachel Rai.

6. Parish Council and Churchwardens Report.

Stephen Duckett tabled and spoke to the report on behalf of the wardens and parish council. (See Annual Report 2018)

6.1. David Spriggs facilitated a parish council planning day, which formed the basis of the parish council's work this year.

6.2. Amid lots of positives, including outreach and children's ministry, we have one significant problem in the continued financial deficit.

6.3. Friction earlier in the year around our responsibilities to the homeless and to other parishioners and users of the site was a difficult period. Geoff Sutherland suggested that photos of key people could be included in the report. Kay Perugia suggested that people need to be introduced. Stephen Duckett praised the work of Rhonda Mach and Di Clark, in particular, in introducing new parishioners. Rachel Ellyard suggested that it is everyone's responsibility to welcome newcomers. Ree Boddé inquired about how the parish council is addressing the financial issues strategically. Catherine McGovern advised that work is being done on:

- expenditure authorities
- maintenance and property audit

6.4. *The wardens' and parish council report was accepted. Moved: Warren Collins; Seconded: Rachel Ellyard; Carried.*

7. Treasurer's Report:

7.1. *Catherine McGovern presented the 2016-17 audited accounts. The accounts were accepted. Moved: Catherine McGovern; Seconded: Helen Drummond; Carried.*

7.2. Carol O'Connor praised the work of the new auditor.

7.3. Catherine McGovern presented the 2017-18 accounts.

- Given the \$42,500 grant for the roof, our "real" deficit is around \$62,000.
- Offertory 'tilted' down during the second half of the year. It was only 85% of the forecast budget.
- Donations were above forecast.
- Bookroom figures lower than normal.
- Investment and dividend income down on prediction, but this is due to scheduling of dividends.
- Property costs were under budget – but this was due to not doing some things. Parish Council will be working on maintenance and expenditure audit.
- Costs in music ministry being reviewed.
- Did not sell shares this year, but we will need to do so next year.

- Over the last four years, assets have gone backward.
- 7.4. *The accounts were accepted. Moved: Catherine McGovern; Seconded: Stephen Duckett; Carried.*
- 7.5. Catherine McGovern presented the 2018-19 budget
- This is a ‘tough’ budget.
 - Will take a lot of work to ensure that the budget is delivered upon.
 - Diocesan decisions:
 - We are no longer allowed to depreciate physical assets.
 - Diocese has discovered that a lot of churches are underinsured.
 - This results in an additional \$31,000 costs.
 - We have cut clergy numbers, increased office rental in order try to repair the budget.
- 7.6. Kay Perugia enquired about fire prevention and mitigation. The wardens advised that all required equipment is in place.
- 7.7. David Spriggs observed that offertory has gone down while donations to the Foundation have gone up.
- 7.8. Ree Boddé enquired if we can negotiate the insurance bill with the diocese. This is unlikely given the diocesan budget deficit.
- 7.9. Geoff Sutherland enquired about the possibility of an Op Shop. Catherine advised that St Mark’s Fitzroy have ‘cornered’ the market and are, nevertheless, having issues with staffing.
- 7.10. In response to an enquiry by Geoff Sutherland, Carol O’Connor suggested that the book fair was a success this year due to volunteer contributions. She suggested that we look at more parish fundraising events, both to build community and assist with funding ministry.
- 7.11. Daniel Ferguson made some comments based on his experience as a parishioner in Sydney. He observed that the Sydney diocese takes 28% of parish income and suggested that St Peter’s is doing an outstanding job with our more limited resources.
- 7.12. Rachel Ellyard suggested that we need to see ourselves as contributors rather than consumers of ‘church’ and asked if any research has been done into the drop off of offertory. Fr Hugh suggested that giving to the foundation and the corner plaza, as well as the loss of some parishioners. Stephen Duckett suggested that the growth in specified donations – which have gone up – may explain some.

7.13. Helen Drummond asked all parishioners to consider ideas for fundraising and suggested a plant sale as one idea.

7.14. *The budget was accepted. Moved: Catherine McGovern; Seconded: Eleanor Loughnan Newton; Carried.*

8. Reports by other parish groups. Reports were tabled in the Annual Report 2018.

8.1. Flowers: Adam Blackmore proposed a vote of thanks to Donna Fiegert. Seconded Rachel Ellyard. Carried by acclamation.

8.2. Servers: Peter Bryce commended the Servers' Guild report and advised that more volunteers were needed.

8.3. Children's Ministry: Katherine Barnett advised that the children's ministry is becoming more diverse and, especially with Colleen Clayton moving on, more volunteers are need to help with this ministry. Helen Drummond suggested that the challenge of providing for older children is an issue that has existed in the past.

8.4. Bookroom Outreach: Carol O'Connor advised that St Peter's has a positive profile represented when she attends functions with the Bookroom.

8.5. Catholic Identity: Guy Churchman suggested more attendance at Evensong and Benediction.

8.6. Social Enterprise: Ree Boddé thanked volunteers for the social enterprise.

8.7. *The reports of parish were accepted. Moved: Catherine McGovern; Seconded: Daniel Ferguson; Carried.*

9. Elections and appointments:

9.1. There being no other nominations, Nick Lambarde-Scott and Rwth Stuckey were elected as wardens.

9.2. There being no other nominations, Nicholas Browne, Helen Drummond, Rachel Ellyard, William Southey, David Spriggs, Peter Wild and Peter Yewers were elected as members of parish council.

9.3. Bruce Kellett was nominated for one of the two vacancies on the Incumbency Committee. As there was one unfilled vacancy, Carol O'Connor was nominated from the chair. Carried by acclamation.

9.4. The Vicar advised that Stephen Duckett has accepted his nomination as Vicar's

warden and that he has the right of nomination of a further three parish council members.

9.5. *Catherine McGovern moved the re-appointment of Yates Partners as auditors. Seconded Rwth Stuckey. Carried.*

10. General Business

10.1. Kay Perugia proposed a vote of thanks to Caroline Rutherford for the provision of lunch. Carried by acclamation.

11. Close.

The meeting closed with Grace at 1.20 pm

Parish Statistics : for the year ended 30th September 2019

	2018-19	2017-18
Number of public services held (excl. weddings, funerals etc)	581	600
Number of public Sunday services held	205	212
Number of public services held in residential facilities	0	0
Total yearly attendance at all public services	11,383	11,990
Total yearly attendance at all Sunday services	7,389	7,909
Total number of acts of Communion in public services	9,182	9,794
Total number of Sunday Acts of Communion	6,346	6,853
Total other Acts of Communion (incl. hospital, homes etc)	111	103
Total attendance at Christmas Day / Eve services	363	414
Total number of Acts of Communion at Christmas Day / Eve services	346	367
Total attendance at Easter Day / Eve	236	301
Total acts of Communion at Easter Day / Eve services	226	288
Number on the Church Electoral Roll presented at Annual Parish Meeting	111	116
Total number of Baptisms	12	11
Number of children admitted to Holy Communion	1	2
Number of persons (non-children) admitted to Anglican Communion	0	0
Number of confirmations	10	5
Number of funerals	8	11
Number of marriages conducted in the churches of the parish	7	6
Number of marriages conducted elsewhere	1	0
No. of continuing home / small groups	5	6
Total no. of persons in continuing home/small groups	102	111
Est. frequent attenders: pre-school	3	4
Est. frequent attenders: primary	12	12
Est. frequent attenders: secondary	5	4
Est. frequent attenders: post secondary (under 25)	6	7

Parish Council Attendance 2018-19

Name	18/12/18	16/01/19	13/03/19	27/03/19	24/04/19	19/06/19	19/08/19	25/09/19	19/10/19	Total
Stephen Duckett	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Nick Lambarde-Scott	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Rwth Stuckey	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	7
Nick Browne	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	5
Helen Drummond	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Rachel Ellyard	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	8
William Southey	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
David Spriggs	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	5
Peter Wild	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Peter Yewers	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	7

Vicar's Report

A grandmother was talking to her grandson about the struggles in life, and particularly getting along with others. She said, "I sometimes feel as if I have two wolves fighting in my heart. One wolf is the vengeful, angry, violent one. The other wolf is the loving, compassionate one." The grandson asked her, "Which wolf will win the fight in your heart?"

*The grandmother answered, "The one I feed
(e-mailed to me recently by a colleague)*

A new decade stands before us; and we stand at a very real juncture as a parish. The past ten years have seen a sharp decline in Anglican Church attendance in Australia, and around the world. Parishes are closing. Some Dioceses are even edging towards non-viability. We are not immune at St Peter's. Costs skyrocket and our parish-giving no longer covers the costs of a full-time Vicar and our Music Ministry, let alone the numerous other staff and expenses required to run a parish such as ours. Business as usual is simply not an option. In the words of Bishop Jack Spang: we must change or die.

In last year's Vicar's report to the Annual Meeting, I wrote frankly about the underlying divisions in our parish. Sadly these words took on a harsh reality soon afterwards, and what was to be a year of planning for mission in a new decade, became a year of civil war. The Bishop's Parish Support Process has assisted us in working through the conflict, and in recent months the Parish Council and others in parish leadership have begun to establish solid pathways towards healing and unity; although we are all very aware that there is still much to be done. And to state the obvious, fighting with each other does nothing for church growth!

As you can imagine, I have reflected deeply and agonised prayer over this conflict. It is easy for me to blame others, and no doubt for others to blame me as Vicar (I love Sir John Betjeman's poem on this topic: "Blame the Vicar"). But I think entering into the blame game is missing the point. The roots of the current dissent in our parish lie more in the unavoidable realities of change and its power dynamics. If we are to move forward with confidence into the next decade, and continue to be a leading Anglo-Catholic parish, we must find better ways of changing and growing together.

Ironically, this year of conflict has also been a year of remarkable fruition for our parish. On Sunday 10th November, after years of planning, fundraising and implementation, the Lord Mayor of Melbourne opened St Peter's Place, the French Ambassador to Australia laid a wreath at the rededicated Wayside Cross, and the former Governor-General and Primate of Australia blessed the Place, the Cross and "Heaven at The Hill" social enterprise. Parishioner and renowned historian, Professor Emeritus Will Johnston, has written so eruditely about the profound significance of this recent event, and has kindly given me permission to share his words with you. They are for all of us.

Dear Father Hugh,

This will add my thoughts to the many that you have no doubt received after the dedication on Sunday. I have seldom attended a culminating celebration where every speaker played such a rich and meaningful part.

In particular the conjunction of three generations stirred me. Bishop Hollingworth, who always seems to rise to an occasion, represented the older generation of those whose fathers and grandfathers made the sacrifice we were commemorating. The Bishop's concluding prayer was exceptionally beautiful and deserves to be reprinted in a parish bulletin or indeed in Apostrophe together with all the speeches. The Lord Mayor, the Ambassador, Krystyna Campbell-Pretty, and you represented the middle generation who put in herculean efforts to

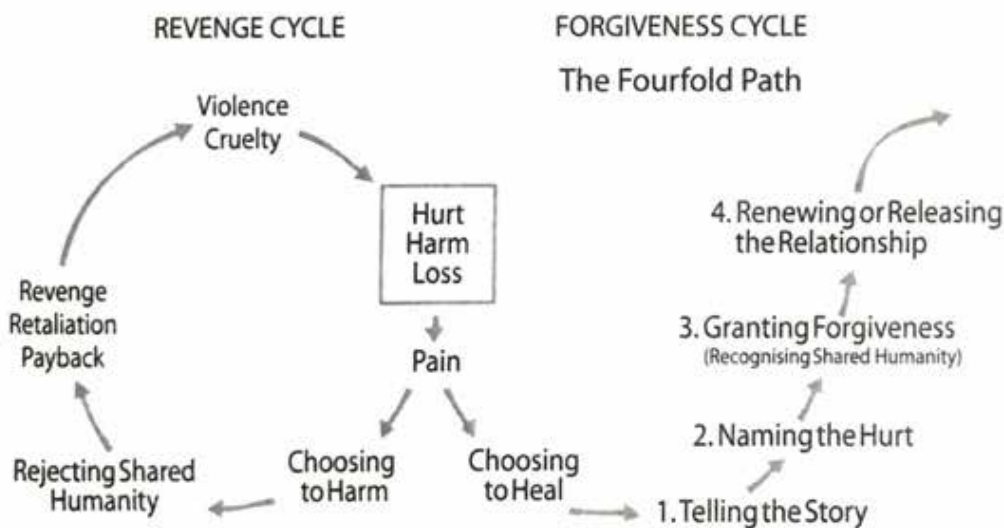
make [St Peter's Place] a reality. The three speakers all emphasized the goal of reaching out into the wider community and bridging differences of very sort. The focus on the baristas of the coffee cart evoked the rising generation, for whom the [Place] delivers new opportunities and awakens new ambitions.

Nor was this conjunction of generations the whole story. The Lord Mayor's story of walking the fields of the Somme and seeing their wayside crosses so like ours brought that scene and its pathos into our presence. So did her quotation from the French Prime Minister's address there a year ago. It is moving to realize that our cross encapsulates the spirituality of that landscape. The presence of the French Ambassador reminded us that events far larger than those of our lives hovered over this occasion . . . This site embodies a little piece of Northern France. How many people know that?

Finally the ceremony expressed gratitude to the very many planners, donors, and builders of [St Peter's Place] while at the same time commemorating our parish ancestors and pledging to build a meaningful future for all. Thus past, present, and future came together in this rare moment of liturgical time. You and our entire parish have every reason to take pride in this accomplishment. More than just a lovely example of urban design, the plaza carries our hopes and prayers out into the community and forward into the future.

Congratulations on behalf of everyone!
Will Johnston

We have amply proven that we can change at St Peter's, despite the fears and nay-saying of so many. As we go through more change we will undoubtedly get better at it. There really is no choice, if we are to survive beyond the next decade as a viable, let alone a leading Anglo-Catholic parish, we cannot rest on our laurels. The 2020s must be a time of ongoing change and creative mission outreach for St Peter's. You will need to choose your leaders accordingly; both lay and ordained. And we really must stop the in-fighting, rather putting energy into finding more mature and life-giving ways of resolving our differences, and embracing the future together. As a Parish, two years ago, we read together Desmond and Mpho Tutu, *The Book of Forgiving: the fourfold path for healing ourselves and our world* (William Collins, 2014).



It is worth reminding ourselves of this powerful teaching on forgiveness, born from the hard-earned experience of leading change, truth-telling, and eventually reconciliation for an entire nation. Many of us in the parish were stuck in the revenge cycle for much of 2019. Dare I say it, some of us are still. I must confess, I myself still feel the pain of hurts that parishioners, and even some staff members, have inflicted on my wife and me, and on others in the leadership team, over a number of years. There have been weeks when I have had to choose and rechoose the four-fold path over the revenge cycle; sometimes several times a day. The cry of our Patron Saint comes to mind: *Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.* Matt. 18:21-22

I would like to close my report this year with the wise words of Desmond and Mpho Tutu. Please take them to heart. Allow them to shape the way you relate to one another. Pray that they may shape the leadership of our parish at this time of elections for Wardens and Parish Council, and the appointment of committee chairs. And may we all as a parish strive to walk together along the fourfold path, into a flourishing future that God has prepared for us.

*You have stood at this junction before
You will stand at this junction again
And if you pause you can ask yourself
Which way to turn
You can turn away from your own sadness
And run the race named revenge
You will run that tired track again and again*

*Or you can admit your own pain
And walk the path that ends
In this direction lies freedom, my friend
I can show you where hope and wholeness make their homes
But you can't push past your anguish on your way there
To find the path to peace
You will have to meet your pain
And speak its name.*





Church Wardens' Report

Strife and dissension has been a feature of Christian churches since the earliest days of our faith (see 1 and 2 Corinthians). We are admonished to look to that is true and right (Philippians 4:8).

There are many good things about St Peter's which we all celebrate - the teaching, the music, the liturgy, the fellowship and the outreach. Some put greater weight on some aspects of that list than others, but that is what brings us together.

There were many things to celebrate in 2019. At the start of the church year we farewelled our two beloved Klingner scholars, Colleen Clayton and Lynda Crossley. They were both ordained as deacons and went on to other parishes, although Lynda has partially returned as part of the EfM group. The Klingner scholarship is an extremely valuable part of St Peter's outreach and contribution to the Catholic tradition. We should all give thanks for the foresight and generosity of Harold Klinger in making the bequest that makes the scholarships possible. God willing, Colleen and Lynda will be ordained as priests this coming year. We also welcomed Brenda Williams and Paul Daniels as the scholars this year and assisted in their journey towards ordination and development of their liturgical, pastoral and teaching skills.

2019 also marked the first full year of what is developing as a key part of our outreach - the chaplaincy program at RMIT. Alae Taule'alo serves in the chaplaincy team there and has reported on successes of that program separately.

In August we saw the start of the Coffee Caravan, a path into employment to help give people a hand up, as well as a great place for coffee! It is already getting return customers and contributing significantly to the finances of the parish. Thanks to Dr Ree Boddé for her leadership in this development.

On the property side we have completed the Corner Plaza which is now the daily home of the Coffee Caravan. The Wayside Cross has been renovated and restored. We have commissioned and received a Planned Maintenance Programme from CBRE, so that we now know what we have to do to look after our lovely buildings. We have set in motion the necessary steps for the renewal of our leaky hall roof. And we have acted for the Foundation to carry out their commission to prepare a Feasibility Study for the Lazarus extension, by covering in the courtyard between the church and the hall with a glass roof.

In terms of finances, 2019 was the first year for over a decade that we haven't sold shares to keep the Parish afloat, we're not out of financial difficulty yet but this is a remarkable achievement. Total offertory plus tax-deductible donations to the choir is up on last year too. And, thanks to parishioner generosity and a big grant from the state government, we have completed reslating the church roof. But 2019 was a tough year for the parish. At the start of the calendar year, a series of parish issues led the Wardens to make difficult decisions in a number of matters including those about tenancy in Keble House which resulted in division and hurt. This led to a special meeting of the parish and Bishop Genevieve established a support team for the parish. Parish council had a number of meetings to discuss this issue and agreed on a statement which is tabled at the annual meeting. We are grateful that there is so much in the parish which unites us and is helping the parish work through the issues which divide us.

On a brighter note we are thankful for all those who gave so generously of their time to help the parish function - including the various ministries reported on for the annual meeting. We would like to single out Peter Bryce in particular who steps down this year as head server. Peter has made an outstanding contribution in ensuring a high quality liturgy in all our services and Feast Days over many decades, and we are very pleased that he will continue serving, hopefully for many years to come. Thanks also to Fr Hugh and other clergy for their friendship, teaching and ministry during the year.

