

Cathedral Church of Christ the King



Annual General Meeting

2024

Reports

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Agenda

1. Opening, Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country
2. Attendance and Apologies
3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
4. The Reception of the Electoral Roll
5. Presentation of Reports (as set out in this booklet)
6. (If necessary) The election of 3 Cathedral Council Representatives
7. Any other business.
8. Close

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Sunday 6 August 2023

The Dean (Fr. Michael Davies) opened the meeting with prayer in the Synod Hall after Mass concluded at 11:15 a.m.

Present

The Dean (Chair), Fr. Mark Garner, Jill Francis, Cath Zala, Jo Huntly, Mike Robins, Carole Cracknell, Audrey Robson, Margaret O'Rorke, Heather Turner, Robert Christensen, Sheena Johnson, Gillian Canavan, Euan Thompson, Louise Tonkin, Joan Worth, Leanne Nuridin, Chris Cullen, Paul Ronan, Rev. Anne McKenna, Michael Tilbury, Duncan Bentley, Noela Manton, John Manton, Ross Squire, Nola Squire, Lois Byrnes, Bron Sozanski, Maria Sozanski, Kay Maguire, and Adam Blackmore.

Apologies:

Alex Banks, Alan Hatford, Melita Hatford, Jill Gale, Judy Read, Fr. Grant Bullen, Kathryn Bullen, Wayne Mitchell, Mary Mitchell, Bp Mark Burton, Rena Burton, Leigh Askew, Beth Askew, Wayne Weir, Jeff Batch, Phillip Batch, Peter Zala, Sandra Roberts, John Rowland and Carol Greenwood.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners:

The Dean respectfully acknowledged the Wathaurung People and their Elders past, present and emerging being the traditional owners of the lands on which the Cathedral now stands.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Sunday 28 August 2022

Copies of which were circulated at the beginning of the meeting were Received and approved on the motion of Jill Francis, seconded Cath Zala - CARRIED

Electoral Role

Comprising those members of the Congregation present was received and tabled by the Secretary.

The Dean announced that 3 nominations had been received for election to the 3 Synod vacancies and so the nominees, namely Cath Zala, Adam Blackmore and Euan Thompson were declared elected unopposed. (There are also 3 vacancies remaining for supplementary representatives for which no nominations were received.)

Presentation of Reports

The following written reports in the form of a booklet presented to the congregation present were received as follows:

- The Dean - Fr. Michael Davies (including Mission Report)
- Audited Financial Statements- Gillian Canavan Cathedral Shop - Lois Byrnes
- Cathedral Music Foundation - Bron Sozanski
- Director of Music - Lyndell Allen
- Planned Giving Program - Wayne Mitchell Bible Studies - Fr. Mark Garner
- BUPA Report and Aged Care Team - Jill Gale Flower Guild - Carol Greenwood.
- Holy Trinity Sebastopol - Heather Turner Wardens Report- Cath Zaa
- The Servers Guild - John Rowlands

The Dean spoke to his report:

Fr Michael acknowledged and thanked a number of people for their valuable contributions to the life of the Cathedral notably, the Honorary Clergy, Lyndell, Leigh and the choir, the Sacristan Carole Cracknell and the Servers' Guild under the leadership of John Rowland, Fr Mark Gamer's excellent Bible Study programs and the Sebastopol congregation represented on the Cathedral Council by Heather Turner. He praised the work of the Cathedral Council and welcomed new Council Members Adam Blackmore and Jill Francis, noted the Revival of the Music Foundation and welcomed the appointment of Jill Francis as a Trustee

Fr Michael complimented the Music Department and the servers on the continuing high quality of the Cathedral music and liturgy and particularly highlighted recent inspiring events such as the Memorial Evensong for our late Queen, the Festal Evensong marking the coronation of King Charles III and the Provincial Evensong he attended with the choir and some of the Congregation at St. Paul ' s in Melbourne where Bishop Garry preached. He noted that the special services the Cathedral presents for the benefit of the wider Ballarat Community raises our profile and brings in many people outside of our usual congregation.

Fr. Michael also specially acknowledged the continuing success of the "Conversations at S" program on the 3rd Sundays of the month where we meet high quality interesting speakers and the monthly Ecumenical Taize Services we share with the congregation of the Ballarat Central Uniting Church. He is also planning to revive the work of the Cathedral Chapter when the Bishop appoints some new lay and clerical Canons

Vote of thanks

Adam Blackmore moved a vote of thanks to the Dean for his comprehensive Report which was carried unanimously.

Holy Trinity Sebastopol

Heather Turner spoke to her report, highlighting that they have 3 new parishioners and there are now 20 on the Parish Roll, they continue to worship twice a week and are a strong and faithful community. They enjoy a good social life and their Op Shop is trading strongly and keeping them afloat financially.

Cathedral Financial Statements

The Treasurer, Gillian Canavan tabled the annual audited Financial Statements and spoke to her Report as follows:

When Gillian commenced as Treasurer 6 years ago the Cathedral was notionally \$44,000 in debt to the Diocese but now, thanks largely to the increased proportion of regular income received from the congregation by direct bank credits the notional debt to the Diocese is fluid and has reduced to a little over \$12,000.

Gillian emphasised that the MYOB accounting system which she employs to record all financial transactions and which produces the Profit and Loss Account and the Balance Sheet in accordance with a Chart of Accounts approved by the Auditor and the Diocese only records transactions going into and out of the Bank . As she doesn't count the cash received or bank it herself she is unable to comment on the Planned Giving Report prepared by the Recorder. She thanked the counters Jill, Michael, Mary and Wayne for their work of counting and banking all cash received .

The Treasurer highlighted that it is a constant struggle to manage the Diocese of Ballarat debit balances, however she emphasised that the Diocese is legally our only creditor.

She particularly thanked Bron and Maria Sozanski for their fundraising efforts via the Trivia Nights and the very high quality musical events they organise. She also thanked Lois and Joan for their very helpful continued provision of saleable produce.

Receipt of the Treasurers report was moved by Gillian, seconded Cath Zala - CARRIED.

Appointment of the Auditor

It was moved by Gillian seconded Cath Zala that Rhonda Petrie be reappointed Cathedral Auditor for the next 12 months - CARRIED.

