
Anglican Radio Unit Ordinance 1973

No. 32, 1973

AN ORDINANCE to establish a Radio Unit of the Church of England in Australia within the Diocese of Sydney and for purposes connected therewith.

WHEREAS in 1970 a Commission on the mass media was appointed by the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney to inquire fully into the use of the mass media by the Church AND WHEREAS the interim report of the Commission was received by the said Synod in 1971 and the Commission was reappointed for a further year and requested to bring a final report to the Synod in 1972 AND WHEREAS the final report of the Commission was received by the Synod in 1972 AND WHEREAS the said report recommended that a Communications Department be established so as to achieve a more co-ordinated approach to the use of mass media AND WHEREAS the said report also recommended the establishment of a radio division with its own council to write and produce radio programmes with a view to appointing a full-time officer with supporting staff and equipment AND WHEREAS it is envisaged that such division will comprise one of the units within the said proposed Communications Department AND WHEREAS there has been in operation for some time a Society known as the Church of England Television Society constituted by the Church of England Television Society Ordinance 1957 as amended, the object inter alia of which Society is to promote the use of television and other forms of broadcasting as a means of presenting the Christian message AND WHEREAS there has been also in operation for some time the Information and Public Relations Department of the Diocese of Sydney now known as Anglican Information Office, Sydney, which has employed radio broadcasting in the area of public relations as part of or incidental to its activities AND WHEREAS it has been recognised that in the past there has not been adequate provision of facilities for production of radio programmes or use of radio broadcasting by the Church and that accordingly it is thought desirable that a Radio Unit should be established to operate inter alia as a production unit making evangelistic and devotional programmes and current affairs commentaries suitable for statutory radio time as well as regular programmes AND WHEREAS it is intended that no area of responsibility or activity at present assumed or occupied by the said Church of England Television Society or the said Anglican Information Office, Sydney, should be assumed or occupied by the proposed Radio Unit NOW the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney HEREBY ORDAINS DECLARES DIRECTS AND RULES as follows:

PART I — PRELIMINARY

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the "Anglican Radio Unit Ordinance 1973".
2. In this Ordinance unless inconsistent with the context or subject matter:
 - (a) "the Archbishop" means the Archbishop of the Diocese of Sydney or, in his absence his Commissary or if the See be vacant, the Administrator of the Diocese;

Anglican Radio Unit Ordinance 1973

- (b) "the Council" means the Council appointed by this Ordinance;
- (c) "the Diocese" means the Church of England in Australia Diocese of Sydney;
- (d) "the Synod" means the Synod of the Diocese; and
- (e) words importing the masculine gender include the feminine gender, words importing persons include corporations and words importing the singular number include the plural number and vice versa.

PART II — NAME AND OBJECT

- 3. There shall be constituted a body known as the Anglican Radio Unit (hereinafter called "the Radio Unit").
- 4. The purpose of the Radio Unit is to employ and promote the use of radio in the Diocese as a means of presenting the Christian gospel and in furtherance of such purpose it may:
 - (a) procure, equip, staff and maintain facilities for the researching, writing, creation, production and distribution of radio items and programmes;
 - (b) acquire such items and programmes from other sources whether within the Diocese or outside;
 - (c) supply and distribute radio items and programmes within the Diocese or outside;
 - (d) assist, train and advise other persons or organisations in the creation and production of radio programmes;
 - (e) co-operate with any other body or bodies with similar or associated objects and contribute to any such body which carries on the whole or part of its activities within the Diocese;
 - (f) acquire property by purchase, donation or otherwise;
 - (g) use for such purposes any money paid to or property vested in it; and
 - (h) enter into such contracts, employ such persons and do, all such things as are necessary or desirable for or incidental to carrying out the above purposes or any of them.

PART III — RADIO COUNCIL

- 5. (1) The control, administration and management of the Radio Unit, its property, officers and staff shall be vested in a Radio Council (hereinafter called "the Council") which in particular but without limiting the generality of the foregoing shall be empowered:
 - (a) to open and operate on bank accounts and determine the persons by whom cheques and other banking documents shall be signed or endorsed;
 - (b) to invest funds on behalf of the Radio Unit and to sell and dispose of any investment;
 - (c) to raise or borrow money for the purposes of the Radio Unit, whether with or without security, provided that a resolution of the Council to borrow shall be approved by resolution of the Standing Committee of Synod before action is taken upon it;

Anglican Radio Unit Ordinance 1973

- (d) to authorise any person to do any act or sign or execute any document on its behalf; and
- (e) to make rules for the conduct of its business.
- (2) The members of the Council shall comprise the following:
 - (a) Three (3) clergymen elected by the Standing Committee in the first instance and subsequently by the Synod;
 - (b) Three (3) lay persons elected by the Standing Committee in the first instance and subsequently by the Synod;
 - (c) Two (2) persons appointed by the Archbishop, which said appointment may be revoked by him at any time;
 - (d) The Radio Director if and when appointed ex officio; and
 - (e) Up to two (2) persons appointed by the Council who in its opinion have the necessary qualifications and experience in the medium of radio broadcasting which persons shall be appointed from time to time for such term and upon such conditions as the Council may think fit provided that any such appointment shall be for no longer than three years, but who shall be eligible for reappointment.