Stephen Duckett (Vicar's warden Vicar's Warden on behalf of the other wardens)

Bishop's Parish Support Team Report

Bishop Blackwell invited the Parish of St Peters, Eastern Hill to accept the assistance of a Parish Support Team in light of the Statutory meeting held in March 2019 and all that led up to it. This acceptance was given at a Parish Council meeting in April and the team began work in early May. The role of the team was to assist and empower the parish to deal well with its own conflict. There had been tensions in the parish and some issues requiring inter-personal mediation in 2018. The Archdeacon had facilitated a discussion on these matters in December 2018. However, events in January to March 2019 regarding changes in onsite tenancies at Keble House had brought issues to a head and resulted in concern and some conflicts across the parish council and congregation leading to a Statutory meeting of the parish. The parish support team has held interview and/or discussion meetings with the vicar on several occasions, the wardens as a group on several occasions, the parish council on several occasions and a number of meetings/phone calls with several leadership or staff members. Additionally, small group meetings were advertised for parishioners to attend. Three meetings were held with a total of 19 parishioners in attendance. While written submissions were not requested, these have been also received from a number of parishioners. Following our meetings, we noted that there was very strong agreement across all groups on what is valued at St Peters –

- Anglo Catholic worship, liturgy, music and tradition.
- Strong community – fellowship, hospitality, growing together
- Social Inclusiveness
- Social Justice – homeless work and charity.

Similarly, while the perspective on the key issues varied considerably, there was reasonable agreement on what the issues actually are -

Decisions on the Keble House tenancy were seen strongly as the triggering issue and this was expressed with significant vigour.

- The relationship between the Vicar and his partner with the Keble House tenants and some staff members are also perceived to be at the hub of the issues. There is a level of opposition to the Vicar's partner borne out of these issues and a perception that this presents the Vicar with an inherent conflict.
- Concerns have also been expressed by some parishioners around management of the onsite ministries to the homeless, adherence to policies and the impact on the church community.
- Underlying issues around role clarity and understanding of current parish governance and codes of conduct are also apparent.
- Behaviour which has damaged relationships and unresolved interpersonal issues within leadership and staff were both also seen as significant issues.

The Parish Council has some constructive steps already underway -

- o A review of pastoral care in the church
 - o Update of role and responsibility work is planned for 2020.
- and had suggested some other possible steps to take as follows –
- o Need whole of parish governance clarity – our observation is that awareness and knowledge of the current Parishes Governance Act, Child Safe and Faithfulness in Service policies seems quite sparse.
 - o Consider a covenant of agreed behaviour for Parish Council / Leadership.

These are good, practical things to do and address some of the knowledge and context issues at St Peters, however they don't directly address the core relational issues demonstrated by the Keble House decision.

The narratives on Keble House and related issues are various and strongly held, with different versions of the facts and motivations believed. This issue has resulted in grief, hurt or anger with

many parishioners. Some have withdrawn at least partly from the life of the church. Given these facts and with the Sacristan and his partner having left the parish and the city, it doesn't seem possible or indeed constructive to revisit the details of the Keble House issue in order to try to establish some common ground.

Further meetings were held with the wardens, parish council and vicar to discuss constructive approaches. The strong agreement by all groups on what is valued at St Peters is a key anchor point and seems to provide a shared basis to move ahead. It was also clearly acknowledged that this will require both gracious and intentional effort to put the past issues behind and focus on working for the future of St Peters.

Following this discussion, members of parish council drafted a reflection which seeks to acknowledge and build on this approach. After extensive discussion, this statement was agreed by all at the October parish council meeting.

Given the level of concern expressed by many in the congregation, this direction may be difficult to accept for some. It seems wise to consider how specific pastoral support from within the congregation can be enhanced as people work through these issues.

Parish Council “Reflections” - A discussion paper on the Parish Support Process

This year has been a very painful one for many in the St Peters community. There has been conflict and counter-conflict. There have been divisions and confrontations. There are some who have left us or who are withdrawing from our shared life together. There are others who have remained but feel a sense of loss or diminishment of what once was.

There has been poor behaviour. People have been hurt, and for some that pain continues to be very present. Some have felt unsafe or unwelcome. Many have been affected by the pain of others.

We are not unique in going through this season of division. We know that Christian communities have had divisions right from the earliest days, as Paul’s letters attest. But ‘hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy’ (the list is a subset of that in Galatians 5: 19-21) cannot exist in a healthy Christian community.

Many of us had a chance to talk to the support team appointed by Bishop Genieve. The team has given us the opportunity to reflect on what it is that we value as a community. We all love St Peter’s. For some it is the liturgy, for some it is the expression of Christ’s love we see in our breakfast program, for others it is because St Peter’s is an inclusive church, for some we have made friends here - friends with whom we can laugh and exchange stories. For some it may be all of these things.

The support team, though, is just that - a team to support us as we move through the process, not to be a magic panacea. Only we as a community, clerical and lay, leadership and congregation, can solve these problems.

The discussions at Parish Council on these issues have been hard and in some cases, emotional. We will never be able to resolve our competing views of what has happened in the past. What we are recognising, however, is that, as hard as it may be, to move forward, as move forward we must, we need to emphasise that which unites us, rather than dwell on that which divides us. We are at St Peter’s, rather than some other parish, for a reason. There is indeed much which unites us.

We are not pretending the events of the past year did not happen. We do not expect anyone who has felt anger or pain or loss to ignore those feelings. They must be acknowledged. But we have concluded that dwelling on those conflicts and differences will not be healthy.

And we want to be a healthy community. We want to be part of the Body of Christ, to be a tree bearing good fruit. This means, as hard as it is, that we must forgive each other, leave our disagreements where they sit, and move forward beyond them.

The support team saw that in their conversations with us. It is our view that the next steps do truly need to be those which unite us. We need to focus on the future – on developing a mission action plan as required by the diocese, and on having more conversations with each other, at Parish Council and among the broader parish leadership team, about next steps. Those steps need to include significant improvements in our governance arrangements so that we can avoid some of the process issues which have been at the centre of many of this year’s difficulties. It might include more formal reconciliation processes to assist in the process of forgiveness and rebuilding. We need spaces in which we can constructively disagree and processes to ensure that small problems are resolved before they become large ones. We need to have conversations about these steps and then take them together.

And so we are committed to moving forward, together. We commit ourselves to caring for each other, both for those we love and for those we find hard to love, and to finding ways to make those commitments a reality.

Finance Report - 2019

Revenue in 2018-19

Offertory (item 4110) has continued a gradual decline to \$132 006, which is 14% below budget. During 2018-19 this has been offset by sharp increases in sundry church income (item 4130) from once-off general and specific purpose donations. If offertory and general donations are combined the budgetary shortfall reduces to 5% and if all donations are included the total exceeds budget by 11%.

Grants revenue (item 4120) has been much higher this year due to payments from the Charitable Foundation for St Peter's Place and Wayside Cross. If this is excluded, revenue is 3% under budget. Apart from donations already discussed, sundry church income (item 4120) includes income from the Australian Anglican Church Calendar (item 4151) of \$33,192. Excluding the calendar and donations, revenue for sundry church income was 2% under budget.

Rental property (item 4210) has a revenue of \$193,542, 3% above budget. The Bookroom sales in 2018-19 were \$157 262 (item 4221). This now includes \$7 512 from the book fair which was not shown in the budget figures. Adjusting for this there was a 10% drop in sales. This reduction in sales has been most noticeable in books (10%) and of sanctuary supplies (16%) where nearly half the decrease can be explained by reduced expenditure sanctuary worship supplies by St Peter's (item 6232).

Dividends, interest and other (item 4230) were lower than in the past or in the budget, both for external investments (item 4235) and Anglican funds distributions (item 4236) resulting in a shortfall of 22% on the budget of \$88 625

The gross profit for 2018-19 is \$1 097 135 much of which is due to grants – legacies and trusts (item 4123) for St Peter's Place and Wayside Cross. Removing this item, the gross profit is 0.5% above the budget estimate.

Expenses in 2018-19

Clergy costs (item 6110) are considerably above budget mostly due to the employment of the Lay Minister / RMIT Senior Chaplain (item 6111), offset by revenue in Grants – clergy related (item 4124). Employee costs (item 6245) were 5% under budget largely as a result of well controlled costs of sessional choristers and musicians (item 6250).

Other parish support costs (item 6250) were 2% under budget primarily because assessments paid to the diocese were significantly over budgeted by 31%. This is balanced by unbudgeted costs for the Australian Anglican Church Calendar, which are offset by additional revenue from sales of calendars (item 4151).

Property costs (item 6310) is dominated by St Peter's Place and Wayside Cross under Property Projects – General (item 6334). Despite warnings from the diocese, Parish Insurance Premiums (item 6336) were 40% under budget.

Budget net ordinary income was \$56 484 deficit but the actual was \$70 005. This was largely due to expenses incurred to repair to the church roof.

Balance sheet

Total equity is effectively constant at \$1.800 million. No shares were sold during 2019-20 through reallocation of funds and deferral of payments. It will be necessary to sell shares during 2019-20.

Budget 2019-20

In the absence of an agreed mission plan, it has been assumed that the operations of the parish will remain largely the same in the coming year. The Budget 2019-20 thus generally follows budget execution for 2018-19. The estimated net ordinary income is \$40 618 deficit.

The comments which follow focus on material differences from 2018-19 actual amounts.

Budgeted revenue 2019-20

Offertory (item 4110). The budget posits that some donation revenue will move into offertory it reasonable that in 2019-20 offertory will recover to the actual level or 2017-18, with compensating decreases in general and specific donations.

Property (item 4210). Assuming that existing rents remain at their present level, property rental is expected to increase in 2019-20 with an additional \$12 000 in revenue from the Social Enterprise.

Budgeted expense 2019-20

Clergy costs (item 6110): Approximately \$14 000 in Locum and Casual Stipends (item 6131) allows for additional clergy support, focussing on pastoral care, for 1 day per week.

It is envisaged extensive maintenance that the hall roof will be necessary, but this is contingent funding by third parties.

Going forward

St Peter's continues to run a substantial structural deficit which while manageable in the short-run is not sustainable in the medium-term

St Peter's needs to maintain and strengthen the control of expenses achieved during 2018-19. The revenue base, both offertory, grants and commercial, needs to be augmented.

Crucial is the consultative development of an agreed and distinctive mission for St Peter's is a priority. This is essential to effectiveness in ministry and to inform our stewardship of resources, including through the annual budget.

The Parish Council commends Budget 2019-20 to the Annual Meeting.

Peter Wild - Treasurer

St Peter's 2018- 2019 Actual vs Budget with 2019-2020 Budget Projection

	Actual 2018-19	Budget 2018-19	Over budget	Budget 2019-20
Ordinary Income/Expense			-	
Income			-	
4000 · Income			-	
4100 · Revenue from Church Ministries			-	
4110 · Offertory			-	
4111 · Offertory - Pledged	34,547	41,766	(7,219)	37,700
4112 · Offertory - Open Collection	58,714	65,004	(6,290)	56,700
4113 · ADF Planned Giving	38,745	47,492	(8,747)	43,200
Total 4110 · Offertory	132,006	154,262	(22,256)	137,600
4120 · Donations & Grants			-	
4123 · Grants - Legacies & Trusts	353,847	30,000	323,847	36,000
4124 · Grants - Clergy Related	143,455	145,000	(1,545)	145,000
4125 · Grants - Court	3,500	6,000	(2,500)	1,000
Total 4120 · Donations & Grants	500,802	181,000	319,802	182,000
4130 · Sundry Church Income			-	
4133 · Events & Hospitality	19,686	37,000	(17,314)	20,000
4135 · Weddings & Funerals	17,500	14,000	3,500	16,000
4136 · Christian Seminars & Courses	-	600	(600)	500
4140 · Donations-General	24,653	10,000	14,653	25,000
4145 · Donations - Specified	30,572	4,000	26,572	15,000
4150 · Flowers Income	4,004	5,250	(1,246)	4,000
4151 · AACC Income	33,192	13,000	20,192	33,200
4155 · Children & Youth	-	500	(500)	500
Total 4130 · Sundry Church Income	129,607	84,350	45,257	114,200
Total 4100 · Revenue from Church Ministries	762,414	419,612	342,802	433,800
4200 · Commercial Income			-	
4210 · Property			-	
4211 · Hall Rent from Non Related Org	41,986	37,000	4,986	42,000
4212 · Other Rent - Non Related Org	149,548	145,500	4,048	150,000
4213 · Rent - Hot Dish	2,008	6,000	(3,992)	3,000
4213 · Rent - St Peter's Social Enterprise I	-	-	-	12,000
Total 4210 · Property	193,542	188,500	5,042	207,000
4220 · Bookroom			-	
4221 · Bookroom Sales	157,262	166,287	(9,025)	156,000
Total 4220 · Bookroom	157,262	166,287	(9,025)	156,000
4230 · Dividends, Interest & Other			-	
4231 · ADF Interest	712	400	312	500
4233 · Bank & Other Interest	75	150	(75)	150
4235 · Dividend External Investments	59,304	80,000	(20,696)	60,000
4236 · Ang Funds Distributions	9,141	8,000	1,141	10,000
4240 · Other	-	75	(75)	-
4260 · Insurance Recoveries	-	-	-	-
Total 4230 · Dividends, Interest & Other	69,232	88,625	(19,393)	70,650
Total 4200 · Commercial Income	420,036	443,412	(23,376)	433,650
Total 4000 · Income	1,182,450	863,024	319,426	867,450
Total Income	1,182,450	863,024	319,426	867,450
Cost of Goods Sold			-	
5000 · Cost of Sales			-	
5141 · Bookroom Cost of Sales	85,315	93,104	(7,789)	88,000
Total 5000 · Cost of Sales	85,315	93,104	(7,789)	88,000
Total COGS	85,315	93,104	(7,789)	88,000

St Peter's 2018- 2019 Actual vs Budget with 2019-2020 Budget Projection (continued)

Gross Profit	1,097,135	769,920	327,216	779,450
Expense			-	
6000 · Expenses			-	
6100 · Church Ministry Costs			-	
6110 · Clergy Costs			-	
6111 · ASLM- Salaries	55,810	28,507	27,303	57,678
6112 · ASLM Benefits Account	27,302	27,302	-	27,141
6113 · ALSM - Superannuation	7,896	7,896	0	5,650
6121 · Clergy -Stipends	91,787	91,787	0	92,595
6122 · Clergy - Fringe Benefits	57,296	56,503	793	60,768
6123 · Clergy - Superannuation	18,504	18,504	0	17,619
6131 · Locum & Casual Clergy Stipends	953	413	540	15,850
6134 · Clergy - Long Service Leave	1,548	2,949	(1,401)	1,500
6135 · Sickness & Accident Insurance	572	1,080	(508)	500
6136 · Stipend Continuance Insurance	863	1,784	(921)	900
6141 · Clergy - Utility Costs	9,189	3,500	5,689	9,100
6161 · MV Depreciation Costs	4,560	4,560	-	4,560
6163 · MV Running Costs	434	1,546	(1,112)	440
6162 · MV Standing Costs	2,788	3,500	(712)	2,800
6170 . Spiritual Direction & Coaching - Cle	960	-	960	750
6171 · Conferences & Seminars - Clergy	1,270	800	470	1,200
Total 6110 · Clergy Costs	281,732	250,631	31,101	299,051
6230 · Other Ministry Costs			-	
6239 · Annual Leave	(9,730)	-	(9,730)	-
6231 · Ministry Related Costs	3,537	1,250	2,287	2,800
6232 · Sacristy - Worship Supplies	8,005	13,159	(5,154)	8,000
6235 · Other	-	100	(100)	100
Total 6230 · Other Ministry Costs	1,812	14,509	(12,698)	10,900
Total 6100 · Church Ministry Costs	283,544	265,140	18,404	309,951
6240 · Parish Support Costs			-	
6245 · Employee Costs			-	
6248 · Permanent Lay Emp Salaries	141,446	149,446	(8,000)	135,000
6249 · Permanent Lay Emp Super	13,943	14,400	(457)	14,000
6250 · Casual Music	25,360	30,000	(4,640)	25,000
6253 · Workcover	5,285	4,500	785	5,000
6258 · Honorarium Payments	100	700	(600)	100
Total 6245 · Employee Costs	186,134	199,046	(12,912)	179,100
6260 · Other Parish Support Costs			-	
6261 · Assessments Paid	45,580	66,000	(20,420)	44,000
6262 · Travel Expenses	934	300	634	2,880
6263 · Financial Related Costs	8,668	7,000	1,668	8,700
6265 · Telephone & Other Communicatio	5,819	6,424	(605)	10,000
6269 · Maint & Repairs - Equipment	2,962	700	2,262	1,500
6270 . AACC Costs	24,274	-	24,274	24,000
6274 · Flowers Exp	8,871	10,000	(1,129)	7,000
6275 · Bookkeeping & Audit	23,620	23,819	(199)	23,650
6276 · Sundry Expenses	4,422	1,000	3,422	4,500
6277 · Events & Hospitality	16,428	17,500	(1,072)	18,000
6278 · Books Tapes & CD's	-	100	(100)	100
6279 - Late Fees	840	-	840	-

St Peter's 2018- 2019 Actual vs Budget with 2019-2020 Budget Projection (continued)

St Peter's Eastern Hill - Profit & Loss
Actual 2018-19 compared with Budget 2018-19 and Budget 2019-20

	Actual 2018-19	Budget 2018-19	Over budget	Budget 2019-20
6280 · Advertising & Promotion	1,976	2,500	(524)	2,000
6285 · Copyright Fees	229	-	229	250
6286 · Subscriptions & Publications	497	575	(78)	500
6290 · Stationery	1,950	9,000	(7,050)	2,000
6291 · Photocopier	9,169	8,500	669	10,000
6292 · TMA Publication Charge	840	600	240	850
6294 · Postage	4,104	500	3,604	500
6295 · Computer Software	676	500	176	500
6296 · Computer - Other	589	500	89	500
6297 · Sundry Expense Recoveries	(149)	-	(149)	-
Total 6260 · Other Parish Support Costs	162,299	155,517	6,781	161,430
Total 6240 · Parish Support Costs	348,433	354,564	(6,131)	340,530
6300 · Commercial Costs			-	
6310 · Property			-	
6311 · Lighting Heating & Cooling	17,102	21,202	(4,100)	17,300
6312 · Land Tax	6,099	6,500	(401)	6,100
6314 · Cleaning Costs	33,479	33,158	322	32,500
6320 · Council & Water Rates	12,531	9,127	3,404	12,500
6322 · Equipment Purchases	305	1,000	(695)	500
6323 · Equipment Hire	-	400	(400)	500
6325 · Other Services	229	1,000	(771)	500
6330 · Maintenance Garden & Grounds	983	250	733	250
6331 · Property - Ongoing Maintenance	24,265	25,000	(735)	25,000
6332 · Property - Project Vicarage	6,100	10,000	(3,900)	10,000
6334 · Property - Project - General	381,479	25,000	356,479	10,000
6335 · Property Agent Fees	4,951	6,000	(1,049)	6,000
6336 · Parish Insurance Premiums	30,976	52,028	(21,052)	34,000
6340 · Interest Paid to ADF	4,836	5,100	(264)	5,000
6346 · Utilities Recovery	(39)	-	(39)	-
Total 6310 · Property	523,296	195,766	327,530	160,150
6350 · Bookroom			-	
6355 · Bookroom General Admin	11,772	8,334	3,439	8,500
Total 6350 · Bookroom	11,772	8,334	3,439	8,500
Total 6300 · Commercial Costs	535,069	204,100	330,969	168,650
6500 · Donations paid to Missions			-	
6510 · Anglican Missions			-	
6511 · ABM	-	500	(500)	500
Total 6510 · Anglican Missions	-	500	(500)	500
6520 · Other Missions and Appeals			-	
6522 · Other Mission/Outreach	-	1,500	(1,500)	500
6525 · Court Funds	96	600	(504)	-
Total 6520 · Other Missions and Appeals	96	2,100	(2,004)	500
Total 6500 · Donations paid to Missions	96	2,600	(2,504)	1,000
Total 6000 · Expenses	1,167,141	826,403	340,738	820,131
Total Expense	1,167,141	826,403	340,738	820,131
Net Ordinary Income	(70,006)	(56,484)	(13,522)	(40,681)