Closing

Louise Tonkin speaking on behalf of the Cathedral Congregation reminded everyone of how fortunate they are to have such a beautiful sacred space to worship in.

She expressed the gratitude of the congregation to Fr Michael and Alex for their very good Ministry to us all. Fr Michael's preaching is of a very high standard and so we are loved, spiritually fed and taught. She also thanked the Cathedral Council and Wardens for their hard work over the past 12 months.

The Dean closed the meeting with prayer.

The Dean's Annual Report

"Our Cathedral embraces the riches of our Anglican heritage that is at the same time catholic and reformed. The eucharist lies at the heart of our spiritual ethos with all activity, missional or otherwise, stemming from this sacramental act of Sunday worship". (Dean's Message - Cathedral Website).

It is hard to believe this is my third annual report. Might I express from the outset my gratitude to all who serve our cathedral community in many and various capacities. We serve God's church as much in the micro as in the macro things and must never underestimate our contribution. The important thing is that we are participants in building up the kingdom of God and not merely spectators. We all have a role to play within as well as beyond Sunday worship; If you are not sure what yours is, let me know and together we will prayerfully discern what it might be.



Photo: Palm Sunday

As a community of the baptised, the heart of our togetherness is the eucharistic worship of God met in Jesus. This is central to our identity as Christians as it reflects our union in Christ. All our respective activities should be grounded in worship as it is pivotal to the church's mission. We gather in eucharist to be nourished by word and sacrament, to embark on a new day as a Spirit-filled people, willing to share the Good News with those we meet beyond the hallowed walls of this Cathedral Church of Christ the King.

The liturgical life of Christ Church Cathedral. We are truly blessed with a willing and able team of clergy who offer their gifts to the liturgical life of our cathedral. Our clerical associates offer a rich variety of preaching through Sunday sermons that are at the same time stimulating and edifying. Our liturgies are complemented by the gifts of our Director of Music Lyndell Allen, our organist Leigh Askew, and our choristers, who give of their time each week to render our worship of God reverent and appealing.

We are well-served by Lyndell, Leigh, and the choir whose efforts extend beyond Sunday mornings and our monthly evensong. Aside from the annual liturgies for Holy Week/Easter, All Souls Requiem, and Nine Lessons & Carols, the Cathedral hosted a number of splendid concerts including the Australian Boys Choir in March, Vox Quartets in June, with the Ballarat Choral Society performing later in August this year.



Photo: Australian Boys Choir and Ballarat Voices

First and foremost, Christ Church Cathedral is a place of worship in the heart of our city, it is likewise a public space that should offer hospitality to the arts, assorted cultural entertainments, as well as interfaith and ecumenical observances such as Harmony Day, Refugee Week, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The offering of hospitality to the wider community is an important witness in and of itself.

The Cathedral Music foundation, was established in 2017 by the former Dean to: "...provide financial assistance to enable the performance of sacred and secular music at or in association with the Anglican Cathedral of Ballarat by choristers and musicians with a particular focus on the Cathedral Choir and Cathedral Organ."

I'm grateful to our very own Dr Jill Francis for her report on the foundation and her willingness to become a Trustee last year, bringing the total number to four including the Dean, the Registrar, and Mr Tim Hovey. The Governor of this entity is the Cathedral Council. Currently there is just under \$20,000 in the bank account; I'm hopeful that we might grow this fund sufficiently to enable an investment of interest in an organ or choral scholar. We have endeavoured to attract said scholar through advertising on the website and elsewhere.

Cathedral Chapter. As Dean, it was my great privilege to install two new canons to the Cathedral Chapter at last year's synod eucharist. The Rev'd. Robyn Shackell and Ms. Kate Schnerring were appointed canons by Bishop Garry for their outstanding service to the diocese - Rev'd. Robyn as chair of the Ministry Development Committee; and Kate for her work with Anglicare. The Chapter serves as a resource for the promotion of preaching, teaching, and the liturgical ministry of the cathedral. This year I have invited canons - both lay and clerical - to preach at evensong. The Rev'd. Robyn Shackell gave a splendid homily at evensong in April on the lives of the saints. An invitation will be extended Kate Schnerring in due course.

Exploring Faith. Between the last AGM and this years, a series of Bible Studies have been offered, not just to the Cathedral family but members of our wider Ballarat Anglican community. The author and facilitator of said studies, The Rev'd. Dr. Mark Garner over the four consecutive Mondays in August 2023 offered us a study on the Book of Proverbs. In January Mark led a workshop on Mark's Gospel called Mark on Mark after the popularity of the previous year's Mark on Matthew. These workshops have proved a helpful introduction to the focal gospel for the year and have been well received.

In February/March, we journeyed with Mark through the three Epistles of John, in an excellent study named Lent, In Three Letters. As this book of reports goes to print we're engaging a study on the two Epistles of Peter called On this rock I will build my church. I am grateful for Mark's ministry of teaching - and preaching - which is profound and insightful, yet readily accessible to all.

I have called this section of my report Exploring Faith as it's the tab-name on the Cathedral webpage, incorporating not only Mark's bible studies, but an initiative of another of our associate clergy Fr. Grant Bullen. Aside from his liturgical gifts, Fr Grant has a passion for contemplative spirituality. He is an experienced retreat conductor, spiritual director and teacher in spiritual formation. Over the next several months, Fr Grant Bullen is leading a course called The Contemplative Way – Seeing the Gospel of Jesus Through a Different Lens. Taught over four afternoon workshops, this course will explore the Way of Christ as understood in the contemplative tradition.

It traces the development of contemplative spirituality from the teachings of Jesus, through the centuries of church tradition, to the renewal of our own age. Each session looks at core teachings of Jesus as well as contemplative practices in lifestyle and prayer. I am very much looking forward to Fr Grant's presentations.



Photo: Solomon Islands Choir - 9 Lessons and Carols

Conversations @ the Cathedral. We host an array of speakers on a variety of topics on the third Sunday of each month at 5pm. In February, the Ballarat Grammar Headmaster Adam Heath presented on his vision for the school, in April Robyn Wilson spoke of the logistical challenge in establishing COVID testing stations around Western Victoria during the height of the pandemic.