(3) The three (3) clergymen and three (3) lay persons to be elected pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of sub-clause (2) hereof shall be elected as soon as practicable after the date on which this Ordinance is assented to and shall hold office until the ordinary session of the Synod to be held in 1975 at which the said clergymen and lay persons shall retire but be eligible for re-election. The three (3) clergymen and three (3) lay persons elected at such Synod and thereafter shall hold office for terms of three (3) years but be eligible for re-election.

(4) The Council shall at its first meeting after this Ordinance is assented to and thereafter at its first meeting in each financial year, appoint one of its members to act as Chairman at all meetings during the ensuing year. In the absence of the person so appointed as Chairman the members present may at any meeting appoint one of such members to act as Chairman at that meeting. The Chairman or acting Chairman of the meeting shall have a deliberative but not a casting vote.

(5) A person elected or appointed pursuant to sub-clause (2) hereof shall cease to be a member of the Council if:

- (a) he dies;
- (b) he resigns by writing given or sent to the Archbishop or the Chairman of the Council;
- (c) he becomes bankrupt or insolvent;
- (d) he is convicted of any offence punishable by imprisonment for one month or longer;
- (e) he is absent from three (3) consecutive ordinary meetings of the Council without leave of absence;
- (f) in the case of any person appointed pursuant to paragraph (c) of sub-clause (2) his appointment is revoked by the Archbishop; or
- (g) he retires pursuant to sub-clause (3) hereof.

Anglican Radio Unit Ordinance 1973

(6) Upon a clergyman or lay person elected in accordance with paragraphs (a) and (b) of sub-clause (2) hereof ceasing to be a member of the Council the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of the Casual Vacancies Ordinance 1935.

(7) Upon a person appointed by the Archbishop pursuant to paragraph (c) of sub-clause (2) hereof ceasing to be a member of the Council the Archbishop shall appoint another person in his place.

(8) Five (5) members of the Council of whom at least two (2) are clergymen and at least two (2) are lay persons shall form a quorum and subject to this Ordinance the members of the Council shall meet at such times and in such places and conduct the business of the Council in such manner as the said members consider appropriate.

(9) Every member of the Council shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Radio Unit against all loss or liability properly incurred by him for and on behalf of the Radio Unit by reason of being or having been a member of the Council other than that incurred or occasioned by his own wilful act or neglect.

PART IV — RADIO DIRECTOR

6. (1) There shall be a Radio Director who shall be appointed by the Council with the concurrence of the Archbishop for such period and upon such salary, terms and conditions as the Council may determine. The Radio Director may be dismissed by a resolution of the Council of which one week's notice in writing has been given to the Archbishop.

(2) The Radio Director shall be the chief executive of the Council who shall be responsible for the production of programmes and management of the unit's operations and shall perform such other duties and exercise such other functions as the Council may from time to time entrust to him.

PART V — MISCELLANEOUS

7. The Council shall cause to be kept such accounting records as correctly record and explain the financial dealings and transactions of the Radio Unit.

8. The Council shall appoint a qualified auditor or auditors.

9. The Council shall furnish to the Synod or the Standing Committee of Synod any information as to the affairs of the Radio Unit which it may be requested so to do in pursuance of a resolution of Synod or Standing Committee and shall at least once in every year report its proceedings to the Synod and shall present financial statements which shall be reported upon by the auditor or auditors.

10. The financial year of the Radio Unit shall be from the 1st day of January to the 31st day of December next following.

11. All moneys belonging to the Radio Unit and available for investment shall be invested in accordance with the Investment of Church Trust Property Ordinance 1944 or any Ordinance amending or taking the place of the same.

12. The Council shall pay all expenses of and incidental to the establishment of the Radio Unit and of this Ordinance.

Anglican Radio Unit Ordinance 1973

I certify that the Ordinance as printed is in accordance with the Ordinance as reported.

ATHOL RICHARDSON,
Chairman of Committees.

We certify that this Ordinance was passed by the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney this 15th day of October, 1973.

R. J. BOMFORD,
W. G. S. GOTLEY,
Secretaries of Synod.

I assent to this Ordinance.

MARCUS LOANE,
Archbishop of Sydney.

15/10/1973.