St Peter's Eastern Hill
Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison
As of September 30, 2019

	Sep 30, 19	Sep 30, 18	\$ Change
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Chequing/Savings			
1100 · Bank			
1118 · Calendars	1,039.87	0.00	1,039.87
1110 · Access Cash SAV 05005124	30,754.08	13,139.24	17,614.84
1112 · Petty Cash Advance	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
1113 · Westpac Current Account	3,609.09	315.80	3,293.29
1114 · Planned Giving SAV 05004666	400.09	562.21	-162.12
1116 · Klingner SAV 05005158	11,294.81	2,639.06	8,655.75
1120 · Project Retention Acc	4,938.99	0.00	4,938.99
1130 · Bookroom Westpac 86 1077	4,089.99	7,325.36	-3,235.37
1131 · Bookroom Petty Cash	100.00	100.00	0.00
1140 · NT Appeal	36,240.89	49,295.28	-13,054.39
Total 1100 · Bank	93,467.81	74,376.95	19,090.86
Total Chequing/Savings	93,467.81	74,376.95	19,090.86
Accounts Receivable			
1351 · Accounts Receivable	14,757.86	22,752.58	-7,994.72
Total Accounts Receivable	14,757.86	22,752.58	-7,994.72
Other Current Assets			
1410 · Inventories			
1455 · Bookroom Stock	32,993.00	35,157.00	-2,164.00
Total 1410 · Inventories	32,993.00	35,157.00	-2,164.00
1600 · Investments			
1610 · Harold Klingner Bequest TF8377			
1611 · Harold Klingner Bequest Ext In	305,965.88	283,972.88	21,993.00
1615 · Harold Klingner Endowment Fund	174,661.70	171,171.14	3,490.56
1616 · Harold Klingner Bequest CPF	16,600.84	24,668.90	-8,068.06
Total 1610 · Harold Klingner Bequest TF8377	497,228.42	479,812.92	17,415.50
1620 · General Bequest TF8375			
1621 · General External Investments	254,021.51	257,733.83	-3,712.32
1622 · General Cash Plus Fund	328.50	2,684.48	-2,355.98
Total 1620 · General Bequest TF8375	254,350.01	260,418.31	-6,068.30
1630 · Other Investments			
1631 · St Peter's Endowment Fund 7055	155.37	155.37	0.00
1632 · ISS Cash Plus CF7931	370.16	370.16	0.00
Total 1630 · Other Investments	525.53	525.53	0.00
1640 · Richard Johns Bequest			
1641 · Richard Johns Shares	970,693.08	999,414.66	-28,721.58
1642 · Cash Account TF 8807	15,923.62	18,661.88	-2,738.26
Total 1640 · Richard Johns Bequest	986,616.70	1,018,076.54	-31,459.84
1650 · Bookroom CF7964	16,156.21	15,797.81	358.40
Total 1600 · Investments	1,754,876.87	1,774,631.11	-19,754.24
Total Other Current Assets	1,787,869.87	1,809,788.11	-21,918.24
Total Current Assets	1,896,095.54	1,906,917.64	-10,822.10
TOTAL ASSETS	1,896,095.54	1,906,917.64	-10,822.10
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable			
2000 · Accounts Payable	32,057.96	26,155.15	5,902.81
Total Accounts Payable	32,057.96	26,155.15	5,902.81
Other Current Liabilities			
2100 · Other Current Liabilities			
2200 · Group Tax Payable	8,257.00	11,870.00	-3,613.00
2250 · GST Tax Payable	-36,079.64	-12,209.94	-23,869.70
2260 · Tax Clearing Ac	-3,813.05	-3,813.05	0.00
2300 · Superannuation Clearing Account	277.83	13,264.76	-12,986.93

**St Peter's Eastern Hill
Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison
As of September 30, 2019**

	Sep 30, 19	Sep 30, 18	\$ Change
2400 · Funds Awaiting Disbursement			
2464 · A Taule'alo	-1,966.79	-1,777.23	-189.56
2450 · Anglican Diocese Fixed Charges	0.00	772.07	-772.07
2461 · P Gill Benefit Account	6,383.03	2,243.13	4,139.90
2462 · H Kempster Benefit Account	-4,688.20	-11,617.70	6,929.50
Total 2400 · Funds Awaiting Disbursement	-271.96	-10,379.73	10,107.77
2540 · Provisions			
2520 · Annual Leave	0.00	9,730.35	-9,730.35
2542 · Clergy LSL	9,223.51	9,223.51	0.00
2541 · Lay Employee LSL	17,706.86	17,706.86	0.00
2540 · Provisions - Other	-30,959.31	-30,959.31	0.00
Total 2540 · Provisions	-4,028.94	5,701.41	-9,730.35
2500 · Bond Deposits	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00
2550 · Project Retention	4,884.00	0.00	4,884.00
Total 2100 · Other Current Liabilities	-29,274.76	5,933.45	-35,208.21
Total Other Current Liabilities	-29,274.76	5,933.45	-35,208.21
Total Current Liabilities	2,783.20	32,088.60	-29,305.40
Long Term Liabilities			
2600 · ADF COM44400641	93,701.20	99,796.93	-6,095.73
Total Long Term Liabilities	93,701.20	99,796.93	-6,095.73
TOTAL LIABILITIES	96,484.40	131,885.53	-35,401.13
NET ASSETS	1,799,611.14	1,775,032.11	24,579.03
EQUITY			
32000 · Retained Earnings	-42,063.72	-7,384.53	-34,679.19
3000 · Equity			
3770 · Funds in ADF/AF	146,873.53	121,389.97	25,483.56
3775 · Funds in Equities	242,381.37	159,679.45	82,701.92
3800 · Opening Bal Equity	1,536,955.77	1,536,955.77	0.00
3900 · Current Year Earnings	-1,621.18	-929.36	-691.82
Total 3000 · Equity	1,924,589.49	1,817,095.83	107,493.66
Net Income	-82,914.63	-34,679.19	-48,235.44
TOTAL EQUITY	1,799,611.14	1,775,032.11	24,579.03

St Peter's Eastern Hill Melbourne Charitable Foundation

This year after 20 years of service to the Foundation, John Taaff resigned as Chair. We thank John for his self-sacrificial work leading the Trustees and caring for those in necessitous circumstances. In October the Chair of the Foundation fundraising committee, Krystyna Campbell-Pretty was elected as Chair of the Foundation. Since then Krystyna and the Trustees have hardly had time to take a breath, with the opening of St Peter's Place, and a record attendance at the Annual Foundation Dinner with keynote speaker General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove, Former Governor-General of Australia.

Looking ahead, the Foundation, in partnership with the Parish Council, has commissioned a Feasibility Study for the development of the Parish Hall to create a physical space for the Lazarus Centre. This Study will be presented for the first time to the Parish at the Annual Meeting for consideration and comment. A more extensive process of Parish Consultation, at after-Mass meetings, will be undertaken by the Foundation and Parish Council in 2020. Feedback is welcome through the Parish Office or directly to Dr Stephen Duckett, PC Chair, or Krystyna Campbell-Pretty.

Fr Hugh Kempster - Trustee

Feasibility Report

pursuant to the proposed

Refurbishment of St Peter's Hall and adjacent spaces



Report to St Peter's Eastern Hill Melbourne Charitable Foundation

July 2019

trethowan architecture interiors heritage
47 Dove Street Richmond
P O Box 221 East Melbourne VIC 8002
tel 9421 5448 fax 9421 5449

1. Introduction

1.1 BACKGROUND

We were invited by St Peter's Eastern Hill Melbourne Charitable Foundation (Client) to provide a Feasibility Report for the proposed refurbishment of St Peter's Hall (Hall) and adjacent spaces within the St Peters Eastern Hill Precinct.

The Report investigates and makes recommendations on the following aims of the refurbishment:

- Increase rentable spaces
- Improve accessibility to the Hall and surrounding spaces
- Upgrade toilet and kitchen facilities
- Provide an all-year round covered space in the courtyard

The Report is based on an original 'Lazarus Centre Wish List', which identified the Client's needs and expectations, and has been refined to form a Return Brief following a meeting that took place on 17th April 2019 with Fr Hugh Kempster and Nick Lambarde-Scott (St Peters Parish) and Chris De Pavia (Anglicare).

1.2 LIMITATIONS

This report works within the parameters of the Return Brief and provides limited alternatives. No specialist consultants have been involved at this stage. Cost of works are in-house estimates only and require confirmation from a suitably qualified Quantity Surveyor, experienced in working with Heritage structures.

1.3 RETURN BRIEF

The following needs and expectations from the project have been refined from the original "Lazarus Centre Wish List":

- Lazarus Centre**
1. Enclose the courtyard to provide a covered area for hospitality [Essential]
 2. Cover the rear access between Church and Hall [Desirable]
 3. Covered accommodation for up to 100 breakfasters, seated at tables [Essential]
 4. Provide storage for the tables and chairs [Essential]
 5. Strip out the existing 'Maynard' kitchen [Essential]
 6. Re-equip the main kitchen to provide facilities for the above, and also to cater for up to 200 diners in the Hall, + pantry/food storage, fridges, storage for crockery etc. [Essential]
 7. Use of the kitchen facilities for training for up to 12 people [Essential]
 8. Storage and distribution centre for second-hand clothes [Essential]
 9. Provide own toilet facilities [Essential]

- Parish**
1. Provide a new Parish Office either at the ground floor space currently occupied by the 'Maynard' kitchen or in the building now occupied by the Parish toilets [Essential]

- Hall**
1. Re-equip toilets for 200 M/F/Disabled [Essential]
 2. Kitchen (as above) to cater for 200 + storage for crockery, utensils, etc. [Essential]
 3. Storage for furniture - dining tables, chairs, etc. [Essential]
 4. Provide new entrances from the courtyard to the Dining Hall [Desirable]
 5. Provide separate circulation for Lazarus Program and Dining Hall [Essential]
 6. Identify a suitable area to host a café, perhaps below the Gallery [Desirable]
 7. Provide bi-folding doors to enclose the area underneath the Gallery [Desirable]

- Commercial Offices**
1. As much lettable area as possible, + lift + M/F/Disables toilets [Essential]
 2. Own separate access off Gisborne Street [Essential]
 3. Renovate Hughes Room as an office to rent out on a commercial basis [Desirable]

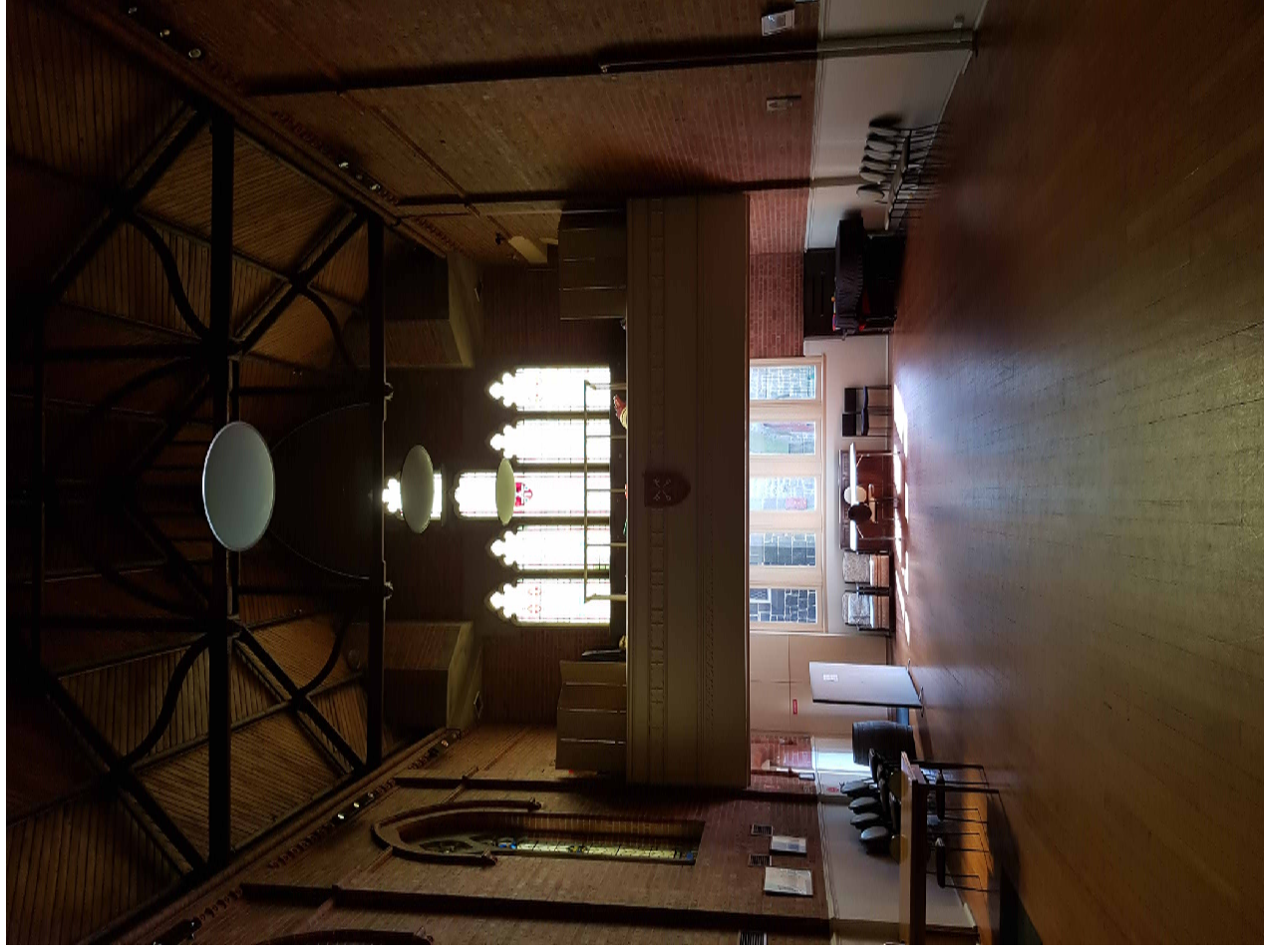


Figure 1: The Dining Hall with the north facing window and gallery

2. Assessment: the site and its uses

2.1 THE SITE

St Peter's Eastern Hill Precinct is located within the City of Melbourne, on the corner of Albert and Gisborne Streets. It comprises four buildings: The Church, the Vicarage, Keble House and the Hall, all within a landscape setting.

The following three sites form the focus of this Report:

1. The Hall
2. The Courtyard between the Hall and Church
3. The Toilet Block to the rear of Keble House

2.2 ANALYSIS

Each of the three sites have been inspected and the following information is provided and has been used to inform the recommendations. This analysis should be read in conjunction with the existing floor plan uses (Figure 2, 3, 4)

The Hall

The Hall provides approximately 520sqm of flexible space to various users over two floors.

Breakfast Programme

The Lazarus Centre runs the Breakfast Programme that provides breakfast from 7.30 to 9am every day to the homeless, using a small kitchen (Maynard kitchen) at the ground floor of the Hall with entrance from Gisborne Street and a dining room (Hughes Room) adjacent to it, which hosts approximately 20 people seated at tables. At present, about 80 people attend breakfast every day.

Although the location of the Maynard Kitchen is easily accessible from Gisborne Street, its size and equipment are not adequate to cater for the Breakfast Programme.

Dining Hall

The Dining Hall occupies an area of approximately 188sqm and hosts regular functions, concerts, parties, dinners and other gatherings providing an essential income to the Parish. The Dining Hall can host up to 120 people for sit-down dinners and up to 200 people during concerts.

The space is grand and flexible, with high timber ceiling and a large stained window to the north that provides natural light.

The space allows various seating configurations; however, it is accessible to wheelchair users only from a secondary entrance in the Courtyard.

The existing heating system is no longer functioning and there is no air conditioning.

Gallery

The Gallery occupies the north side of the Dining Hall at first floor and it is open towards the Dining Hall. The floor is stepped. The Gallery hosts the Church choir for concerts and rehearsals, and it is also used by the Lazarus Centre for storage and distribution centre of second-hand clothes.

As the Gallery is adjacent to the large north stained window, it partially blocks the view of the window from the Dining Hall and reduces the natural light coming into the room.

Main Kitchen

The main Kitchen occupies approximately 22sqm of a single storey building the sits to the west side of the Hall. This is used for food preparation during the various functions.

Book Shop

A book shop occupies one of the two large rooms at ground floor with stepped access from Gisborne Street. The room has direct access to the existing female toilets via steps.

Offices

On the first floor, approximately 138sqm are leased offices. They are only accessible via steps from Gisborne Street.

Parish Office

The existing Parish Office occupies the room above the Maynard kitchen.

Toilets

Separated male and female toilets are shared between the various users. Access to the toilets is only through the Dining Hall via steps.

Courtyard

The courtyard sits between the Church and the Hall and provides approximately 110sqm of uncovered additional space. It is occasionally used by the Parish and by the Lazarus Breakfast Programme for BBQ events when the weather is fine.

Toilet Block

The single storey building hosts the Parish toilets and occupies approximately 30sqm.