The August C@C will host Bishop Nishantha Fernando who is visiting from Sri Lanka. Bishop Nishantha will speak about his diocese and the challenges he faces as a new bishop; he will likewise preach at both Sunday morning liturgies in which we will celebrate the Feast of Mary, Mother of our Lord.

Ecumenism. A vitally important aspect of witnessing to our wider community is that of ecumenism. Our inter-church events are a fitting reminder that there is more that unites than divides our differing expressions of the Christian faith. We have a particularly good relationship with both the Roman Catholics and the Uniting Church. On Palm Sunday this year, members of our three communities gathered at the Sturt Street Rotunda to herald Jesus' triumphal entry to Jerusalem and the commencement of our liturgical observances for Holy Week.



Photo: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Given the ecumenical nature of Taize, the Cathedral and Ballarat Central Uniting Church agreed to a partnership in sharing the hosting of a Taize liturgy on the first Sunday of every month. We alternate the host venue each month, affording both centres opportunity to offer a hospitality of our spaces.

ABM. The Cathedral continues to support the Melanesian Brothers and their ministry and outreach to remote indigenous communities in the Diocese of North Queensland. ABM have produced a colourful booklet outlining each of their projects at home and abroad, including ours, if you would like to know more about the project we support I'd be happy to make the booklet available to you.

Trivia Night. We extend our thanks once again to Bron and Maria Sosanski for hosting our annual Battle of the Parishes. This event is not only a great fundraiser for the Cathedral, but draws together several Ballarat Parishes for a night of fun, fellowship, and healthy rivalry. We were delighted that the St Aidan's Cup was retained by one of the Cathedral teams.

Cathedral Council. Earlier in the year I exercised my right of appointment and invited the Chair of the Diocesan Property and Finance Committee Mr. Mike Robins to join Cathedral Council. Mike brings a wealth of business acumen and practical life experience to the council, Mike has also accepted council's invitation to assume the office of Property Warden. The other member of the Warden's Sub-Committee Cath Zala holds the title of People's Warden, their report is to be found in this booklet.

Given the Cathedral is governed in accordance with The Diocesan Centre Act 1989, a Rental Policy has been devised as a means of responsible stewardship and utilisation of these shared resources entrusted to us. A well-wrought policy is of paramount importance if we are to let our spaces to various organisations to pay for the privilege of their use. Aside from an additional income stream, groups that make use of our spaces provide us opportunities to promote the Cathedral and its activities. As a matter of course we've need to be discerning with regards our hospitality of space, given the inappropriateness of certain groups meeting in the Cathedral.



Photo: Cathedral Council Christmas Dinner @ Craigs

Stewardship. Over two consecutive Sundays last September I focussed my preaching on stewardship in two parts:

1. Stewardship in the giving of our financial resources.
2. Stewardship in volunteering our time and talents.

In the main, our financial stewardship is by offertory, either through direct giving or envelopes. These monies ensure and enable our mission, outreach, and witness to the gospel within the Ballarat community. In addition to this is our financial giving to mission abroad, as in our ABM project.

We are reliant on the material resources and the generosity of our congregation to aid the healthy functioning of our Cathedral Church. As with all organisations, we need our members to contribute via various media, including through the gifting of time, talents, and monetary resources. This is what good stewardship of that which God has entrusted us with is all about. As surely God has gifted us with our very lives, we are called to reciprocate through giving back to Christ's Church.

If you cast your eye down the burgeoning list of names and their corresponding roles on the Cathedral Directory of the pew bulletin's back page, you'll notice several new additions since our last AGM. The Cathedral Council and I are grateful to members of our community who've offered their time and talents in the service of our Cathedral Church. Although they have specific roles, their gift is for the good of the whole community, that we might be a fruit-bearing vine that is tended by God and rooted and grounded in Christ the vine-stock.

We are presently upgrading our Cathedral Website. And I would encourage you to visit

@ <https://www.ballaratcathedral.org.au/>

and view its progress. As stated in the Cathedral Council Annual Report (see attached): The webpage is our window to the world and is used mostly by people who are external to our Cathedral

community, so it's imperative that we keep it refreshed. Cathedral Council have engaged the services of Jane Christiansen to keep the website updated, reflecting who we are, and what we do as a community of faith. We are grateful to Jane for her assistance.

Pastoral Care & Prayer. Since my return from South Africa I've met with a couple of our laity to discuss pastoral matters and how we might more effectively minister to members of our community who are homebound or hospitalised. It's essential that none of our number fall through the cracks as it were. Pastoral care and prayer are the twin imperatives of faith communities - something we can all engage as the baptised in Christ.

As you are aware, Bishop Garry hasn't enjoyed good health since the death of his mother Lorna in February, and has spent the past three months in St John of God Hospital. Thankfully he has been moved to the Queen Elizabeth facility where he will undergo rehabilitation to get him mobile again. +Garry is grateful for the ongoing prayers of his Cathedral family and I would ask for their continuance on the road ahead.

Finally, may God bless our endeavours in the year ahead; today's decisions are guided by the desired outcomes of tomorrow, and how effectively we engage the gospel in increasingly challenging times. Let us meet the challenges together. With my love, prayers, and heartfelt gratitude for you all and the service you render to our Cathedral Church of Christ the King.

*The Very Rev'd. Michael Davies
Dean of Ballarat*



Photo: 1 Sunday School Decorating Christmas Tree

Treasurer's Report

Please note the following information for the financial period 01/07/2023 to 30/06/2024:

- The monthly invoices for Cathedral Costs payable to the Diocese of Ballarat are paid in full to 31/05/2024. All the Cost of Priest invoices for this AGM financial year are paid in full.
- The only outstanding monthly invoices for Cathedral Costs and Charges are for 01/06/2024 to 30/06/2024 = \$5,306.00 approx.,
- The Cathedral Shop transferred \$2,000.00 maintaining an important role towards the Anglican Cathedral viability.
- Funds received as at 30/06/24 for the Anglican Board of Mission (Australia) = \$1,010.75
- Funds received as at 30/06/2024 for the Lady Chapel Lectern = \$910.00
- The Planned Giving Program continues as the major significant source of regular income to the Cathedral. Payments via bank credit transfers to the Cathedral Commonwealth Bank cheque account continue to grow as the preferred option. These payments are much appreciated by the Treasurer as the main income source utilised for the execution of the Diocese of Ballarat monthly invoices.
- The regular Cathedral Costs per month = \$9,550.00 approx., and the regular Cathedral income per month = \$9,367.00 approx., Thus the monthly shortfall = \$183.00 approx.,
- Cathedral Maintenance is always an ongoing issue and efforts to avoid costs, except for essential repairs, is a priority. I acknowledge the work of the Cathedral Wardens involved in these matters. Finding the funds for Cathedral maintenance issues remains challenging.

