

## **Proposal to change the status of the provision parish of Strathfield (St Andrew's) to a parish**

(A report from the South Sydney Regional Council.)

### **Initiation of Proposal**

1. A proposal was made to the Archbishop by the minister and churchwardens of the provisional parish of Strathfield under clause 4(1)(b) of the Parishes Ordinance 1979.

### **Details of Meeting**

2. A meeting of the South Sydney Regional Council held on 28 June 2006 considered the proposal under clause 5 of the ordinance. Council certified that all requirements under clauses 4, 5 and 6 have been complied with and recommends that the provisional parish of Strathfield becomes a parish from 1 January 2007.

### **Proposal**

3. The proposal is to change the Provisional Parish of Strathfield (St Andrew's) to the Parish of Strathfield.

4. The provisional parish has applied for a change in classification following its steady growth in membership and ministry in recent years.

### **Parish Information**

5. The provisional parish of Strathfield has struggled for many decades while still making some impact on its local area. From 1998 to 2002, the parish had only been able to afford to pay a minister part time. In February 2003, the Rev Kevin Kim was appointed as curate-in-charge. On his appointment, the Korean Bible Fellowship, a ministry founded by St Matthias', Centennial Park, which Kevin had been leading since 1999, merged with the existing congregation of St Andrew's. The Prayer Book service at 9.00 am has been maintained, the 11.00 am congregation (Korean-speaking) established itself and a 3.00 pm congregation (English-speaking) also began which includes Chinese, Vietnamese, Indians, Indonesians and Anglos along with Koreans. A separate Friday night congregation began with 20 university students. Sunday School ministry began for the 11.00 am and 3.00 pm congregations.

6. The parish underwent considerable growth in two years. By mid 2005, while the 9.00 am congregation continued with steady attendance, both the 11.00 am and 3.00 pm congregations grew to 120 and 60 respectively. During the latter half of 2005, the parish experienced some difficulties which resulted in the 11.00 am congregation being reduced to 43 people. This proved to be a testing experience for the church, but has been resolved.

7. During 2006 there has been a steady improvement in numbers. The 11.00 am congregation has grown, and the Friday night congregation merged with the 3.00 pm Sunday congregation. Both of these congregations are informal in style, and both run well-established home Bible study groups which are attended by over 90% of the parishioners.

8. The 2001 ABS census gave a total population of 21,030 people in the postcode area of whom 7 percent claim Anglican affiliation. The population is considerably more in 2006 and continues to expand with new developments.

9. The parish staff consists of three full-time people (the minister, assistant minister and MTS apprentice). It also employs three paid student ministers from Moore College.

10. Sunday attendance is 155 adults and 61 children as follows –

9.00am	Prayer Book service	25
11.00 am	Informal family service(Korean)	68 + 45
3.00 pm	Informal family service	62 + 16

11. Other parish activities include 14 home groups, 2 youth groups, a nursing home ministry, assistance with scripture teaching at Strathfield North Public School and a significant university student ministry through the Korean Bible Study. The parish gives significantly to missions both within and outside Australia.

### **Future plans**

12. The provisional parish intends to continue deepening its ministry to people of all races in the parish area. This is signified by its nursing home ministry, scripture in schools and visitation. However, it is obvious that future growth will mainly come from ministry to Korean people, both Korean-speaking and English-speaking, and to those who are second- and third-general immigrants. In the long term, the parish has plans to plant other Korean congregations, strengthen its ministry amongst Korean students, continue to grow the ministry team and strengthen its training program for both lay leadership and prospective full-time paid ministers.

### **Particulars of Church Trust property**

13. Details of property held by the Property Trust upon trust for the provisional parish are as follows –

<b>Details</b>	<b>Insured Value</b>
Site of Anglican church, hall and rectory, Swan Avenue, Strathfield	\$387,000
St Andrew's church building	\$2,355,000
St Andrew's church hall	\$779,000
Rectory	\$350,000

**Summary of consolidated receipts and payments**

14. A summary of the financial position over the last three years and the budget for 2006 is set out below –

<b>Receipts</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Offeratories	147,567	214,679	226,053	223,630
Missions		37	3,600	
Interest	297	719	772	300
Donations	8,622	115,000	1,831	
Investments	1,825	4,082	4,117	3,000
Grants	5,000			
GST refunds		701		
Other receipts	92,691	4,578	5,579	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>256,002</b>	<b>339,796</b>	<b>241,952</b>	<b>226,930</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Stipends/salaries	66,562	79,348	239,085	167,450
Cost recoveries	16,601	17,296	23,699	40,000
Office expenses	4,758	7,198	6,769	1,500
Insurance	9,401	2,670		
Utilities	3,075	4,206	2,388	4,200
Maintenance	44,246	30,133	5,247	5,100
Missions	15,708	169,500	15,349	
Other	33,899	21,434	4,998	8,680
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>194,250</b>	<b>331,785</b>	<b>297,535</b>	<b>226,930</b>

15. The parish has loans on two ministers' cars.

16. Archdeacon Deryck Howell supports the application.

**Recommendation**

17. The South Sydney Regional Council recommends that the provisional parish of Strathfield (St Andrew's) becomes a parish from 1 January 2007.

For and behalf of the South Sydney Regional Council.

DERYCK HOWELL

*Archdeacon of South Sydney Regional Council*

30 June 2006