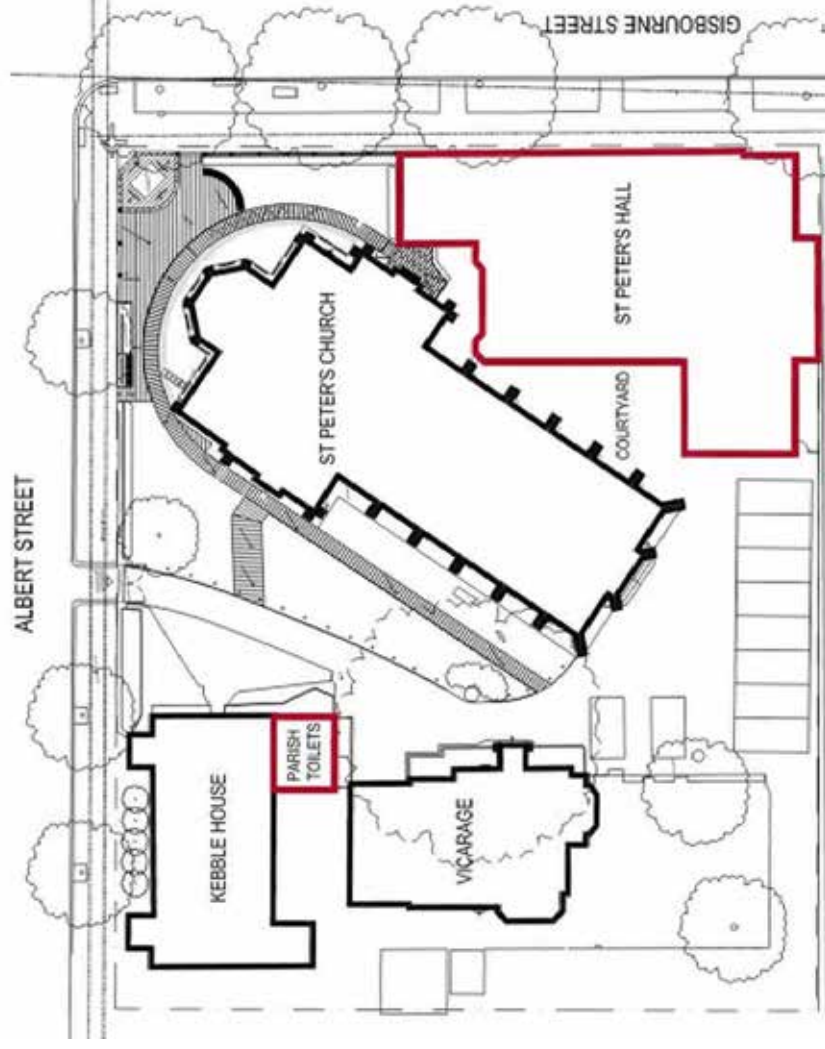


Figure 2: St Peter's Eastern Hill – site location

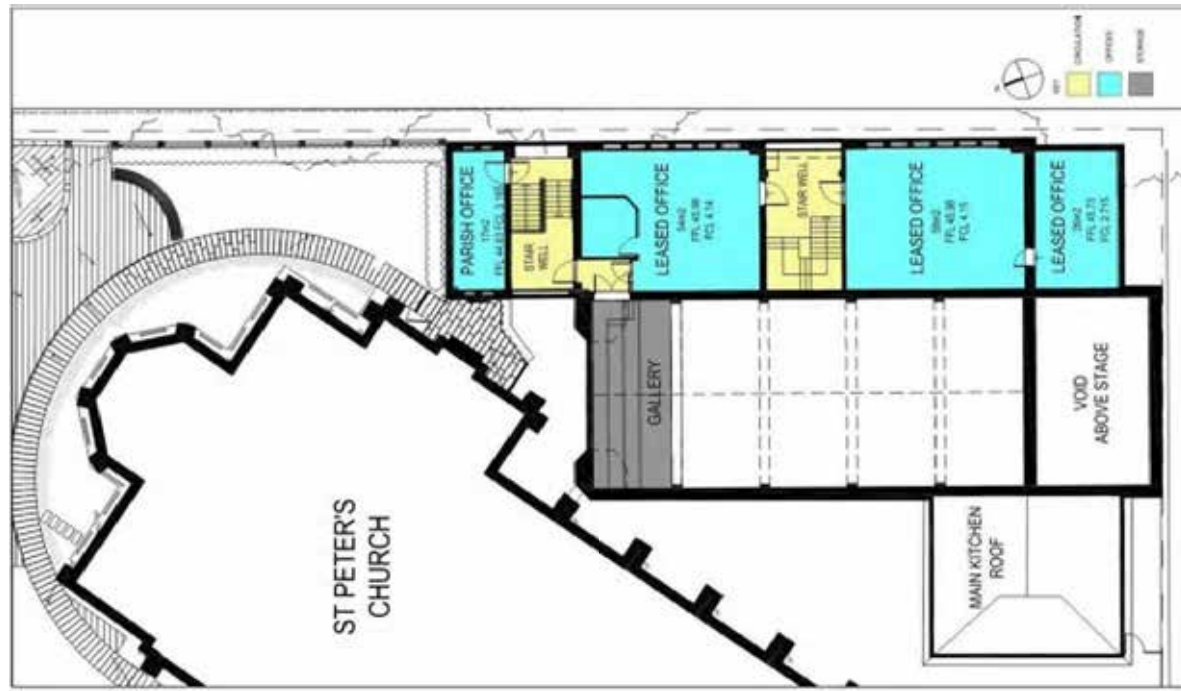


Figure 4: First floor existing uses

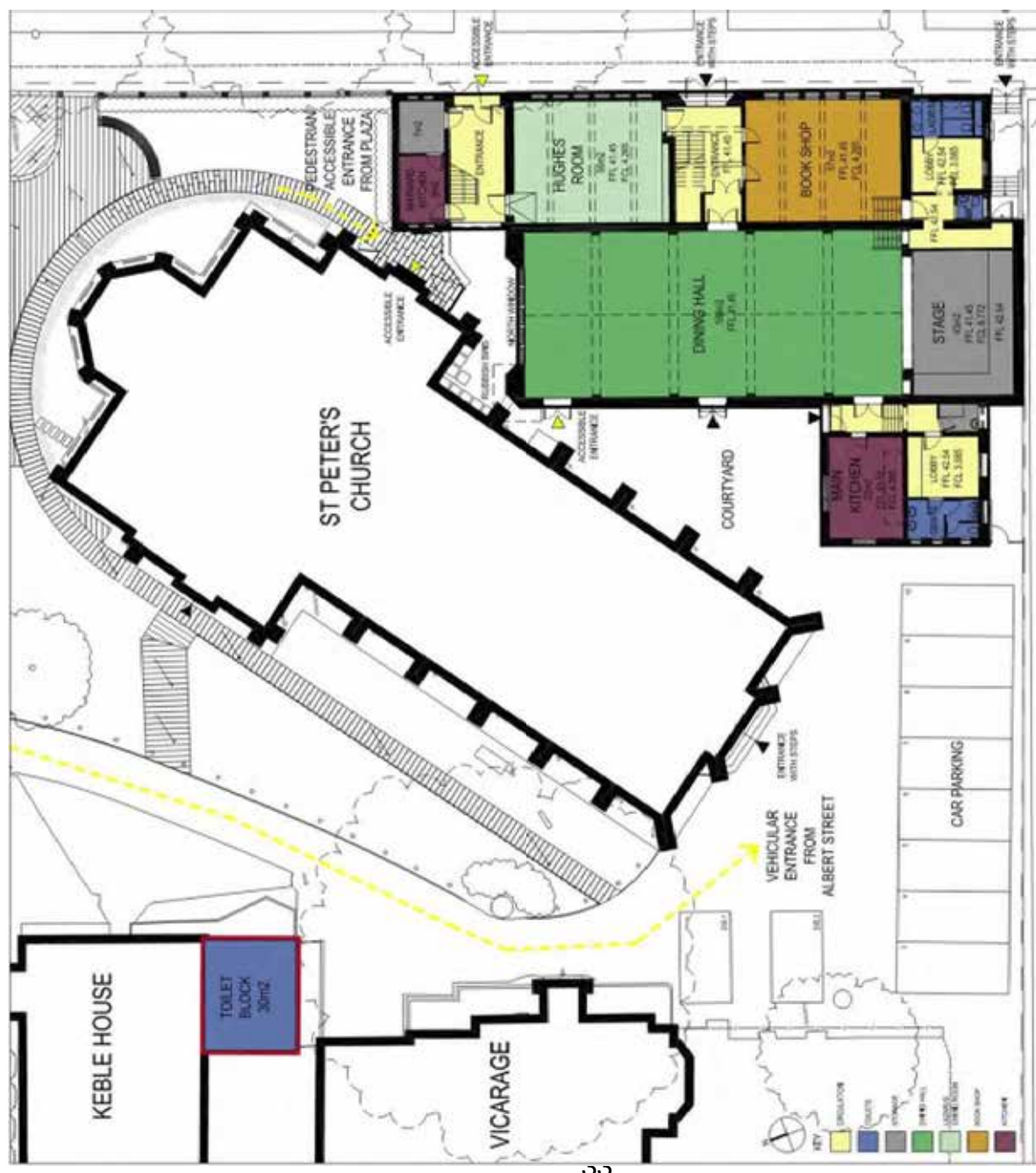


Figure 3: Ground floor existing uses

3. Discussion – the proposal

This section identifies how the proposal does or does not achieve the aims of the refurbishment project for each of the three sites, based on the Return Brief. It considers the existing conditions, opportunities and weaknesses associated with each space and makes recommendations where an alternative solution could produce a better outcome. This section should be read in conjunction with the proposed floor plan uses and reconfiguration diagrams.

3.1 THE HALL

Additional Office Spaces

Proposal
Opportunity to increase the lettable office spaces has been identified in the volume above the existing stage hall as well as above the existing main kitchen and within the existing spaces at ground level. The existing stage, in fact, occupies a large volume that is unused and could host a small office space, a new lift and a new stair core. Additional offices could be allocated in a new volume above the existing kitchen and, at ground floor, in the room now occupied by the Book Shop.

Considerations
While the new floors above the stage would be almost completely concealed within the existing volume, the addition to the kitchen would be visible. Works would require demolishing the existing roof, lowering the existing ceiling and reconfiguring the existing windows, as well as adding two new floors above.

The proposed addition above the kitchen building would have a big impact on the existing building. This could be an opportunity to improve the appearance of the building from the car park entrance.

Weaknesses
Given the proximity of the building to the south boundary, opportunities for south facing windows are limited. Windows to the proposed offices would generally be limited to the north and west sides of the building. The new offices will require a new stair core and lift, the cost of which may not be justified.

Accessibility

Proposal
At present the Hall is only partially accessible to wheelchair users at ground level. In fact, only one of the pedestrian entrances, from Gisborne Street, is step free. The existing accessibility could be improved by reconfiguring the stepped entrance from Gisborne Street adjacent to the south boundary, as well as adding a new stair core and lift to access the new proposed offices independently. The proposal would provide accessible entrance to wheelchair users, **achieving the requirements of the Return Brief**.

Considerations
The works would include demolishing the existing outdoor steps and building a new ramped access from Gisborne Street as well as lowering the finish floor levels (FFL) of the existing Stage and female toilets, to match the FFL of the Dining Hall and reconfiguring the existing entrance to suit the new FFLs.

The budget required to build a new stair core and lift may not justify the amount of additional Office Spaces.

Circulation

Proposal
A new stair core would give independent access to the new offices and toilets. The internal circulation could be improved furthermore by creating an access corridor at ground floor in the existing Book Shop Room. This would provide the existing offices at first floor with independent access to the toilet facilities. The proposal would **achieve the requirement of the Return Brief to improve the internal circulation**.

Considerations
The desirable requirement of the Return Brief to create an opening in the existing Dining Hall north window is not supported by this report, as it would be detrimental to the existing fabric. An alternative solution, supported by this report, would create an additional lobby and a new opening between the Hughes Room and the Dining Hall, providing independent access to the Dining Hall from the Church east entrance. Evidence of a previous lobby in this location was found in a floor plan from the Health Department dated 1975 (Figure 14). The proposal **achieves the requirement of the Return Brief to provide separate circulation for Lazarus Program and Dining Hall**.

Weaknesses
Although the service corridor and lobby at ground floor would improve the internal circulation, they would slightly reduce the lettable areas.

Toilet facilities

Proposal

New separated toilets and accessible unisex sanitary facility would be located at ground floor and on a new proposed floor above the stage. The new toilet facilities would be shared by the occupants of the offices, as well as the Parish and the guests of the Dining Hall. Separated toilets for the Lazarus users would be created at the back of the main kitchen, with separate and independent access. The proposal would **achieve the requirements of the Return Brief**.

Considerations

The number of toilets has been based on the uses and the occupancy (up to 200 people in the Dining Hall and up to 40 employees in the offices). The proposal would require the floor levels of the existing toilets to be lowered to match the FFL of the Dining Hall as well as the reconfiguration of the existing opening to access the new Lazarus toilets.

Weaknesses

The proposal would require substantial building works to the original fabric

Kitchen

Proposal

It is proposed to extend and refurbish the existing main kitchen within the same building. The new kitchen would be approximately 50sqm and would have additional 12sqm of pantry and storage space. **The proposal would achieve the requirements of the Return Brief**.

Considerations

The proposal would involve demolishing the existing male toilets to the south of the building as well as lowering the FFL and reconfiguring the original opening to the back to provide direct access to the rubbish bin area. As the pantry and storage space would be included in the existing stage area, a new opening in the existing brick wall will be required.

Weaknesses

The existing windows would require to be reconfigured and the existing ceiling lowered to suit the proposed new addition.

Dining hall

Proposal

Improvements to the Hall would include new openings and doors below the existing windows to the west to create continuity with the adjacent courtyard.

New bi-folding doors below the Gallery would create temporary independent spaces if required, as well as define a suitable space to accommodate a café area.

The proposal would replace the existing heating and provide a new A/C system.

The proposal would achieve the requirements of the Return Brief.

Considerations

The proposal would require the partial demolition of the west wall to create new openings.

Evidence of original bi-folding doors in the same location has been found in floor plans from the Health Department dated 1912 and 1975 (Figure 13 and 14).

Weaknesses

The addition of bi-folding doors below the Gallery would reduce the amount of natural light coming from the north window to the Hall.

Alternative option

An alternative option not developed in this Report, the removal of the Gallery, would improve the internal natural light and would allow the view of the north window from the Dining Hall.

The Book Shop

Proposal

The proposal would move the existing book shop to the Hughes Room with the existing Book Shop converted as office space. A new lobby within the Hughes Room would allow independent access to the Dining Hall from the north side of the Hall.

Considerations

The new location would allow the proposed new office to have independent access to the toilet facilities.

Weaknesses

The size of the new Book Shop would be 50sqm, slightly smaller than the existing one if a lobby is created.

Storage Space

Storage space for the various users is proposed in various areas of the building. The Dining Hall would have access to 10sqm of storage space located in the present stage. The existing Maynard kitchen at ground level would provide storage for the Breakfast programme and the Book Shop. On the first floor, the existing Parish office would become storage for the Lazarus Clothes. **The proposal would achieve the requirements of the Return Brief.**

3.2 THE COURTYARD

Proposal
Covering the Courtyard with a glazed roof would guarantee the use of the space all year round by both the Breakfast Programme and the Dining Hall events. The space, approximately 109sqm, would host approximately 60 people seated at tables and 100 people standing. **The proposal would achieve the requirements of the Return Brief.**

Considerations
Given the shape and the fact that it sits between heritage buildings, the enclosure of the courtyard presents some design challenges.

Weaknesses
The shape of the space would not allow regular seating layouts. The irregular shape of the space and its location affect the renovation cost.

3.3 TOILET BLOCK

Proposal
A suitable location to accommodate a new Parish Office has been identified in the building now occupied by the existing Parish toilets. The proposal would include either the reconfiguration of the existing building or its replacement with a new building, depending on Heritage Victoria's view. **The proposal would achieve the requirements of the Return Brief.**

Considerations

The Parish office in this location would improve the observation of the west side of the Precinct and centralise day to day Parish activities to the west side of the Precinct.

3.4 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Services

Further investigation is required to establish what would be the best heating and air conditioning system for the Dining Hall and the new offices. Limited heating could be provided to the Courtyard area if desirable, however a full conditioned space could be impractical.

Parking

The proposal might require the removal of one or two car parking spaces to provide easier vehicular access for food delivery and waste collection, as well as space to accommodate a waste and recycling area if necessary.

Waste and Recycling

The proposal improves the existing waste and recycling management by relocating the bins in the space at the back of the main kitchen and providing direct access from the building. In addition, the rubbish collection could be improved by appointing a private company which would schedule the collection when required.

New Landscape

New paving and landscape works would complete the requalification of the area started with the landscaped Plaza.



Figure 5: Ground floor - proposed uses



Figure 6: Opportunity to add two floors above the existing main kitchen building



Figure 9: Opportunity to redevelop the existing toilet block to host a new Parish office