The time and efforts of the Cathedral Financial Team are much appreciated and duly acknowledged: Wayne Mitchell, Mary Mitchell, Jill Gale and Michael Tilbury et.al.,

Gillian Canavan

Hon., Treasurer - Ballarat Anglican Cathedral

Finance Facts for the Year - 01 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

Income

Envelopes	\$15,403
Planned Giving	61,175
Open Plate	20,401
Bank Transfers	2,860
Shop Income	2,000
Donations	9,535
Fundraising	1,027

Total Income **\$112,401**

Expenses

Cost of Priest	\$47,500
Cathedral Maintenance	3,840
Cathedral Assessments (Diocese)	18,843
Cathedral Insurance	13,145
Organist	19,545
Music Director	2,936
Worship Supplies	2,937
Printing Costs	1,898
Other expenses	3,957

Total Expenses **\$114,601**

Net Profit/loss **(\$2,200 dr)**

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25th July 2024

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING
ACCOUNTS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE 2024

I have examined the MYOB file and associated documentation for the year ended 30th June 2024.

I am satisfied that the data within the MYOB file and the corresponding paperwork are a true and correct record.

Rhonda Petrie



BAS agent
94735001

Parish Recorder's Report

For the year the result was very close to the promised Planned Giving amount for this year just gone.

Planned Giving target was \$66,714-00 which is close to what the Cathedral received: \$66,726-00.

The Mission amount received was down on the previous year. This year we received \$721.90. The number of Planned Givers has declined from 39 to 30 this year.

Thank you to all our parishioners for their donations to our Church.

Wayne Mitchell
Parish Recorder

Cathedral Council Report

The Cathedral Council meets once each month, with the aims of (1) supporting the management of the Cathedral with due propriety and transparency, and (2) enabling members of our Cathedral community to exercise their various ministries effectively and safely. In terms of governance, we aim to develop procedures that are transparent and fair. We also consider and discuss the monthly reports from the Dean, the Treasurer, the Wardens and Holy Trinity Sebastopol.

The Council members are:

- The Dean (*ex officio*, Chair)
- Euan Thompson (Secretary)
- Gillian Canavan (Treasurer)
- Cath Zala (People's Warden)
- Mike Robins (Property Warden)
- Heather Turner (representative, Holy Trinity Sebastopol)
- Michael Tilbury, Adam Blackmore, Jill Francis (members)

During the past year the Council has initiated the following:

- A Rental policy, to enable the opening up of our lovely spaces to the community and to work responsibly to supplement our income.
- A Lay Leaders' Team consisting of people with specific responsibilities and clear role descriptions. We are very grateful to the people who have stepped up to use their time and talents to serve our Lord in this way. These leaders meet each quarter to make sure that our efforts are well coordinated. Their names and contact details are presented each week on the final page of the pew sheet.
- The start of an update of our website at www.ballaratcathedral.org.au. The webpage is our window to the world and is used mostly by people who are external to our Cathedral community. It is important that it fully represents the many activities and people that are part of our collective ministry to the community, and important that it is kept up to date. Jane Christensen (Robert's daughter) is doing

amazing work as web designer, and (as Jane lives in Melbourne) Jo Huntley has very kindly agreed to work with Jane as web liaison manager. This is very much a work-in-progress and we look forward to working with Jane and Jo in the coming year to make this an excellent, user-friendly website.

- We are also working on enhancing the security and accessibility of the Council's electronic documentation, as we are aware that these documents will become a historical record of the workings of the Cathedral over the years.

If anyone has creative suggestions or comments about the running of the Cathedral, please contact the Dean (Fr Michael Davies) or the People's Warden (Cath Zala) in the first instance.

My thanks to the Councilors for their diligent work over the past year.

Jill Francis

Wardens' Report

People's Warden Report

Thank you to the Cathedral Council and Cathedral community for the opportunity to serve you in the capacity of Wardens.

It is a pleasure and a privilege to be a link between the Dean, our community and the Cathedral Council.

Since the 2023 AGM I was lucky to be joined by Mike Robins as a fellow Warden which has been wonderful. Thank you to Mike for his faithful service and commitment.

We have tried to ensure regular meetings with the Dean in between Council meetings and this seems to be working well.

As People's Warden I have tried to keep up with new parishioners and visitors as well as our regular Cathedral family. Many people have now been issued with Cathedral nametags. We are very lucky to have some small members of our family now and this is a heartening sign of the renewal and growth in our community. The children are a delight and certainly seem to feel that our Cathedral is their home. The wonderful Cathedral hospitality is a focus for friendship and pastoral care on Sunday mornings and there is a great spirit as we all chat over a cuppa and something delicious! Once a month we now have a children's programme and this has started well. I feel as if members of our community are aware that the Wardens are their link with the council and there is excellent information sharing and communication which makes my role easy in passing on information to the Dean and Council.

Thank you to the Associate clergy that we are so fortunate to have at the Cathedral. They contribute massively to the pastoral care and welcoming at the Cathedral.

Property Warden's Report

The year has had a number of property issues and challenges addressed, including:

1. An Audit of all Internal and External issues within the Cathedral property with the view of creating a maintenance schedule and watch list.
2. We have had 2 malicious damage events, one damaging the gate to the memorial garden and breaking a stained glass panel within a window (near the external entrance to the Synod hall, and one involving a window break and enter via a rear window to gain access to the lower sacristy, this was reported to police with a successful arrest. Both have had full repairs carried out.
3. Concrete cut, removed and re-laid to eliminate a trip hazard between the Cathedral and the Diocese front door.
4. Front Door of Cathedral yellow line on door step redone.
5. Some large pavers re-laid outside the front door of the Cathedral to stop rocking and water splashing.
6. Sacristy sliding door into Kitchen re-hung.