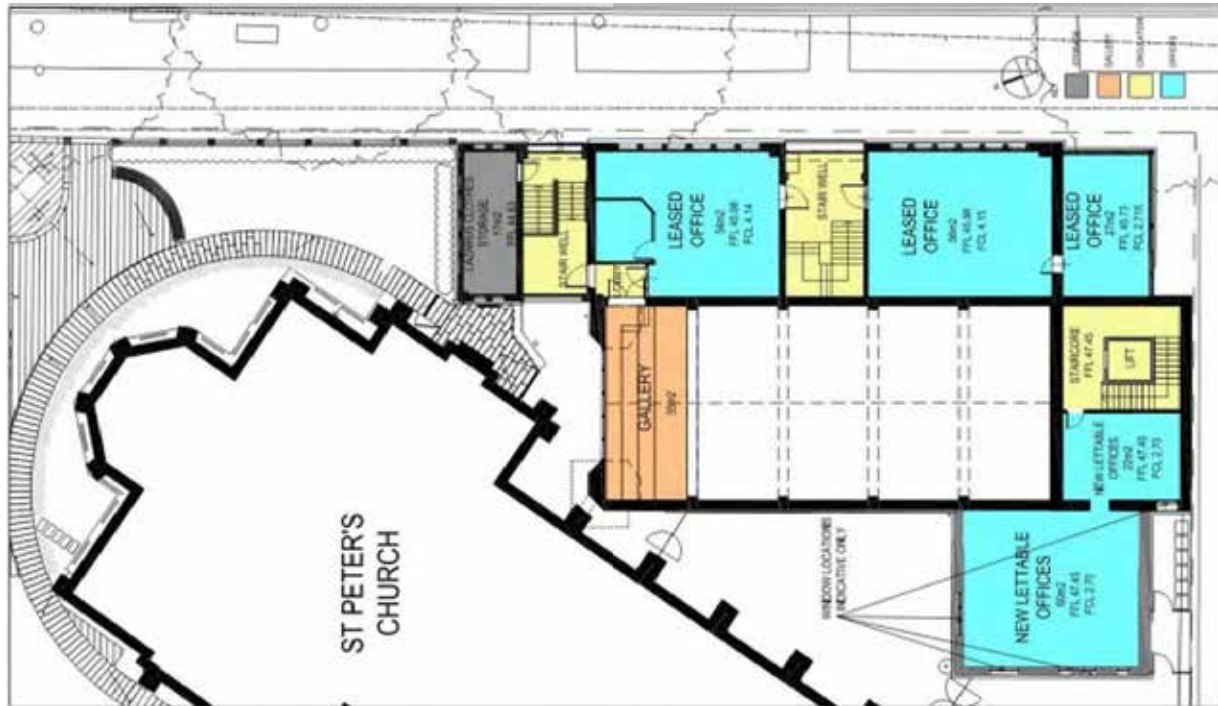


Figure 8: First floor - proposed uses

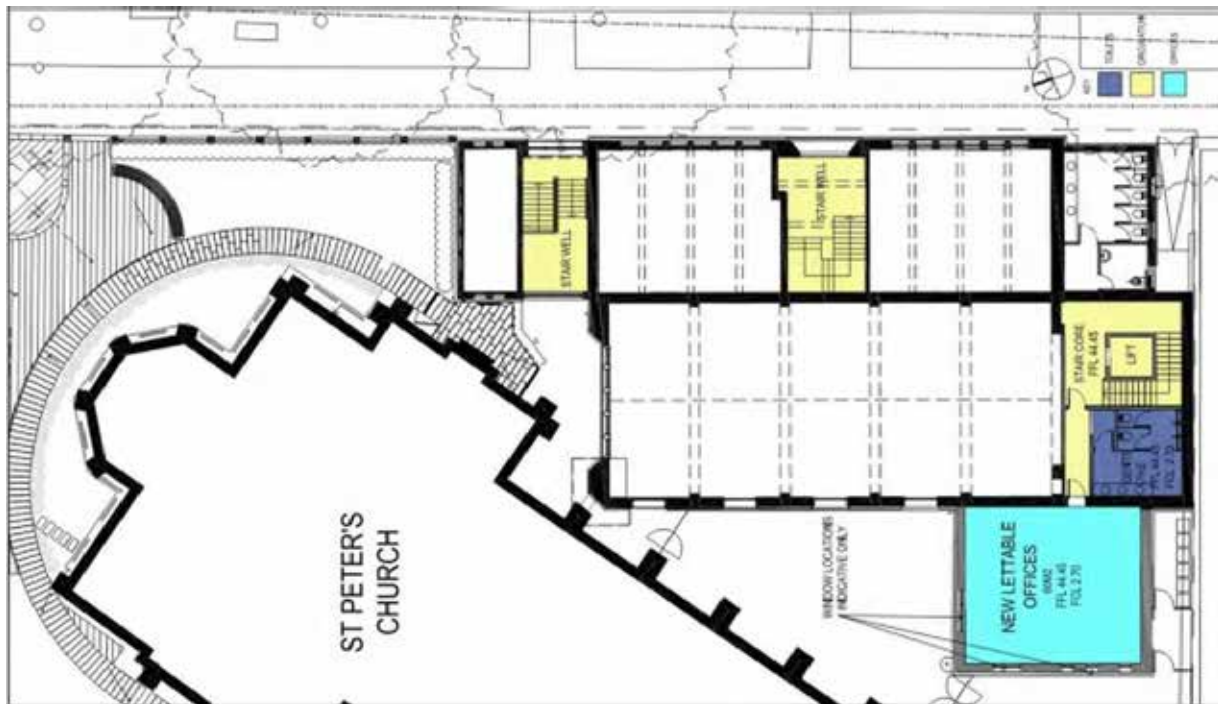


Figure 7: Mezzanine floor - proposed uses



Figure 10: Proposed reconfiguration of existing stepped entrance from Gisborne street to provide a step free entrance.



Figure 11: Proposed reconfiguration of the dining hall west façade. New openings are proposed below the existing windows

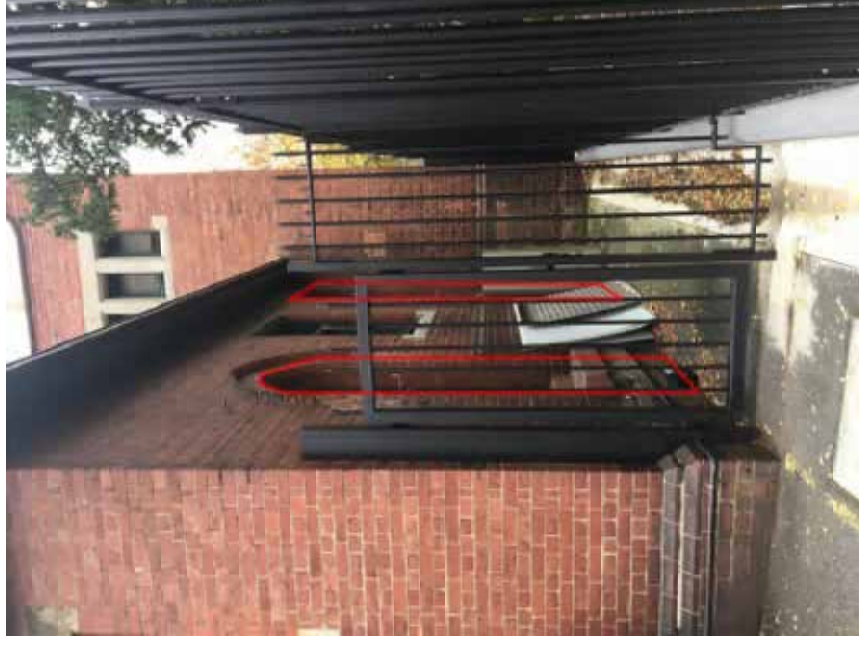


Figure 12: Proposed reconfiguration of the existing openings to the south façade of the main kitchen. As the internal FFLs will be lowered, the existing openings will require to be lowered.

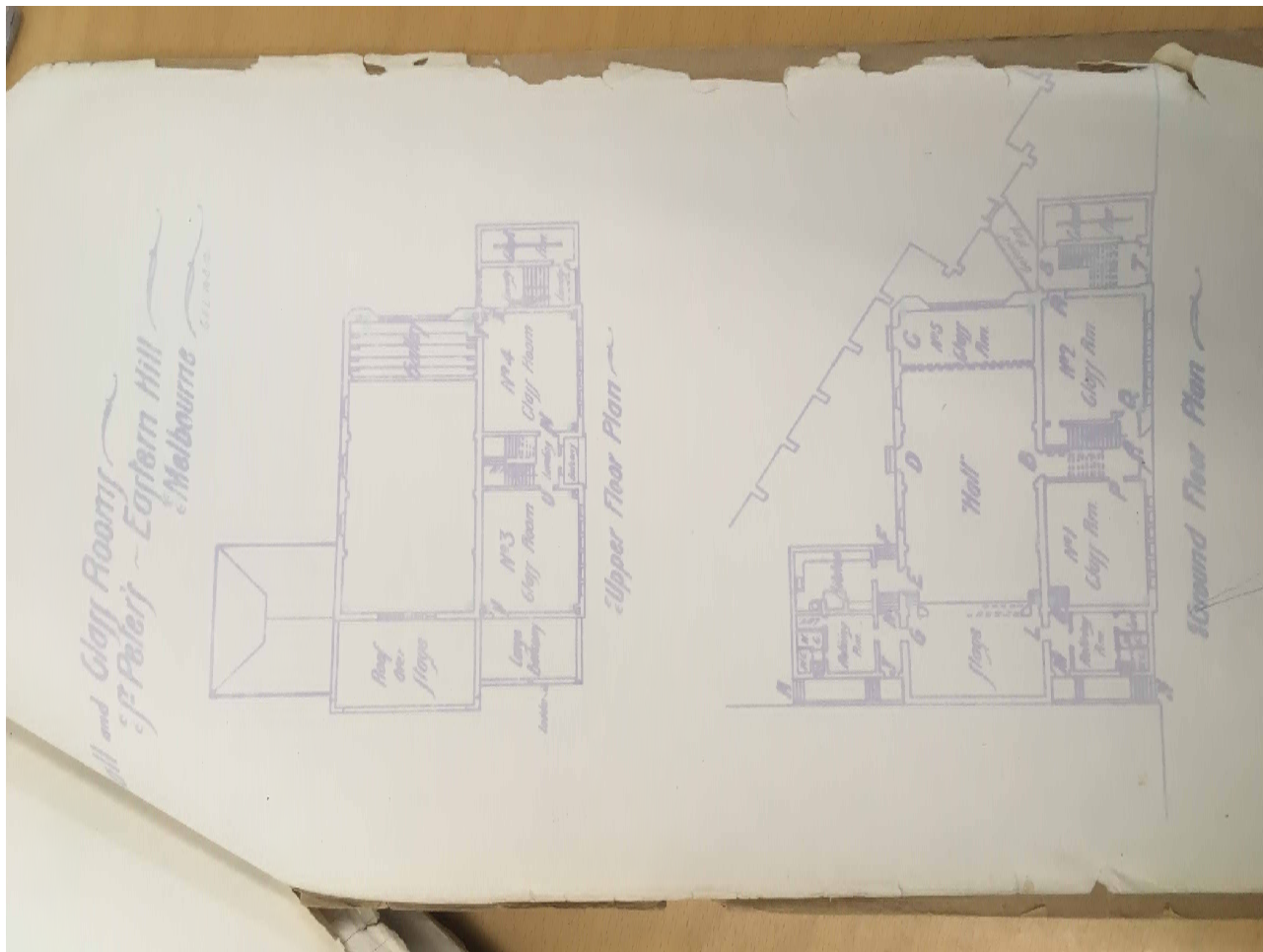


Figure 13: Floor plans from the Health Department dated 1912 show the original internal layout

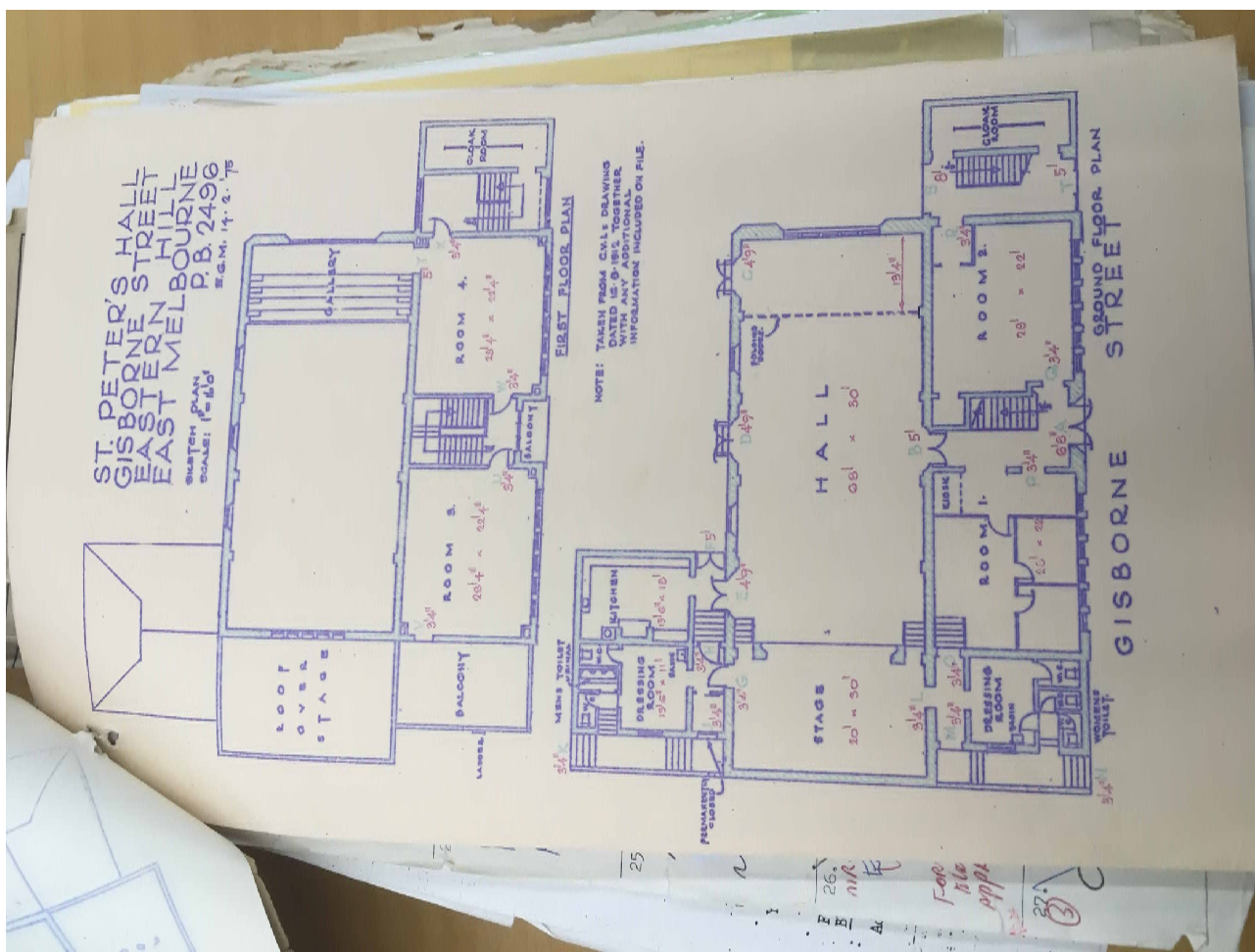


Figure 14: Floor plans from the Health Department dated 1975 show the internal layout modified

4. Heritage Considerations

St Peters Eastern Hill Precinct is identified to be of historical, architectural, and social significance to the State of Victoria and as such is included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR H0009). The listing covers all buildings, land and a number of objects, with St Peters Hall identified to contribute to the significance of the site. Collectively the buildings and the site form a picturesque composition and make a contribution to East Melbourne. St Peters Hall specifically is of aesthetic, historical and social significance, and this is demonstrated through its architectural form; recognised to be the first work in Victoria of Tasmanian emigre architect Alexander North in 1913, and the social contribution it makes through its continued associations with the musical life of Melbourne.

Sites that are in the VHR require a permit or permit exemption from Heritage Victoria to undertake any works or alterations. Works undertaken without a permit or exemption are illegal and attract significant penalties.

The principle of the works is supportable as they will propose a new use or series of uses that are not detrimental to the heritage values and will ensure the building has a long-term use that supports its ongoing maintenance. The areas of interest to Heritage Victoria are going to be those associated with internal and external alterations, the covered courtyard and the new additions. Heritage Victoria will be particularly interested in the proposed demolition and new details yet to be confirmed, and the assessment of how these works will or will not adversely affect the heritage values. Heritage Victoria are also keen to seek conservation works, especially when works are proposed to change a heritage building.

With regard to the proposed option, it will require a permit given the level of external and internal changes that are proposed. However, it may be possible to break down the statutory process into a number of different approaches – ie permit and permit exemptions. This permit strategy should be confirmed after a pre-application meeting has occurred with an officer from Heritage Victoria.

5. External Consultants

We envisage the appointment of the following specialist consultants will be required:

Geotechnical Engineer
 Land Surveyor
 Civil Engineer
 Mechanical and Electrical Engineers
 Building Surveyor
 Quantity Surveyor
 Landscape consultant
 Heritage consultant
 Planning consultant

6. Preliminary Cost Estimate

This preliminary in-house cost estimate has been based on previous similar jobs and is intended for guidance only.

Preliminary Cost Estimate includes the following:

- Demolitions of external walls, internal partitions and floors to the existing fabric
- Build and fit out of new offices, toilet and kitchen facilities
- New accessible entrance from Gisborne Street, including lift and stair core
- Glazed enclosure to Courtyard
- Electrical, plumbing, heating and air conditioning services
- Landscape works
- Contingency 5%
- Consultant fees

Our preliminary cost estimate for the proposed works is approximately \$ 2,500,000 ex GST

7. Conclusion

We believe that significant improvements can be made to St Peter's Hall by improving its accessibility, facilities and circulation, which will improve the use of the building as well as the character of the Precinct.

The proposal described in this Report achieves the requirements of the Return Brief and provides a long-term and sustainable use for the overall property. Detailed investigation of construction costs and income returns will provide a greater understanding of the extent of works required to see the project into implementation.

Music at St Peter's

The year that has elapsed since our last AGM has been one of the busiest and most rewarding years for the music team in my time at St Peter's. December 2018 alone contained our annual performance of Handel's Messiah – to an audience of almost 300, our biggest audience yet – festive music by Mozart and Purcell for Gaudete Sunday with strings and soloists, Midnight Mass (again, with strings) and the Carol Service. It is most satisfying to see how the Carol Service has become such a valuable outreach tool for the parish. A significant part of the congregation for this service comes from other city parishes (and beyond: I spoke to someone who'd come up from Welshpool) and that these people want to be part of this service speaks volumes about the quality, the consistency and the uniqueness of our work. One can also appreciate the impact of our work in a service such as Tenebrae, in Holy Week, where our tradition of performing the Allegri Miserere brings in many people who are not regular parishioners to share in the experience of hearing this great work at the darkest and most desolate moments of the Triduum.

The choir currently sustains a membership of 20 singers: 5 sopranos, 5 altos, 5 tenors and 5 tenors. Of these, 2 sopranos and 3 tenors receive scholarships. The Order of St Lazarus kindly made an annual scholarship available to one of our choristers – we elected to give this to one of our tenors, Stephen Marino, who has been singing with us for two years now. Our annual drive for scholarship donations will be continuing in 2020 and my thanks go out to those people who have graciously continued to financially support the scholarship program. It is my aim, in 2020, to secure further donations to expand the choir's work.

I don't think it's an understatement to say that the music ministry is at the heart of what we do at St Peter's – I know full well the potential of what we have – and it is absolutely worth growing and nurturing.

In addition to its work in services throughout the year, the choir also presented two very successful programs of music in their concert series. Firstly, in May, a program of music by Charpentier and Scarlatti; and then a program of French music centred around the Duruflé Requiem in October. For the French program, we collaborated with Calvin Bowman, one of the finest organists (and composers) in the city and it was a joy to work with him. Both concerts made profits, which were donated back to the choir. It is also worth noting that with the scope and vitality of the choir's work this year that we have come in under budget. As I have previously mentioned, our music budget is a fraction of that of other prominent inner-city parishes and it is truly extraordinary that we can continue to provide what we do.

2019 has also been a good year for Evensongs. Congregation numbers seem to be growing. It has become easier to get choristers who sing at High Mass to sing for these services, thus the scope of music that can be sung has expanded. Significantly, we've performed two new works by Melbourne composers, Daniel Riley, and Christopher Willcock, the second with the composer in attendance who very much appreciated our performance, and the whole service in general. We also had one visiting choir, the Canterbury Singers. We hope to build on the momentum established this year by continuing to lure choristers by programming fine music.

I would like to thank Rhys Arvidson, our organist, for his marvellous playing, his support and his hard work behind the scenes. I would also like to thank Sue Wuttke, our Music Administrator, for her work, and for her boundless energy and enthusiasm.

Andrew Raiskums - Director of Music

St Peter's Bookroom & Church Supplier

'My most favourite church bookshop in Melbourne. What books do you recommend to me today?'
Abp Philip Freier

Our parish, St Peter's Eastern Hill, has every reason to be very proud of this active, ongoing ministry. From its beginnings as a small lending library in the 1930s (in what is now the Lazarus Centre Kitchen) it has continued to grow in progressive and innovative ways and in the last 12 months St Peter's Bookroom has been thriving.