The future Challenges are:

1. The Red Carpet in between the communion rail and front pew and between Sanctuary and Synod Hall entrance needs attention as it is very worn and buckled to a point that it is close to a trip hazard.
2. North and South internal walls of the Cathedral have dampness even through some more recent repairs, need to determine best solution and get some repairs scheduled.
3. Cracks in the Church walls, these are now documented and have a monitor, measure and observe plan to determine the next steps.

Overall the Church is in good condition however with all bluestone buildings continual maintenance is paramount to avoid allowing them to deteriorate to a position where we have too many issues and difficulty knowing where to start. Financing such maintenance is always a major issue.

The Wardens role is partly as a check and balance or sounding board to the Dean and thankfully all this continues to go well with regular communication and conversations.

We liaise with Father Michael over pew sheet material, rosters, maintenance issues, pastoral concerns and the opening and locking up of the Cathedral when necessary. Thank you to Father Michael and the Cathedral Council. The Cathedral community are very supportive and it is a pleasure to serve you and God in this place.

Cath Zala and Mike Robins

Holy Trinity Anglican Church Sebastopol

Holy Trinity is still managing to hold its own with some 20 members, despite the fact that since last year 4 of our long time members have gone into permanent care. We have 3 new members this year.

We average 6 – 12 members at Sunday church and we continue to maintain our monthly morning tea / lunch at Sebastopol Bowling club.

Our Tuesday mass now only occurs on our Parish Council day due to diminished members because of health issues.

We have 5 parish councilors, 2 synod Reps, 1 cathedral council rep and 1 Bishop in Council Rep, plus 7 Op Shop volunteers.

Our finances are ably managed by Cheryl Pierce at the Diocesan Centre, and we are most grateful to her.

Our General account holds: \$4710.76 Our Rental account holds: \$151.36 as at July 17, 2014

Our Op Shop continues to keep us afloat thanks to not only our volunteers but to Dave Morrell from the Cathedral, Faye Cameron, from Anglicare and Helena, a lady from Christ Church. Our Op Shop is open from 10am until 2pm each Thursday and Friday,

Our fill a bag for \$5 days are popular and well received, as is our free table.

Sadly we continue to have our old op shop broken into on a regular basis in spite of much reinforcement thanks to Phillip. We have given up contacting the police as they are unable to catch the offenders. Phillip also looks after our gardens and rubbish. Thank you so much Phillip.

We hope to have our annual fair on the First Saturday in November before the Melbourne Cup. Logistics to be worked out in September.

Now that Alice has gone into care, our craft group of roughly 6 members have chosen to meet in each others homes. We thank those ladies for their support to our parish.

Sometime after our AGM, we hope to hold a workshop for all parishioners and volunteers who hold any office in the parish to undertake the Safe Children's compliance training.

A big thank you to all who volunteer in any capacity to help keep Holy Trinity at the forefront of our community.

We are very blessed to have Fr. Michael as our Parish priest, and thank him for his loving care of us. We are but a small part of his many and varied duties, pastoral and menial, as Dean of the Cathedral. I am sure he could do with an assistant to help deal with all the tasks that he is called to do!

Many Blessings as we strive to spread the Gospel and bear one another's burdens in the growing borough of Sebastopol!

Heather Turner

Warden, Parish Council Rep., and Rep. to Cathedral Council

Cathedral Music Report

It is hard to believe that another year of faithful ministry is drawing to a close and I am again writing my report for our Annual General Meeting in my 27th year as director of Music. I feel truly grateful for the support I am given to lead and encourage the music ministry in our Cathedral, and despite finding it a huge task at times, am humbled by being trusted with this important role.

Every year there are many successful services and events that our music ministry team contributes to; however, the most important is our weekly contribution to regular worship through the 10am mass and at evensong on the 4th Sunday of each month. I am pleased to report that our repertoire of Masses, Canticles, Anthems and Hymns continues to grow, refreshing the musical experience of our singers and congregation while striving to reflect all elements of the liturgical themes and seasons in our choices. Thanks to Leigh for his diligent hymn selection and for keeping me on my toes in this regard!

This time last year synod was fast approaching and we were beginning the preparations for the Rutter requiem, which took place on the first weekend of November. This work was a large undertaking and included several highly regarded local musicians who generously volunteered their time to make this performance possible. Then came Evensong for Feast of the Ascension, with guests from the Ballarat Grammar Chapel Choir, and then of course advent the Carol Service and Christmas itself. We are working on this bottle neck as will be discussed further on in this report.

Carols itself was an outstanding success. It included more groups from across the community than ever before: Ballarat Voices, VOX Ballarat, Creswick Brass, Yarawee Recorder Players, Central Uniting Church Choir and, for the first time, the Solomon Island Brotherhood from Arrarat. All groups were very well received by a congregation that overflowed into the hall by up to 100 people. This is despite the Ballarat City Carols being held on the same night and goes to show how much people in our community appreciate the caliber of our offering at the Carol Service. We are now looking into how we can more ably accommodate the number of people wanting to be part of this celebration - watch this space as more news becomes available!

Our annual trip to St. Paul's Cathedral for Provincial evensong in July 2024, included an amiable group of 10 singers from BGS, accompanied by Alex Johnson, who also is an occasional member of our own choir. Many attended the 2 cathedral choir rehearsals prior to the performance, which gave us a great opportunity to share and learn with each other. They are keen to build the links again between the Grammar and Cathedral communities and this event gave us the opportunity to consider different approaches we might take in the future to see this happen. Thanks too to Ballarat Grammar for again providing a bus for us to travel to the event.

We have been blessed to see growth in the official positions in our music team this year. With former honorary librarian Val Holley retiring some years ago, we have been struggling to meet the needs of our library. We were most pleased when the council added to our lay leaders list a Music Librarian Position. Lorraine has been called to take up this position and has done an amazing job of revitalizing our space and reorganizing our

resources. With assistance from Sheila and Leigh she will have us shipshape in no time. Thank you Lorraine for understanding this important and sizable role. Similarly, we are excited to have Jill as a Music Foundation Trustee, helping shape the future of the choir through our choral scholars program, writing the job description for our lay leader Lorraine and also working with Leigh and I to reassess our job descriptions and make these more accurately reflect the work we actually do.

We have also been blessed to have new singers join our ranks. Earlier this year following a move to the area, we welcomed Chris to our back row. First disguised as a bass, he made the move to the tenor section after easter where he quickly became an invaluable asset. Then Good Friday turned out to be even better than usual, as Jesse arrived in our congregation and was quickly welcomed into our choir family. We now boast 3 tenors - a very rare thing in any choir, let alone a regional cathedral! While DC is busy as the main organist at St. John's Soldiers hill, we are very pleased that he continues to sing with us at evensong, and has willingly stepped up to the conductors stand on a number of occasions this year while Lyndell has been sorting out her health. We have also welcomed singers to our evensong number, with Patricia in the Soprano section and most recently Malcolm join the basses. Some great news this week too, that there is high possibility that Judy, who is still on the journey to recovery, will rejoin our evenongsters soon, and will hopefully join in for carols too. Of course, while newbies are always welcomed and celebrated, we give unending thanks and praise for all of our choristers, who attend every week come hail or shine, and are always giving their best to ensure our worship is supported by music of the highest quality possible.

There are a few changes on the horizon for the music team in terms of the way our year plays out. It has been acknowledged both by our team and singers, and by council, that the period from November to New year is a considerable bottleneck for our cathedral Musicians. While they always rise to the challenges set before them, we are endeavoring to ease the pressure with a proposed shift of the large-scale choral work currently performed at All Souls (November) to the Green season, probably in August. We will still provide a sung mass in a remembrance service for all souls, however our annual orchestral mass will take place in a time when the liturgical calendar is less cluttered. This will make way for us to give even more effort to our celebrations of Christ the King (Feast of Title) and our very popular Carol service,

To close, I would like to offer thanks; to each and every member of the music team for their hard work and enthusiasm in leading our worship each week, to Leigh for his diligence and enthusiasm to get the job done, whatever the job happens to be, to DC for having the courage to step up when I can't be there, Dean Michael for his patience, listening ear and willingness to work through the challenges we face from time to time, to Bishop Garry for his trust and faith in our capacity to do this ministry, the Cathedral Council for their support, encouragement and understanding of our vocations as cathedral musicians, and to all members of the cathedral community for their kindness and love for us as people and in our work.

Lyndell Allen, Director of Music

Cathedral Music Foundation Report

The Music Foundation was launched in November 2018 to support the musical life of the Cathedral and to place our Cathedral visibly within the cultural life of the City of Ballarat. The Foundation is on the Register of Cultural Organisations of the Australian Tax Office; hence, donations (over \$2) to the Foundation are tax deductible. There are several legally binding requirements relating to: (1) allowable expenditure, (2) reporting to the Department and (3) appointing Trustees. The Founder of the Foundation is Bishop Garry; the Governor is the Cathedral Council; and financial conduct is managed by a group of Trustees, consisting of:

- The Dean (*ex officio*; the Very Revd Michael Davies)
- The Registrar (*ex officio*; Mt Peter Jarvis)
- Mr Tim Hovey (appointed 2018)
- Professor Jill Francis (appointed 2023)

The Trustees usually communicate by email and hold a face-to-face meeting once a year. In the past year, the Trustees have made the following decisions:

- Transfer of funds from a low-interest bank account to a protected Diocesan sub-account that attracts a higher interest rate
- Award of a Choral Scholarship to Mr Lane Hyde who served as Lead Tenor in the choir (2023)
- Development of a transparent process for making funds available for allowable projects in collaboration with the Director of Music (Lyndell Allan)
- Advertising of a Choral Scholarship (2024). Sadly, no one was appointed but we have learned a lot about how we might attract suitable applicants for 2025.

Financial report

Balance at 1 July 2023		\$20,928
In		
	Investment income	\$310
	Donations	\$1,100
Out		
	Bursaries	\$2,500
	Other costs	0
Balance at 30 June 2024		\$19,838

Obviously it would be advisable to spend only the income generated from the capital, rather than spending the capital we hold. On the other hand, we do not stimulate and support the excellent music of the Cathedral by simply having money in the bank! The balance between holding on to funds and supporting projects is a matter for the Trustees to decide.

Guidance on how to donate to the Music Foundation is presented in the pew sheet each week.

We are indebted to our Registrar, Mr Peter Jarvis, for ensuring that we remain compliant with the requirements of the Department, and thankful to the Trustees for their oversight of the Foundation.

The Trustees also record our grateful thanks to the Foundation's donors and to Bron Sozanski for his tireless efforts in fund-raising.

Jill Francis, Trustee

Music Librarian's Report

As Music Librarian I am pleased to report that the Music Room and Library have been going through a major make-over.

The space has been cleared making way for 2 extra filing cabinets donated by John and Noela Manton.

This has enabled all music to be sorted in strict alphabetical order and catalogued.

I am also pleased to report that the work being carried out is an ongoing project as there is still much to be done e.g. Anthem Books etc, being catalogued preserved and sorted.

I look forward to reporting to you when this project is completed.

Lorraine Jones

Servers Guild Annual Report

First and foremost, I wish to record my grateful thanks to John Rowland for his generosity and leadership of the Guild over the past few years – big shoes to fill indeed!

While we bade farewell to the Bichok and Coad children earlier this year (at least for the time being), I am pleased to report the addition of two new people to the Servers 'family': *Josh Askew and Faisal Grant* – welcome and thank you your willingness to be a part of this important ministry. I am also grateful to *John Rowland, Phil Batch and Peter Zala* (as well as *Jemima and Ida Rowland* on occasions), and *Jill Gale* for their continuing commitment and support.

Earlier this year, we reintroduced the traditional mode of the administration of Communion, as well as commencing with two Eucharistic Assistants at the 10am Sunday service. This means that many of us need to double up each month. I have commenced on the big task of reviewing the "Servers Handbook" booklet to reflect current practice, and to assist in future recruitment however in the meantime, I bid you keep us in your prayers and consider if serving in the sanctuary might be a ministry for you.