Let me describe this in three ways.

'This Bookroom really is a funnel' Kosta Soteriou, Parish Administrator

Firstly, the Bookroom's street location is a missional service for the general public. This includes featuring St Peter's five days a week, 9.30am-4.30pm on street frontage. Here, we are visited by a wide range of people with different expectations and needs. Our Anglican resources have a fine reputation amongst the clergy of the Diocese and further afield. Anglican Churches purchase sanctuary items from us. Bishops and other clergy often purchase gifts, including Bookroom Vouchers. In no other bookshop would you find the Archbishop of Melbourne checking out books alongside a homeless person from the Breakfast Program. And whilst this is happening, a former Vicar of St Peter's may drop in, and the two clergy exchange greetings and embark in conversation with us. Both leave with purchases.

The Bookroom is the first place of contact for many visitors to St Peter's, on a daily basis. There are many people who cannot find the entrance to the church, both literally and metaphorically. They are seeking a personal, yet non-confronting way to explore the Christian faith. We help them find the right book or religious gift. Volunteers give them listening time and inform them about who we are, our church activities, what times the services are, where the parish office is, or how they may contact a priest. Volunteers offer pastoral care in any way they can. Some people come in with stories about their ancestors being married at St Peter's, how much this church has meant to their families.

The Bookroom houses books that reflect who we are as a parish. We have a reputation for holding many titles which can't be readily accessed in any bookshop in Australia. We also have a deliberate policy of stocking local Anglican authors: Bp Bradley Billings, Garry Deverill, Charles Sherlock, Muriel Porter, Ron Browning. Without St Peter's Bookroom these books would not be promoted and the public would not have general access to them. We also sell books by many renowned Christian writers which the other major religious bookshop in the city, the Central Catholic Bookshop will not hold, authors such as Joan Chittister and Richard Rohr. This is Catholic evangelism and outreach at its best.

Customers to the Bookroom learn in a very real way about other ministries at St Peter's, including the work of the choir and the hiring of our Parish Hall. Recently a regular customer, who works in senior management at St Vincent's Hospital has sought arrangements to hire the Parish Hall. St Vincent's is soon to undergo major structural works and needs a meeting space for 12 months.

'Here, we find, a ministry not only to the Anglican communion but to wider communities of faith..... There is always a good range of books and a wide selection of new publications, whether covering spirituality, scripture, pastoral practice or other matters of interest.' Brother Lindsay, SAC

Secondly, this Parish ministry is a retail shopfront but it has become part of our mission to be also engaged out there in the world. We are taking boxes of books and selling not only to those in our local Anglican Diocese, but for the first time further afield in the Uniting Church, and the Ballarat

Diocese. During the last twelve months we have 'popped up' at Anglican Parishes: All Saints' East St Kilda, St John's Camberwell, St Thomas' Bunyip, St Margaret's Eltham, Anglican Parish of Altona, St Mary's Woodend; theological schools, including Trinity College Theological School (on three separate occasions) and Pilgrim Theological College (on three separate occasions, twice over two days); two Clergy Retreats (Ballarat Diocese at Millgrove and Melbourne Diocese at Queenscliff); and three Synods (Melbourne Synod, Ballarat Synod and the Uniting Church Synod).

This means literally hundreds of clergy and lay Christians are not only having access to worthwhile literature which our niche market covers, but also learning more about the parish of St Peter's and the wealth of our tradition. On each and every one of these occasions the Bookroom has been warmly welcomed and the sales have been excellent. Recently, at Melbourne Synod, we took \$2 500 in our three hours of selling. The Parish of St Peter's Eastern Hill has shown itself to be a beacon in these times when online sales seem to capture the market, when other Bookshops - especially Christian - are closing down. Not all Bookshops though and our Bookroom offers a service that is unique and irreplaceable in this changing environment.

Thirdly, St Peter's Bookroom is a ministry for our St Peter's Community. It is a place where volunteers regularly gather, providing pastoral care and connectivity within the parish. There are many parishioners and others who give generously of their time, some every week or more when needed - Helena Hughes, Daniel Ferguson, Susan Southall, Stuart Hibberd, Jan Hannon, Ann Brady, Ross Smith, Cath Place, Joy Freier, Sue Deutscher, and our newest recruit, Kathy Kozlowski recently retired from Readings Bookshop. Theirs is a labour of love and commitment. Alongside is the Bookroom Committee, chaired by John Taaff. The committee includes Fr Hugh Kempster, Peter Wild, John Rickard and, this year, Churchwarden Rwth Stuckey. Ian Retford, Kosta Soteriou and Catherine McGovern have given welcome support whenever needed in many different ways. The Book Fair Committee comprising Peter Wild and Rachel Rei was assisted this year by so many parishioners for the actual event, that it would be difficult to name you all. Having a Fair Committee for the first time contributed greatly to this year being the most successful Book Fair yet. As a parish, we can be proud of all that this means. Such gatherings display St Peter's Eastern Hill at its best.

The Bookroom performed solidly for the 2018-19 financial year, which was a very difficult period for retail and small business in general. The Bookroom reported sales of \$157 262 (item 4221) against cost of goods \$83 695 and Expenses \$76 279.

The 2019 Book Fair raised over \$8,000 with \$600 of this coming from the generosity of the Phil Stranieri family who donated everything for the sausage sizzle, including their time. The Book Fair sales are incorporated in this year's figure which they were not in 2017-18.

Reflecting the poor retail environment, this year saw a 10% drop in sales. This reduction has been most noticeable in books (10%) and sanctuary supplies (16%) where nearly half the drop can be explained by reduced expenditure sanctuary worship supplies by St Peter's (item 6232).

Despite sales being less than the previous year, the Bookroom does not require external sources of funds to stay afloat and has not called on the Parish for funds to support cashflow or other activities. In addition, the Bookroom pays rent to the Parish in line with its profits. Whilst this may be less than 'market' rent, this reflects the importance of this ministry to the church and the wider community

Levels of stock holding have remained consistently over \$30 000 this year, which is higher than previous years.

Recently I asked Bp Phillip Huggins if he would like to say a few words about the Bookroom:

St Peter's Bookroom is such a blessing!

Countless are the times I have just dropped in . Thus have I found the right next book for my journey; the perfect gift for a soul friend; icons for devotions (as well as , sometimes, chocolates to sweeten an anticipated next meeting of rather tense people!)

Countless are the occasions too of “God moments “in unexpected conversations with other bookshop visitors .

At a time when the Church is plainly between renewals , the nurturing of a thoughtful , gracious and intelligent contemporary faith needs more Bookshops like St Peter’s .

Especially given that other Bookshops have their slight collection of religious books way down the back in places of maximum obscurity.

Moreover , St Peter’s Bookroom , via Carol(good friend of such folk as St Cuthbert and St Julian) , is a ”road show”, taking soul- food to retreats and conferences wherever there is a request!

I write these few thoughts with a prayer of gratitude, wondering too, is there a book in the stories of illumination and loveliness people could share from those times they have also just wandered into St Peter’s Bookroom ?

Carol O’Connor - Bookroom Manager

Sacristy

First and foremost, a big thanks to Adam and David for their service to the Sacristy, their contribution, skills and knowledge have been missed. Having been acting sacristan for a short period, there is still much for me to learn. Thank you to all the people who have filled in the gaps generously and seamlessly, and continued to contribute in ways that I am not even aware of.

Apologies for any oversights and disruption due to my lacking. As I haven't been and am not a regular at St Peter's on a Sunday (as some might have noticed) there are traditions and general things that I am unaware of, and am slowly being made aware of them as they come to my attention. Thank you for your patience, the transition to an acting sacristan hopefully hasn't been too disruptive, this might also be an opportunity to possibly revisit some approaches and traditions, and think a fresh.

For anyone who might be interested or just curious about the role, they are most welcome to get in touch to have a peek or even try their hands in some of the tasks, there is no need to sign up immediately. However, it would be beneficial to have multiple persons who are able to perform this role.

In addition to the regular weekly preparations for services, the 'cookhouse' has been gradually reorganised, a gradual reduction of older candles has also been put in place, this should hopefully assist with the budget, and possibly allow funds to be redirected.

Thank you For Hugh, the different guilds, committees and individuals who have continued to contribute and support the sacristy, I can't imagine any sacristy surviving without your contributions.

Eugen Chen - Sacristan

Lazarus Centre Chaplaincy

Developments in Chaplaincy.

When I reflect on what it means to offer chaplaincy I think of Martin of Tours. Martin lived in France in the 4th century. He was a Roman soldier preparing for baptism when he came across a poor beggar. He could not go on without offering assistance. Martin decided to cut his soldier's cloak in half and give part of it to the beggar. Martin later became famous as Bishop of Tours. His part of the cloak was enshrined and became so popular a place of pilgrimage that priests were appointed to manage the shrine. They became the chaplains, a term derived from the Latin and French for "cloak". While it is helpful to know the history, the practice of chaplaincy develops constantly as needs change. Our society tends to isolate and compartmentalise care so it is important that there are places where people can begin to find wholeness. Chaplaincy comes down to welcoming, listening, understanding, offering hope, celebrating possibilities and helping people connect with others who can assist them. All with an eye to broader social justice questions and challenges. I have the privilege of accompanying participants on their journeys which begin with the welcome we offer at the Lazarus Centre Breakfast Program.

Lazarus Centre Christmas.

The Handfield Chapel was filled on Friday 21st December at 10am as Lazarus Centre staff, volunteers and participants gathered to remember and celebrate the one born into a family who were far from home. The Eucharist was followed by carol singing with Anglicare Victoria Choir and a wonderful sit-down Christmas lunch in St Peter's Hall which catered for almost 100 guests. This year the service will be at 10am Friday 20th December. All are invited to come and give thanks with Lazarus Centre folk.

Commissioning of Chris De Paiva as team leader.

We welcomed Chris as Lazarus Centre team leader at Mass on Sunday 19th May. Those present promised to support Chris as he, in partnership with parishioners, guides and encourages his team in their care for the marginalised.

Longest Night Mass.

The Sunday closest to the winter solstice is a time to show solidarity with those who are homeless. When the nights are coldest and longest we offer our prayers, reflections and donations to assist the Lazarus Centre in its ministry to the homeless. This year Lazarus Centre staff member and former participant, Pete Burns joined Chris De Paiva and myself to share some of the highlights and struggles of this ministry. Pete gave thanks for the difference St Peter's, along with St Mark's Fitzroy, had made to him during his time of homelessness and encouraged us all to continue the good work.

The Lazarus Centre Chaplaincy Newsletter

The newsletter continues to be published quarterly. As well as featuring stories about staff, volunteers and participants I include research into broader themes and issues:

- *Global Citizen*: highlights many of the challenges we face as a global community. Two things are important about this effort. First, they take events ordinarily brought to our attention in the rapidly changing media news cycle and treat them as ongoing challenges. Secondly, they present opportunities for ordinary people to take effective action.

- *The Council for Homeless Persons (CHP)*. At the time of the Federal election the CHP website hosted a link to a grass roots campaign aimed at garnering support to influence political leaders to address housing challenges. Everybody's home proposed five simple things our Government can do to strengthen Australia's housing system so that it works for everyone.

- *Homelessness Week (4th – 10th August)*: an annual awareness-raising week to highlight the plight of the 116,000 Australians who are homeless on any given night. Homelessness Australia provides information sheets and resources to support events all around Australia.

- *Finding Solace in the Library*: following initiatives in San Francisco and Denver, Melbourne City Council is embedding social workers at city libraries to work with the substantial number of homeless people who spend time at our libraries.

As I offer this report I do so with a deep sense of gratitude to all I minister with and amongst, and to all who support this ministry.

Fr Philip Gill - Lazarus Centre Chaplin

The Servers' Guild of St Peter

The membership of the Guild has seen some movement in the year past and we currently have about twenty-one active members. This may seem to be a good number, but represents a slight fall in membership. Although we are usually able to maintain a healthy presence at the various services, it is a fact that the roster is not always able to be filled. Some servers have limited availability and not all are qualified by training and experience to fill the various roles.

The leadership of the Guild has changed in recent months, with Peter Bryce stepping aside from the role of Head Server. This position is now occupied by Anthony Schepis and Peter has accepted the role of "Patron of the Servers' Guild". The Guild does not have a formal structure, but is much more than a list of names. Servers at St Peter's have always had a genuine care for one another.

Anthony and Peter acknowledge with gratitude the support and encouragement of the Vicar and assistant clergy. It is our great privilege to assist them in their ministry. It is also appropriate to acknowledge the good working relationship which exists between the servers in the sanctuary and the musicians and choristers in the gallery.

We of the Servers' Guild are not a breed apart. We are the representatives of the laity and are as much a part of the congregation as we are denizens of the sanctuary. However, if we are to preserve our Anglo-Catholic worship in its beauty and fullness, we need to expand our numbers. Existing servers are regularly trained to take on added responsibilities, but our greatest need at present is for more servers to join us at the "entry level". Apart from the desirability of having a "full team" at the High Mass, we need to expand the numbers of those qualified and willing to assist at the 8:00am and 9:30am services on Sundays.

As always, we would encourage all our people to consider whether this special ministry might be right for them. Please approach either of us if you would like to discuss the options.

*Anthony Schepis, Head Server
Peter Bryce, Patron of the Servers' Guild*

RMIT Chaplaincy and Lay Ministry Report

From a St Peter's perspective, my 2019 has been busy supporting the programmatic and liturgical life of the parish and helping reinvigorate our rich culture of devotion at the Hill.

In March, we successfully ran nine successive days of prayer for Our Lady at our Rosary Novena for the Annunciation. The Blessed Virgin Mary plays such a pivotal role in our salvation history and it's a great thing to be able to honour her where possible and foster a sense of devotion and prayer, particularly with the Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham.

In June, we began the weekly devotion of Holy Hour which takes place on Wednesday evenings between 6 and 7pm. Adoring Jesus in the Eucharist forms the foundation of Catholic faith, alongside the Mass of course, and proclaiming the Real Presence of Christ in the Sacrament is really our charism in this Diocese. My aim for next year is to try to grow this service and encourage more within the parish to treasure prayer and devotion before the Sacrament.

Speaking of Eucharistic devotion by far the most involved—but rewarding—aspect of my work for St Peter's this year was bringing Corpus Christi to fruition alongside a dedicated group of people within the parish and of course our parish partners at St John's Camberwell. Corpus Christi is an ancient celebration within the Church but it expresses so perfectly our Catholic faith and the good news that we offer this Diocese and the Melbourne community.

While this year we were not fortunate to have the participation of some of our parish partners from 2018, we nonetheless rallied as a community and offered a worthy sacrifice of praise. A huge debt of gratitude and thanks to all those rolled their sleeves up to make this important initiative possible.

In addition to these devotional activities it's been privilege, as always, to serve in the sanctuary party and preach at St Peter's. I was particularly fortunate to assist our former Head Server Peter Bryce with training for our Klinger scholar Paul Daniels and for new servers from the parish who have decided to join our guild of servers.

2019 also marks the year St Peter's got a new Website! While acknowledging the great work of Bruce Kellett who designed and maintained our previous Website, it's been great to have a new Website that will ultimately enhance and grow our Web presence. Big thanks to our Web Manager Kosta who helped me with content migration and who is now our chief content manager. Thanks again to Bruce for his many years of work on our previous Website.

Other highlights of 2019 have been supporting our musical programme at St Peter's. We're extremely lucky to enjoy the standard of music we enjoy at the Hill—a fully sung Mass every Sunday of the year with no summer hiatus—and I am not aware of any other Church choir in Melbourne that supports such a comprehensive programme of sacred music.

RMIT chaplaincy

This year we've catered to 150--200 students weekly at Friday prayer and hosted around 300 students a day during semester time at the multi-faith centre. We've launched the Welcome Dinner project, which aims to bring together recently arrived and established Australians at a potluck gathering. Two dinners have so far taken place and brought together students and staff from different campuses—in total about eighty students over both dinners—and our final dinner for the year is to happen in November. We've re-established the Catholic Club for our Roman Catholic students and staff and hosted three memorials for staff and six memorials for the tragedies that occurred in Sri Lanka and Christchurch.

Again, we were a presence at Pride Week with our popcorn and fairy floss food cart and chaplaincy was recently involved in a forum on exemptions for religious organisations and the new religious freedom laws. We launched our first-ever RMIT Iftar to celebrate inclusion during Ramadan and launched a series of multi-faith activities, most recently walking the Labyrinth for the International Day of Peace, which brought together a large contingent of Indian and Pakistani students. Feedback was that students no longer saw cultural or political differences—crucial in this time of political disruption in that region—but only their common humanity.

Chaplaincy now has an ongoing weekly involvement in the RMIT Staffline service, which provides support to staff seeking advice on student welfare matters, and this embeds chaplaincy at the coalface of staff and student support. We've also participated in and supported our Pakistani and Indian cultural groups and offered a visible presence at their respective independence events and cultural celebrations.

Chaplaincy's programme could not enjoy the same level of success without the high-level support we receive from the RMIT executive, and our relationship with Vice-Chancellor Martin Bean is one that we greatly value, as it signals RMIT's ongoing commitment to inclusion of our diverse faith communities.

We are privileged to meet with Martin quarterly and can confirm some exciting news from our final meeting for the year, which took place last week. In recognition of the significant shortcomings of our current multi-faith centre, the building of a brand new multi-faith centre has been added to the 2020 master plan for RMIT works, pending final sign off in the coming months. This followed a feasibility process that considered various venues both on campus and off-campus and has ultimately fixed on a site not far from our current multi-faith centre.

Although we recognise that final approval for this project is pending, we are cautiously optimistic that this project will proceed, given executive-level support for it. The impact of a new multi-faith centre on our work will be significant. We will finally have a fully accessible, fit-for-purpose multi-faith spaces that can be used by every and any religious group on campus. We will also have prayer facilities for our Muslim students and staff that can better fulfill their requirements and keep pace with the growth of this cohort in our community.

The benefits of a new centre for people of faith at RMIT and beyond are numerous and will position RMIT—and our chaplaincy team—at the centre of sector-leading practice in Victoria.

Alae Taule'alo - Lay Minister & RMIT Chaplin

St Peter's Eastern Hill Social Enterprise Inc. (trading as 'Heaven at The Hill')

What a year it has been! The successful pilot of St Peter's Social Enterprise Inc. (trading as 'Heaven at The Hill') on a Sunday in the Parish hall for 14 months - January 2018 and March 2019 - came to a natural conclusion in April 2019, as the launch of weekday trading drew near.

'Heaven at The Hill' began trading in early Sept 2019 between 7am-2pm, Monday to Friday. Since weekday trading began, in line with the purposes of the Social Enterprise, two paid positions have been created for disadvantaged job-seekers, and an associated voluntary position for a person experiencing homelessness. We continue to work in partnership with the Judy Lazarus Transition Centre, providing work experience for volunteers.