Adam Blackmore, Head Server

Sacristan's Report

The role of Sacristan works closely with the Dean in the weekly preparations to ensure that all things required for liturgical use in services are maintained and there are adequate supplies to hand.

A big thank you to Carole Cracknell for her commitment and dedication over the years with the regular and often thankless task of linen laundering. I am grateful to Jill Gale, and others from time to time, for their assistance with this. Jill has also generously donated some new purificators, so thank you.

I wish to record special thanks to Julie Scott of Sebastopol parish for her expert sewing skills in preparing new linens for the Lady Chapel. The previous linens will be repaired to fit in due course, and any offcuts used to further bolster our supply of other linen.

It is wonderful to note the generosity of the whole community in your donations to refurbish the Lady Chapel lectern. You will notice that it has been taken away for polishing and coating, thus reducing the burden on polishing volunteers at our working bees; many thanks to Jill Gale for organising this fundraising.

As a segue, I also say thank you to the faithful people who help out at the Christmas and Easter working bees, to give of their time in these busy periods of the year. These events afford the chance to clean and polish some things that would not otherwise get done at other times of the year; they also build on great community spirit and camaraderie.

So as you can see, the Sacristan is not a one-man band but a team of people who work together to ensure the day-to-day activities of worship are continued – thank you all!

Adam Blackmore, Sacristan

Health and Safety Report

This brief report by the Health and Safety Representatives (HSRs), has been prepared for the 2024 Church Council Annual General Meeting. The HSR role commissioned by the Dean in mid-2024, is shared between Sheena Johnson and Annette Vaarzon Morel.

Due to extraneous circumstances for both representatives, there has been limited action and outcomes for the role's responsibilities. It is anticipated functionality will develop during coming months with more suggestions for work to be carried out as the year progresses.

Activity to date includes attendance in May at a Lay Leaders meeting with introduction to other Lay Leaders involved in various roles. A brief biography has been drafted for introducing the HSRs on the future webpage. There have been initial discussions with the Dean, Jill Francis, Cath Zala the People's Warden, and Mike Robins the Property Warden, about development of the role description, activity and protocols around health, wellbeing and safety including communication channels.

Some of the HSR plans include documenting and reporting a regular Health and Safety walkaround of the Cathedral and areas of congregational use. This will involve using a reporting template for documenting findings with a matrix for determining risk management. A system for ensuring currency of equipment such as the first aid kit and AED is planned. Since inception of the role, there have been two episodes where first aid has been offered to attendees during a church service.

Both HSRs have provided details for communication published on the pew sheet and welcome feedback and suggestions to enhance the health and safety role. This team would like to acknowledge support in this role from the Dean Father Michael Davies and Jill Francis.

Sheena Johnson and Annette Vaarzon Morel

Cathedral Shop Annual Report

The Shop has continued to raise much-needed funds by supplying customers with produce made from home and to order. A flyer is on the Notice Board and also on the usher's desk with a list of produce available, depending on seasonal availability of ingredients. Joan Worth and I were happy to once again contribute to the traditional Christmas baking effort and we are grateful to those who supported this venture. The amount of \$3,107.00 was raised in the year ending 2024. Apart from the usual Christmas items, a considerable amount of produce was also purchased. We are grateful to those who supported this effort and who continue to do so on a regular basis.

Lois Byrnes

Cathedral Flower Guild

It has been my great pleasure and honour to be the Floral Co-ordinator for the Cathedral over the last eight years. Due to my personal circumstances, I have, with sadness, now relinquished the position. It was a thrill to be thanked and blessed at the Choral Eucharist on 23 June. My sincerest thanks to all for the beautiful book on Adelaide Gardens and the lovely red Cyclamen. I was humbled by the kind gesture.

I take this opportunity to again thank Cath Zala, Jo Huntley, Faisal Grant, June Dyer and Maria Sozanski for their assistance arranging the weekly flowers. The arrangements add beauty to the liturgy and create a warm welcome to all.

Maria Sozanski has taken over the role of Floral Co-ordinator. Maria provides most of the foliage each week and other seasonal flowers when available from her garden.

Flowers are purchased when our gardens are not in bloom, however, the cost keeps rising! May I encourage all parishioners to consider making financial donations to the 'flower fund', especially at Easter and Christmas.

It is always a pleasure to receive requests for specific arrangements in memory of a loved one or for a special personal occasion in return for a donation towards the cost of the flowers. This would help defray costs and provide the opportunity to reflect on loved ones or special occasions during the Cathedral Services.

My thanks to the Dean and Cathedral Council for their encouragement and support.

Carol Greenwood, Floral Co-ordinator

BUPA Report

This year we have continued to provide pastoral care services to BUPA aged care and Estia aged care at Mt Clear.

Unfortunately at times the year we have been restricted due to Covid restrictions. Our fortnightly services at BUPA are well attended with an average of 20 residents attending. Many thanks to the Dean for co-ordinating this ministry.

We have been invited to Estia Health at Mt Clear and now provide a monthly service. (The first Friday of each month). The staff are most helpful in encouraging residents to this service (approximately 25 residents and staff attend).

Calendar events as Easter Palm Sunday; Mothering Sunday; Christmas and St Francis day are all recognised with appropriate symbols: Eggs, flower posies, palm crosses and the blessing of pets.

All enjoy the organ music provided by our much appreciated volunteer Ray. Thank you for your time and commitment to this ministry.

Thank you to my team of volunteers for your support and friendship

Jillian Gale, co-ordinator

Hospitality Report.

It is my pleasure to present the Cathedral and Diocesan Hospitality Report for 2023-2024.

Firstly I would like to list the occasions:

Monday 30th October 2023.

The Australian Archbishops' and Bishops' Reception was held in the Synod Hall prior to the commencement of their conference in Ballarat. 40 in attendance.

Sunday 17th December 2023.

Nine Lessons and Carol's which also included "picnic boxes" for 26 Solomon Islanders who had travelled from Ararat with Father Martin (driving the bus!).

Approximately 120 guests were welcomed with bubbles Christmas cake and shortbread following the service.