Governance of 'Heaven at The Hill' is the responsibility of the Social Enterprise Management Committee, which meets monthly. Day-to-day oversight is delegated to the volunteer Operational Manager, who is a Committee member.

On 25th September a Memorandum of Understanding between the Diocese, St Peter's Parish Council, and the Social Enterprise Management Committee was approved. The Social Enterprise has agreed to pay an annual rental of \$12,000 (+GST) to St Peter's Church, in order to trade at St Peter's Place, on the corner of Gisborne and Albert Streets. This MOU also covers the use of the Parish Hall kitchen, toilets, and storage areas during the week.

In turning the dream into a reality over the past four years, I wish to acknowledge the tremendous work and commitment of the Social Enterprise Management Committee: the Rev'd Dr Hugh Kempster (Chair), Prof. Robert Dixon (Secretary), Catherine McGovern (Treasurer), Bill Mole, Chris de Paiva and Max Skurrie; as well as all former members of the Social Enterprise Committee over the years.

The St Peter's Parish Council has long been a supporter of the vision to establish a social enterprise, and we acknowledge the leadership of its Chair Dr Stephen Duckett. Last, but not least, the support of the St Peter's Eastern Hill Melbourne Charitable Foundation (from which the Social Enterprise was born) has been critical in getting the Social Enterprise to this point; and in particular we wish to thank the former Foundation Chair, John Taaff, and the current Chair, Krystyna Campbell-Pretty.

Dr Ree Boddé Operational Manager (Voluntary)

Pastoral Care

Shirley Nash has recently completed a Review of Pastoral Care (RPC) as requested by a Parish meeting earlier this year. I thoroughly endorse and commend this Report to all parishioners. I thank Shirley for her affirmation of the Pastoral Care team's work to date and look forward to being on the Sub-committee nominated to implement the Report's recommendations.

It has been a privilege for Fr Hugh, Brenda Williams and I to respond to requests from parishioners to provide spiritual care either in home or hospital. Fr David, Brenda, Elizabeth Pemberton and I have regularly taken Holy Communion to "senior" parishioners who are unable to make the journey to St Peter's now. Peter Yewers completes our Pastoral Care team whilst Russell Horney, Caroline Rutherford and Anne Wuttke provided a listening presence to isolated parishioners as visiting team members.

Our Klinger Scholar, Brenda Williams, has provided exemplary spiritual/pastoral care as Associate Anglican Chaplain at St Vincent's Hospital in Fitzroy. Brenda's nursing experience and commitment to compassionate care has enhanced our position as highly valued members of the Pastoral Care Team there. A highlight for 2019 was attendance at Spiritual Care Australia's Conference and winning the award for the Best Spiritual Care Team in Australia.

Caring is by definition a way of life for everyone who belongs to the community of believers. As we progress the recommendations in the RPC please help us to maintain our standards of care by making contact with a parishioner who you haven't seen at Church for a couple of weeks and letting a team member know if further empowerment is required.

Hospitality (Cultivating Space) - was this year's Pastoral Care Week's theme.

"Hospitality as welcome and nurture requires space for people to feel free and accepted. When space is cultivated, it is dug out, set aside, nurtured for a purpose. If someone allows you into that space it is an invitation where silence can speak and meaning can be fostered.

May the coming year's focus bless us with space to offer care-full spirituality.

Di Clark - Lay Minister/Pastoral Care Co-ordinator.

2019 Pastoral Care Review

St Peter's Eastern Hill clearly has a unique nature, unique blessings and unique challenges. The history is rich; the music and liturgy are rich; and it has been a caring community for many over the years. The church is blessed to have a number of honorary priests contributing to the life and worship of the community.

Context

Common principles underpin the vision and direction of the Diocese of Melbourne, as they underpin the vision and mission of St Peter's. Worship, and the practice of following Jesus, provide opportunities for parishioners to become mature Christians. Mature members of the body are then able to demonstrate in their lives the abundant life God offers. Then from the nurture they receive, members respond by showing God's love and welcome to others. This will come to fruition if the Body of Christ is committed to this vision.

Anglican Diocese of Melbourne : Vision and Directions 2017-2015

Maturity in Christ: It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. (Colossians 1:28)

Making known the riches of Christ: To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. (Colossians 1:27)

Making the Word of God fully known: I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known. (Colossians 1:25)

Our commitment matters: For this I toil and struggle with all the energy that he powerfully inspires within me. (Colossians 1:29)

Background to the Review

This review is one of two to come from the Special Parish Meeting on 17 March 2019. The meeting, and review, stem from a time of conflict and tension in the parish.

The review sits alongside the Parish Support Process that Bishop Genieve initiated on 24 April and which was expected to be completed by July.

A theme that emerged while I was listening to parishioners was that it might be good for the parish to slow down and allow time for healing. This included a desire to focus on people rather than big projects for a time. I expect the recommendations of this review do put the focus on the community of God's people in this place.

It has been identified that while Pastoral Care stands alone as part of the parish structure, there are pastoral components to everything undertaken by this large city church.

Terms of the Review

1. To review the pastoral care needs of the parish and people who use the site
2. To identify the best strategy to ensure that pastoral care needs are met, using both stipendiary staff and volunteers
3. To identify appropriate training needs for volunteers
4. To identify a process for evaluation pastoral care

Review Process

Initially I met with the Review Committee, Fr Hugh Kempster, Stephen Duckett and Peter Yewers, followed by a meeting with the Pastoral Care Team.

I had individual conversations with four members of the Pastoral Care team: Diane Clark (Coordinator of Pastoral Care), Fr Hugh Kempster, Brenda Williams (Klingner Scholar & Pastoral Worker) Fr David Peake, and Peter Yewers (Review Committee member) as well as Fr Graeme Brennan (Locum and previous priest at St Peter's)

Following these meetings I met with the Parish Council, and then with congregation members after each of the morning Masses on Sunday 22 September. I was disappointed that a total of only twelve people stayed back on this day. Someone had previously told me they were tired and suspected others might be too.

I also received five written submissions and had three further conversations with parishioners

What is Pastoral Care?

The following are common definitions:

Pastoral Care is a supportive, compassionate presence for people in times of need, helping them on their journey towards healing. It is a collaborative and respectful partnership between the person and their pastoral care provider.

Pastoral Care embodies the tasks of healing, sustaining, guiding, reconciling and liberating.

Or from St Peter's Eastern Hill Parish Report 2018:

Pastoral Care is not about "fixing things" but forming relationships. It is "the art of keeping the mystery of God present to humanity through redemptive relationships" (Rev'd Roy Bradley)

The quote I offered during the Congregation Forums, was endorsed by those who attended:

'In a congregation characterized by pastoral care, members of the clergy are known as persons who genuinely care for people. Care is extended much more through the identity of the pastor than through care-giving programs. The laity also reach out to those who need care. Care for and of one another is a central tenet of Christian theology: "As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." (Gal. 6:10 NIV). Developing a pastoral feeling should not be solely the duty of the clergy or of a specialized ministry in the church. Caring is by definition a way of life for everyone who belongs to the community of believers.'

Pastoral Care at St Peter's

St Peter's Organisation Structure reveals the breadth of Pastoral Care offered by St Peter's. This includes chaplaincy to the Lazarus Centre, RMIT, Parliament, Prisons, the parish work of the Pastoral Care Team including the Vicar, the work of the Guild of St Benedict, as well as informal pastoral care offered within groups and by individual parishioners.

1. Pulchalski et al., *Spiritual Dimension of Whole Person Care: Reaching National and International Consensus*, 2014)

2. Seward Hiltner was the first to identify the functions of "healing," "sustaining," and "guiding." Clebsch and Jaekle added "reconciling" to the list. See Seward Hiltner, *Preface to Pastoral Theology* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1958), pp. 89-174 and Clebsch and Jaekle, pp. 32-66.

3. Shawchuck, N & Rath, G 1994, *Benchmarks of Quality in the Church*, Abingdon Press, Nashville.

1&2. Review of the pastoral care needs of the parish and people who use the site. Identification of the best strategies to ensure that pastoral care needs are met.

This part of the review looks at four aspects of pastoral care:

- (i) Direct care for those using the site
- (ii) Direct care within the parish
- (iii) A pastoral sensibility throughout the parish
- (iv) Welcome and inclusion of newcomers

(i) *Direct Pastoral Care for those using the site who are not parishioners:*

Needs and recommendations:

A pastoral approach is evident in the Bookroom and the social enterprise coffee caravan Heaven on the Hill - which offers opportunities for a number of those who attend the Lazarus Centre homeless breakfast program.

Lazarus Centre

All parishioners I have heard from have expressed their valuing of the pastoral care offered in the parish partnership with Anglicare. This program, and the presence of people experiencing homelessness in the surrounds, also present challenges. An example I heard was of some breakfast people who have accessed family baptism morning teas. This however, seems to be taken in the stride of parishioners and is able to be worked with pastorally.

Some have a strong sense of personal call to this ministry. While recognizing the need for good boundaries in this ministry, there have been concerns expressed that actions sometimes taken by individuals in the parish, in relation to homeless people in the church grounds, are not always as pastoral as they could be.

Recommendation 1: That parishioners and clergy offering direct pastoral care for those using the site be affirmed.

Recommendation 2: That the Parish determine and publish policy and procedures in relation to those in the surrounds, in order to ensure practices are just and pastoral for all concerned.

Recommendation 3: That, rather than taking individual action, any concerned person take their concerns to the leader(s) designated to decide, and implement, appropriate action

(ii) *Direct Pastoral Care within the Parish*

Needs and Recommendations

There is a variety of needs which might be summarised as follows:

- *Those experiencing Crisis or Transition*

Crisis can be defined as ‘...a condition (or state of being) that happens as a result of a critical event. Crisis is the natural and expected reaction to an unnatural and unexpected event. The level of crisis isn’t determined by how big or small the event; it’s determined by one’s personal connection to the event.’ Examples include: death, bereavement, other grief and loss experiences eg. loss of mobility, end of life, transition to supported accommodation, illness, hospitalisation, family and marriage breakdown.

- *Rites of passage: Baptisms, Confirmations, Weddings, Funerals, and other sacramental ministries*
- *Those experiencing mental health diagnoses, addiction and homelessness*
- *Those in leadership roles*
- *Those with pastoral needs who live a long distance from St Peter's.*

Pastoral Care Team

The work of the Pastoral Care Team is seen by parishioners to be valuable in meeting crisis/transition needs. I agree with this assessment.

It is clear that many parishioners expect their pastoral care to come from the Vicar (or an ordained person). The image of the Vicar as the Shepherd was specifically mentioned. It is impressive the way the Pastoral Care Team has worked to identify the care preferences of those receiving pastoral visits, and has worked to ensure most parishioners who are hospitalised, incapacitated or no longer able to attend Mass receive sacramental care, and pastoral care via pastoral visits, phone calls emails and/or facebook. Parishioners who responded to this review Indicated that phone calls and referrals would be acceptable to them if they lived some distance away.

Work valued includes:

Di Clark for her role in co-ordinating formal Pastoral Care, including maintaining clear notes

Fr Hugh, Di, and Brenda for undertaking hospital visiting;

all team members for home visits according to closeness to their own homes.

or phone calls;

Fr David for pastoral assessment and care between Sunday Masses;

Brenda for the same after 9.30 Mass.

Di for sending pew sheets to those unable to attend.

Recommendation 4: That Pastoral Care Team members be affirmed and continue to be intentional at identifying those absent from church.

Recommendation 5: That congregations be reminded to notify a team member if they know of someone needing pastoral care.

Feedback reveals that pastoral care, until recently, has been offered very well. Two parishioners expressed their gratitude for quick responses to a hospital admission, with visits from the Vicar and a Pastoral Worker and the provision of bedside communion. Advice they received from the Pastoral Care Team, as well as congregation members' well wishes, were appreciated. Pastoral care at it's best! On the other hand there have been instances where individuals have felt hurt that they were not visited by the Vicar; or did not receive any follow up from a Pastoral Carer after an initial conversation in a time of crisis.

A number of people have identified that there has been a recent shift in the role of the Vicar and one person noted that '...the heartbeat of St Peter's is its prayer life and worship on the part of its parishioners. This is being compromised now by the life of the Vicar which has become administrative and financially overly involved.'

This is most likely a result of the previous decision to reduce the number of paid clergy. Until

recently the parish were nurtured by the ministry of both the Vicar, Fr Graeme Brennan, and Bp Graeme Rutherford. It is not possible for one Vicar to take on the work done by three priests. I think the interplay of size, finances, programs and the Vicar's role is an aspect of the parish that needs further exploration. My initial understanding was that the parish was a 'program sized' church with a 'pastoral sized' budget. This would certainly have implications for the role of the vicar and expectations of parishioners. However it seems that the situation is even more complex. On the Sunday I was present the attendance was about 100 people and I understand another 35 people attend other evening or weekday services which would make this a 'pastoral sized' church. A reading of the financial reports for 2018 indicates that the monies coming into St Peter's might be described as 'program sized'. Much of this money is however tied to specific programs (eg the choir and the Klingner Bequest)

Parishioners experiencing a pastoral size church with a history of access to the vicar, have an expectation that the vicar will be available for pastoral visiting. The reduction from two part time senior priests and a vicar to only a vicar makes this difficult to achieve. The vicar's responsibilities fall within the definition of a program sized Church, which is currently very different from the pastoral sized church. Dissonance between expectations and reality is not surprising, particularly given the unique nature of St Peter's.

Recommendation 6: That a mature Senior Priest be appointed to work with the Vicar, with a focus on pastoral care.

Recommendation 7: Communication - that parish leaders continue to clarify the role of the Vicar as the situation changes in terms of pastoral care and other commitments, and then communicate this to the parish.

Recommendation 8: That the Pastoral Care Team allocate and monitor the workload of each member of the team, generally, and for out of hours call outs specifically, to ensure all - clergy and lay people - are not destined for burnout.

Some leaders have noted the value of having a priest resident in Keble house; parishioners who spoke of this thought this a good idea – or that the person reside nearby.

(iii) *Welcome and Inclusion of Newcomers*

Pastoral Needs and Recommendations

One person spoke of attending St Peter's for a long time before being truly included. Another who received crisis and ritual care valued the care offered and immediately asked to be actively involved in the parish life. I understand some people attend for the music and liturgy without desiring any further involvement. Good discernment is needed in order to be invitational and warm without overwhelming newcomers

The ministry offered by Rhonda Mach and others at the Welcoming Table strikes a good balance of being invitational rather than confronting or ignoring the new person. Currently, after a person completes the 'Welcome Form', the parish administrator sends a welcoming email and contacts the Vicar who calls and arranges to meet the person for coffee. This seems to fit well with the culture of St Peter's. With such a geographic spread of people this is a good use of time rather than visiting homes while there is only one paid clergy person. This practice could be seen to set up an expectation that the Vicar is available for pastoral care.

Recommendation 9: If a Senior Priest is appointed, this person might share this ministry with the Vicar. Or perhaps take the lead role in this.

Congregation members also have a critical role in the welcome and inclusion/integration of new members. While I sense some reluctance to 'over organise' pastoral care (which at its best happens organically) it seems there may be a need to ensure new members are indeed make welcome and incorporated (Research indicates that most new people who do not remain, actually leave within the first year.)

Recommendation 10: That one person in each congregation take on the ministry of getting to know the new person, so that the new person can be introduced to others with whom they have common interests. This ministry to each new person would continue for 6-12 months.

Recommendation 11: That all members of each congregation commit to actively including new people (to the extent their own gifting, style and comfort enable this).

Recommendation 12: That there be a renewed focus on parishioners wearing their nametags to enable easier inclusion of new members.

(iv) *Caring as a way of life for all who belong to the community of St Peter's.*

Needs and recommendations

Those who have had a long association with St Peter's speak of a strong sense of community and it appears that there has been informal pastoral care of one another during the time of conflict and tension. There is concern about splits that have developed in the church. I witnessed some of the hurt and frustration in individual and congregation conversations.

A specific source of frustration has been named as a perceived lack of outcome from the Parish Support Process. Those most concerned have indicated that they believe there needs to be a time of non defensive deep listening in order to come to come to terms with the past and commit to caring work together for common values and goals.

I understand Parish Council has been working on a joint statement to be announced soon which should reflect this.

I noticed good examples of care within the 11am Mass as two parishioners spoke quietly and gently with a person who appeared to be experiencing some tiredness (or distress) during Mass.

Often a lack of intentional caring can be due to busyness or a lack of thought and sadly it appears that sometimes individuals are actively excluded. I witnessed a person being brushed aside on two occasions when at St Peter's. I have been told sometimes a person will avoid shaking hands with another person. I also understand criticism and exclusion have been experienced by more than one person prepared to take on leadership roles. Such people need encouragement. Providing this will be evidence of genuine, mature Christian care.

One person noted the need for 'living together with our differences.' This was seen to include the ability to speak and hear one another's truths without defensiveness, anger or exclusion

Conversation revealed that not all program leaders believe they receive the support and resources they need in their roles. It seems there is a sense that 'the same people pick up all the tasks'.

Recommendation 13: That a study series be offered on the theme of living together in love as the Body of Christ. This might occur after Mass.

Recommendation 14: That all at St Peter's commit to intentional, respectful and loving care for those who belong to the community of St Peter's

Recommendation 15: If another priest is appointed, consideration be given to reintroduce a prayer chain or prayer tree. This would be a way for busy parishioners to be actively engaged in pastoral care via prayer for those desiring this.

Recommendation 16: That the Vicar, or if appointed, the Senior Priest, develop processes for pastoral care and support of program leaders including identifying if a person is ready for a change of role.

Other Areas

As previously noted, while Pastoral Care stands alone as part of the parish structure, there are pastoral components to everything undertaken by this large city church. The following recommendations are related to the concept of the parish having a pastoral sensibility and are made as a result of conversations. These will already be in practice to some degree.

Transparency

Work Practices, Decision Making, Communication

The need for more transparency was named by a number of people. Naming and practising this priority might bring some ease to both leadership and parishioners.

Recommendation 17: That decision making within the parish intentionally give a high priority to pastoral care implications:

Recommendation 18: That position descriptions, policies, and plain English guidelines for the use of parish resources (eg Keble House) be readily available. Role boundaries should also be clearly noted.

Recommendation 17: That parish leadership offer wider consultation and participation of parishioners in parish matters to assist with further development of trust . (A return to the process of identifying shared values and priorities might also be useful.)

Recommendation 18: That communication processes be reviewed (eg appropriate times to send emails and texts).

Recommendation 19: That consideration be given to reviewing the administrative processes of the Office. (Screening of calls for the is one need mentioned.)

Recommendation 20: That a suggestion box be set up in the church or hall. A suggestion form be developed so people can write their suggestions. These could be considered, and responded to, by Parish Council. All writers would receive a personal response.

Recommendation 21: That the Parish Grievance Process be reintroduced

3. Training needs for volunteers

I understand the Pastoral Care team is very experienced. One new person has joined the team recently. Other members might be interested in refreshing or sharing their expertise. Other parishioners might wish to engage in training for personal development or with a view to engaging with pastoral care. The following is a list of training needs identified for those beginning to volunteer:

- a) Pastoral Care in the Christian Tradition
- b) Presence, Listening Skills and Non verbal Communication
- c) Pastoral Assessment
- d) Guidelines for visiting homes and hospitals
- e) Boundaries in Pastoral Care
- f) Self Care, Referrals
- g) Working together as a Pastoral Care Team
- h) Prayer and Sacramental Care
- i) Caring for people with challenging behaviours,
- j) Caring for those with mental health needs
- k) Caring for those with addictions

Topics (a) – (g) are well covered in the Spiritual Health Victoria manual: *Spiritual Care Volunteer Training Program - A Manual for Trainers*

This program is designed to be delivered by a trained and accredited spiritual care practitioner.

Topic (h) is covered briefly in the same manual and there will be practices specific to St Peter's which will also need to be covered.

Topics (i) – (k) would best be covered by professionals. I understand Anglicare has been able to offer such training in the past. TAFE's would also offer training in relation to these, although they seem to be at a Certificate 4 level.

For ongoing development, the Alban Institute Website still has appropriate articles related to Pastoral Care. Those offering pastoral care might be interested in accessing these for individual reading or discussion

4. Ongoing Evaluation of Pastoral Care

Evaluation processes could be multi faceted:

- Responses to the suggestion box will often provide evidence of how Pastoral Care is viewed. (The form could also include a section for words of gratitude.)
- Stories which are told to clergy and volunteers could be noted briefly to identify what is valued
- Surveys: Intentional conversations with a random sample of parishioners, or a simple written survey, could be developed to evaluate how Pastoral Care is achieving its aims.

The basis of an evaluation could be

- The four areas of this review, and/or
- The four aspects of Parish Pastoral Care, and/or
- The progress with the implementation of the recommendations

An appropriate time for this might be prior to the AGM so information could be included in Annual Reports.

Thank you to all who took the time and effort to contribute to this review. It is my hope that what you have offered will contribute to St Peter's being experienced as 'a community vibrant with life, pulsating with forgiveness, loud with celebration, fruitful in mission.'

Shirley Nash, 8 October 2019

Guild of St Benedict

The Guild of St Benedict is the umbrella co-ordinating body between Sidespersons, Welcoming and Hospitality. Stuart Hibberd will be reporting on Sidespersons and Rhonda Mach on Welcomers. I shall report on Hospitality.

Throughout 2019 we have maintained a wide range of support for events at St Peter's, which has continued with co-ordination between those providing sidesperson duties, welcoming and hospitality. One of the most joyous events for the year was our luncheon for our Klingner Scholars, Colleen Clayton and Lynda Crossley. We were able to acknowledge and give thanks for their work amongst us, after a Service at St Paul's Cathedral on 9 February in which they were ordained as Deacons, when more than 200 people were present in the hall. This was a joyful celebration of the St Peter's family being able to acknowledge both Colleen and Lynda into their new ministry.

During the year we have been able to provide refreshments on various occasions and after Sunday 9.30 am and 11.00 am Masses and at special events, such as: the Patronal Festival Lunch, Transfiguration of the Lord, All Saints, AGM, The Holy Family, and assisting the choir for musical events.

Our work could not be undertaken without the support of many parishioners. In particular, not least, Rhonda Mach for setting up in the hall for 9.30 and 11.00 am Masses, Craig Wilson and Ann Scott-Pendlebury in co-ordinating 9.30 refreshments, Carol and Peter Barnett, Caroline Rutherford and Daniel Midendorfer and Helena Hughes for 11.00 am refreshments. And to Gill and Dawn Best for providing luncheon after the Friends of St Peter's Mass. My particular thanks to Helen Drummond who has been a champion in assisting with the provision of supplies, food and wine.

Unfortunately, the numbers assisting with refreshments at both 9.30 am and 11.00 am has diminished over the past year, and is putting an additional burden upon those remaining on the roster. And so, a plea to anyone who may be able to assist, your support would be most welcome.

At our heart, St Peter's hospitality is a virtue which is a reminder of sympathy for strangers and a rule to welcome visitors.

Daniel Ferguson, Chair Guild of St Benedict

Friends of St Peter's Group

For over twenty years the "Friends" has endeavored to bring together members of the various congregations of St Peters at a quarterly Mass and lunch.

This is just another example of the many opportunities this Parish offers for experiencing our faith and fellowship and we particularly wish to extend an invitation to visitors and friends from outside the parish to join us on these occasions.

We are most grateful for the encouragement and guidance of Fr Hugh and the clergy of St Peters for officiating at the quarterly Mass. Many thanks also to all who assist in the, serving and clearing up of the lunch.

To all parishioners and friends we say "Come and join us for mass and lunch in 2020."

Gilbert & Dawn Best - Coordinators

Synod 2019 – Third session of the 52nd Synod, Diocese of Melbourne

The President's (Archbishop's) Charge presented a challenging overview of the issues confronting the contemporary Anglican Church in an increasingly secular society. He reminded all present that churches still seek to speak on moral issues to the wider society and will do so. Same-sex marriage is the polarising issue of the times, affecting most denominations. We cannot rely on the wider culture reflecting the culture of the church and resilience is needed when discussing the issue. How we speak and listen to each other on this issue will shape the life of the future church. A realistic appraisal of the present situation must look to the teachings of Jesus in contemplating how the church can come together.

Deep division was observed in Synod on the issue of same-sex marriage with only a small number of votes separating liberal and conservative opinion. This was best evidenced in debates leading to an expression of support for the Church of Confessing Anglicans Aotearoa/ New Zealand and an expression of sorrow to the Bishop and Synod of the Diocese of Wangaratta for their approval of a liturgy that could be used to bless persons in same-sex relationships.

Mission is our core business. Demographic change within the Diocese is rapid and parish congregations need to consider how they compare with the demographics of their parish as a whole. In this context, the President highlighted mission action planning, real time data collection to reveal trends, learning from other's experiences, resource sharing between parishes and the value of the parish renewal program. We must engage and reflect our local communities and in particular meet the needs of those who are not yet adults, act to prevent violence against women and promote gender equality if we are to attract new disciples of Christ.

It is everyone's responsibility that churches are safe places and Government requires this of churches. Accordingly, each Parish must frankly complete a self-assessment tool on the issue by the end of November 2019.

The President highlighted a need to look to the future with urgency, determination and accountability. His comments included priority recruitment of clergy with second language skills to better represent the community. There was a strong emphasis on full integration of all Christians into the Church and new migrants in particular. It was therefore of interest that Synod was invited to say the Lord's Prayer together in each member's first language.

25-30 Ordinands each year would be desirable and it is the duty of parishes to support those who are experiencing a call to ministry. The important role of our prison chaplains with over 8000 now in Victoria's prisons and the significant challenge to Anglican Hospital Chaplains of the Voluntary Assisted Dying Act were noted; both relevant to the ministry of St Peter's.

A number of Bills were presented to and passed by Synod including:

- Regulation of Elections Amendment Bill
- Professional Standards Uniform Act Amendment Bill
- Parish Governance (Audit and Independent Examination) Amendment Bill

Reports adopted included:

- Diocesan accounts
- Budget for 2020
- Receiving of reports
- Review of legislation concerning clergy
- Archbishop in Council Act

- Church of Confessing Anglicans Aotearoa/New Zealand
- Preparing for the theological and pastoral impacts of changing work
- Raising the Newstart payment level
- Sustainable development goals
- Protection of the environment
- Lay ministry formation
- Response to the Wangaratta Synod (blessing of same-sex marriage)
- Affirmation of the Resolution of the National Bishops Meeting of the Anglican Church of

Australia, 20 March 2018 – with amendment

- Resources for the establishment of Anglican churches – With amendment
- Next steps for reconciliation
- Synod Honours List
- Condolences – The importance of advising Synod of the death of members of the previous

Synod was emphasised

- Motion of thanks

Motions from the floor:

- Comprehensive child safety
- Simplifying the nomination process
- Child Safe Assessment Tool
- Emerging communities
- Financing the Mission and Ministry of the Diocese
- Information management.

Craig Wilson and Sarah Dowe, Lay Parish Representatives

Flowers

When Donna left in 2018, I filled in with organizing flowers, with the help of David Morell. I was going to resign from this position at the beginning of March and then Lent started so there were no flowers. (No flowers in Lent or Advent)

In the meantime, there was a funeral and Cristina, formerly from 'Flower Flower', who used to do our church flowers, did the floral arrangements with beautiful flowers from Dame Elisabeth Murdoch's garden in the Mornington Peninsula. Cristina and I reconnected and she has been good enough in her retirement to help us out here at The Hill.

Together, we embarked on a mission to buy some good quality silk flowers, to help us cover costs. The number of people giving money in memory of loved ones and for special occasions has diminished alarmingly. We do receive \$250 towards flowers for weddings and funerals and we liaise with the families as to their preferences.

Our silk flowers are used in current arrangements, together with real flowers and greenery. They are hard to discern and many people have mentioned to me how lovely the flowers look! We are able to have two large arrangements up front and one at the back each week. Cristina also helps us out when there are mid-week events.

So, please remember that you can give a donation and have flowers in memory of a special person, or family member. Please let me know, so we can agree on a date and a pew sheet notice and work out how your payment will be made. Your continuing support is greatly appreciated.

Helen Drummond



Welcome Table

When you arrive for worship at St Peter's Eastern Hill you will be warmly welcomed by our Sides persons. You will be able to join in the service at your own pace, including singing hymns, joining in with prayers from our Order of Service.

Following the service you will be invited into our hall for a brewed cup of coffee or tea and to chat with those at the service and where you will be able to get to know others from the congregation better. You are always welcome to ask questions from the Welcome Table Team who willingly assist our regular congregation, visitors and new members to feel welcome and comfortable at our services and social times.

The Welcome Table provides you with the most up to date guide to our details of "Who, What, When, Where and How" ... Who is the event for.... What is the event When and where is it.... How much does it cost and how do I register together with a sign-up sheet for your expressions of interest to attend.

All Parishioners are warmly invited to be part of this vibrant Welcome Table Team so please consider this opportunity favourably to join us as we can only continue to be of service to everyone with the assistance of volunteers – WE NEED MORE PERSONS TO STEP UP AND HELP OUT PLEASE.

Speak to either Di Clark or Rhonda Mach to discuss further.

Rhonda Mach

Parish Office

This year the Parish attempted to slim down the Office Administrator's somewhat expansive task list to focus less on grounds and related maintenance and more on clerical activities related directly to Parish communications. This revision of expectations was supported by the Warden's engagement of a specialists contractor to provide a report on developing an ongoing maintenance program. Since that report was commissioned, however, the Parish has pulled back on this strategy for budgetary reasons, and so the Parish Office will continue to provide a broad range of support services to the Warden's and the Vicar. Practically speaking, for me this means business as usual. This is not an unfortunate turn of events by any means, and I will continue to help out across a swathe of Parish activities and initiatives as best it can, to help alleviate budgetary pressures and at the same time provide the congenial and empathetic face of the Parish 'at the coal face' that I wish to provide. St Peter's has been good to me and I continue to be committed to helping the Parish achieves it's goals regardless of it's future direction and focus.

Kosta Soteriou

Klingner Scholars

Our aims in being placed at St Peter's Eastern Hill this year have been for each of us to develop our ministry through specified learning goals, while also complementing the Parish Mission Action Plan (the 2015-18 one serving as our model). We have felt honoured to have served in such diverse areas as chaplaincy and pastoral care, welcoming and nurturing young families, upholding the sacred high Anglo-Catholic worship, and practicing social justice in the Lazarus Centre by welcoming the homeless and disadvantaged into our fold.

In terms of chaplaincy and pastoral care Brenda has been privileged to be welcomed into the lives and journeys of a diverse, unique range of people. Joining Di Clark each week in God's work at St Vincent's hospital she experienced her heart sing and confirmed her calling to ordained ministry as a Hospital Chaplain. Visiting specifically folk from the 9:30 congregation led her to meet people in varied venues besides their homes. These included an art gallery, cafes and restaurants, a bar, the Magistrates Court, parks and various health care facilities - including a prison ward. Whilst the people and places were unique, the issues shared and explored were common to us all. No one has an easy life. We all face pain, anger, sorrow, the end of life, loss, grief, rejection and feelings of abandonment, as well as joy and delight and that deep connection and commitment that only humans can experience in relationship together.

Joining St Peter's Eastern Hill as candidates within the Melbourne and Bendigo Dioceses, we have been humbled by how generously we have been welcomed and received: being trusted with ministering the bread and wine, being encouraged in children's ministry and the development of their learning and faith life, and partaking in the faithfulness of worship in the High Mass.

Highlights for 2019 for Brenda included the trust placed in her when folk shared their life journeys and sometimes their heart's secrets. Praying with, and for, parishioners, as well as sharing in Communion of the body of Christ with others by extension, and being supported by a wise humble Field Committee were also high points in her year. Likewise, Paul enjoyed networking with young families on the fringe of the St Peter's Community, a venture which culminated in the Families Mass on St Francis Day in early October. The day was complete with no less than a dozen children, half a dozen dogs, and a mobile farmyard petting zoo after the Mass (through the generous support of one of our parishioners).

We both feel blessed to have worked in such a multi-dimensional parish, and wish to record our thanks to Fr Hugh, the Trustees of the Klingner Scholars Trust, assistant clergy, lay ministers and all parishioners for your support, wisdom, guidance and good humour throughout the year. There is a saying in the parish: 'once a St Peterite, always a St Peterite'. It is a truth that has bound us to the parish, and we look forward to returning in future years to celebrate the Gospel with you all.

Brenda Williams and Paul Daniels

Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham

There is the very best of reasons for the existence of the “Cell” at St Peter’s. It is the emphasis on Jesus’ Incarnation. God lives with us, suffers & dies with us & gives us His victorious life. God is the true human being & He has given us Mary & she has given us God made man.

At St Peter’s the prayers of Mary for us all fill her Chapel. People living difficult lives put their prayers in the book there. These are offered during Devotions to Our Lady each 3rd Saturday after the 9am Mass.

On Saturdays the 9am Mass is offered in honour of Our Lady.

We belong to the Shrine of Walsingham in England, where lamps burn for members of the worldwide Society & there we are prayed for daily.

The Image of Our Lady of Walsingham is in the Holy House there. The House is a replica of that in which Jesus grew into manhood.

At St Peter’s there is a faithful core of members of the “Cell” New members of the Society were admitted by Bishop Lindsay Urwin OGS during the Mass of the Assumption of Mary on August 15th.

At present there are 18 members. We all say the Angelus daily & pray for the unity of the Church
Thank you Janet & Robert for breakfast after Mass each 3rd Saturday & Liz & Peter for keeping us regularly informed of Cell meetings & facilitating our memberships.

Fr. Don Edgar



St Peter's Eastern Hill, Melbourne

Meeting date: circular motion, ratified 16.10.19

Author: ALAE TAULE'ALO

MOVED: STEPHEN DUCKETT/SECONDED FR HUGH

Agenda Category: DECISION X / DISCUSSION / NOTING (tick one)

SUMMARY

To affirm the Parish Council position on inclusion of LGTBI+ parishioners, underpinned by our belief of the Real Presence of God both in sacramental forms and community of the faithful. To affirm the Anglican ethos of unity in diversity and reject rhetoric that would seek to sow division among God's people. To express solidarity with the Diocese of Wangaratta, which has recently developed a rite of blessing for civil marriages.

BACKGROUND

1. The 2015 Annual Meeting of the Parish passed the following resolution without a single opposing vote:
Noting:
(a) That Changing Attitude Australia was established to move forward the debate about human sexuality in the Anglican Church and beyond;
(b) That Changing Attitude Australia has invited parishes to identify themselves as 'Welcoming Congregations'; this designation is intended to signal that the congregation is one where gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex people can be guaranteed a welcome;
that this Annual Meeting confirms St Peter's membership of Changing Attitude Australia and reaffirms our wish to be designated as a 'Welcoming Congregation'
2. In 2017, Parish Council responded to the postal survey on marriage equality by passing a resolution that noted the contribution made by LGTBI parishioners to the parish, while deploring hateful attacks on the LGBTI community that the postal survey had enabled and expressing support for the Yes vote, recognising that the postal survey was about civil marriages only.
3. In October of 2019, Archbishop of Sydney, the Most Rev'd Glenn Davies, asked those within the Church who were personally in favour of marriage equality to leave the Church on grounds that their support for marriage equality fatally compromised the Church's mission. Also in October, at the Melbourne Diocesan Synod, a motion was passed that expressed the Synod's sorrow at the Diocese of Wangaratta's development of a rite of blessings for civil marriages.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

4. That Parish Council:
 - a. Embodying and proclaiming the Real Presence of God, both in sacramental forms and in the community of the faithful;
 - b. Believing that Jesus pointed us to a God of infinite and transformational love;
 - c. Witnessing that the Jesus who is present at St Peter's is an inclusive Jesus who welcomed those rejected by the religious authorities of the first century CE;
 - d. Noting the 2015 Annual Meeting supported the Parish being an inclusive and welcoming congregation;
 - e. Noting the parish's expression of support for marriage equality during the 2017 postal survey

- f. Noting the contribution made by LGBTI people to the life and witness of the parish over many years;
- g. Deploring recent remarks by the Archbishop of Sydney, Glenn Davies, which sought to privilege a narrow and doctrinaire view of Anglicanism
- h. Deploring a recent motion by the Synod of the Diocese of Melbourne that expressed “sorrow” with respect to Wangaratta’s recent development of a rite to bless civil marriages
- i. Noting recent moves by the Diocese of Wangaratta to introduce a rite of blessing for civil marriages, including same-sex marriages, is theologically consistent with our support for same-sex civil marriage during the 2017 postal survey:
- j. Reaffirm our commitment to inclusion as a necessary outcome of our commitment to living the Gospel in the world
- k. In particular, reaffirm our support of LGBTI parishioners
- l. Reaffirm our commitment to an authentically inclusive Anglican ethos, which accommodates diverse perspectives and rejects the rhetoric of division
- m. Reject recent divisive comments by Archbishop of Sydney, Glenn Davies, which are at odds with a traditionally Anglican understanding of unity in diversity
- n. Disassociate itself from the recent Melbourne Synod resolution of “sorrow” over the Diocese of Wangaratta’s introduction of a rite of blessing for civil marriages on the grounds that this motion is also at odds with a traditionally Anglican understanding of unity of diversity
- o. Welcome and express its joy that the Diocese of Wangaratta has developed a rite for blessing civil marriages, including same-sex marriages
- p. Express solidarity with the Diocese of Wangaratta, which has sought to respond sensitively and pastorally to the exponential growth of civil marriages in Australia, alongside recent changes to the Commonwealth Marriage Act following the outcome of the postal survey in November 2017.
- q. Agree that this position should be promulgated within the parish and externally via social media

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