As with so much of our Hospitality the Cathedral Family is often asked to contribute either financially and or with food. Generosity is never in question.

Thank you.

Tuesday 13th February 2024.

Shrove Tuesday. 34 of us were "wowed" with pancakes and crepes!, both sweet and savoury. Fabulous toppings!

Monday 26th February 2024.

Funeral of Mrs Weatherill, Bishop Garry's mother.

Light refreshments were served following the service .

Food provided by the diocese.

Easter day Sunday 31st March.

The Cathedral Family brought a plate to share for morning tea, bubbles were also served to celebrate, approximately 60.

Every 3rd Sunday at 5pm - Conversations at the Cathedral

Light refreshments are offered 10-20 people.

All of these occasions have been successful, however they would not be possible without "The Team" who give so generously of their time, their talents and their willingness to serve.

I am so very grateful for their love, support, and encouragement and look forward to the next 12 months as we continue to offer Hospitality the Cathedral way!

I would like to acknowledge Maria Sozanski for her generosity with cakes offered for special occasions or not as the case may be! And also the biscuits that are in the cupboard for Conversations.

Thank you Maria.

It would be remiss of me not to mention John Russell from the Diocesan Office who is always on hand to help in any way he can.

My thanks to you John.

How blessed we are to be part of this loving community.

Louise Tonkin, Hospitality Coordinator.

Mothers' Union Report

Although we do not have a MU branch at the Cathedral we do have 2 *Lone Members*. We are well supported and encouraged by Dean Michael.

Lady Day is celebrated every year on March 25th. This is a diocesan celebration and all are welcome

Every Wednesday we meet at midday in the Lady Chapel for Prayer. This is followed by a 12-10 Eucharist and lunch. All are welcome

Jillian Gale MU Diocesan President

Exploring Faith: Bible studies

There is now a relatively substantial on-going programme of Bible studies, held throughout the year, and based at the cathedral, but available across the diocese through various media.

In 2023-24, study groups met for 4 or 6 consecutive weeks, either in person in Synod Hall, or on another evening via Zoom. The topics dealt with are as:

1. "The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom" (the book of Proverbs):
September 2023
2. "L-E-N-T Spelt Out in Three Letters" (based on the Epistles of John): Feb—March,
2024
3. "On this rock I will build my church" (the epistles of Peter): July-August 2024

In addition, the talks introducing the year's gospel, introduced in 2023, were continued in January, 2024, with "Mark on Mark". The session was recorded and is available on the cathedral website; it is also being made into a Podcast as part of the Grammar School's series.

Under the supervision of the Ministry Development Committee, two series of Daily Bible reading notes, compiled by several contributors, were made available throughout the diocese, one in Advent and the other in the "Bible Challenge" in June. As always, they were very well received, and the MDC is in the process of planning both sets of notes for the coming year.

In addition, an on-line theology discussion group (*Theology in Action*) has been meeting once every month (except December) for the past two years. The participants include members from Ballarat, across the diocese, and from Melbourne and Darwin. There is no fixed agenda: at each session, the group decides on the topic for the next. Topics have included:

- The Second Coming of Christ
- How we can and should talk to God
- How do we interpret the concept of the Body of Christ?
- Is it helpful to study church history beyond the New Testament times?
- Eschatology: the last things

For many of the sessions, various members write extensive notes—at times amounting to essays—which are distributed to the whole group prior to the evening's discussion. It has been decided, and endorsed by the MDC, to edit these notes, with the authors' permission, into a series of Occasional Papers, which will be accessible through the *Theology in Action* page on the web site, and may be printed in hard copy for distribution to various parishes.

Summary

There is clearly considerable interest in systematic study of the Scriptures, both within the cathedral congregation and across—and even beyond—the diocese. The responses to the group studies (in-person; online; Podcasts, etc.) have been very enthusiastic. The numbers attending the group sessions are consistently around 14—15 in-person and 7—10 online. In addition, I regularly receive requests from people who have not been able to attend the various sessions for the written notes which are provided for each of the sessions.

I am planning to continue these Bible studies at intervals throughout the coming year. When the details have been decided, the information will be provided in the pew sheets and on the web site.

Mark Garner

Come and Meet

The Right Reverend

Nishantha Fernando

Bishop of Kurunegala, Church of Ceylon
(Anglican Church in Sri Lanka)

Sunday 18th August

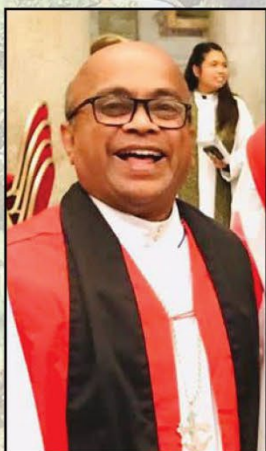
Cathedral Church of Christ the King

49 Lydiard Street South, Ballarat

Schedule

8am and 10am Bishop Fernando
will be preaching at both services.

5.00pm **Conversations at The Cathedral.**
A Public Forum with time for
Questions and Answers



In 2023, Rt. Rev. Nishantha Fernando became the seventh Bishop of the Kurunegala Diocese in the Church of Ceylon. Ordained priest in 1996, he served in various roles, including as Chaplain of the Kurunegala Diocese's youth movement and as a lecturer at the Theological College of Lanka. With degrees from the University of Peradeniya and Newman University, UK, and graduating from Serampore University in India, Bishop Fernando contributes regularly to a variety of Christian publications. Currently, he is pursuing doctoral studies at Serampore University, showcasing his dedication to both pastoral and academic pursuits.

For more information contact: martin.nadarajan@ballaratanglican.org.au | 0430 003 519

Cathedral Directory

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Dean of Ballarat

The Very Revd. Michael Davies
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dean@ballaratanglican.org.au

Cathedral Office:

thecathedral@ballaratanglican.org.au

Associate Clergy

The Rt. Revd. Dr Mark Burton

The Revd. Dr. Mark Garner

The Rev'd Anne McKenna

The Rev'd Grant Bullen

Br Neal Salan OP

Cathedral Council

(Meet 2nd Tues of the Month @ 5.30pm)

Secretary: Euan Thompson

Treasurer: Gillian Canavan

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Organist Emeritus

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