



2024 Annual Report

Annual General Meeting
Sunday, 25th August 2024



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Agenda.

1. Prayer
2. Appointment of Minutes' Secretary
3. Declaration of a Quorum, Attendance & Apologies (Quorum = 4)
4. Declaration of General Business and Confirmation of Agenda
5. Declaration of Vacancies (and appreciation to retiring councillors)
6. Reports for Tabling & Adoption:
 - Vicar's Report
 - Churchwardens' Report
 - Treasurer's Report
7. Adoption of budget for 2024-25
8. Adoption of mission organisations to be supported in 2024-25
9. Other reports to be tabled and/or read:
 - SRE Report
 - Junior Jiver's Report
 - Safe Ministry Report
10. Elections:
 - 1 Parish Warden,
 - 3 Parish Councillors,
11. Appointment of Honorary Auditor/Auditor
12. General Business:

13. Appointment of AGM minutes' approval and signing
14. Close

Note: Positions of Parish Secretary, Treasurer & Mission Secretary are elected at the first meeting of the newly elected Parish Council.

A vibrant watercolor illustration of various flowers and greenery. The composition includes several purple daisy-like flowers with dark brown centers, bright yellow flowers, and clusters of small pink flowers on dark stems. The background is filled with various shades of green leaves and fern-like foliage. The overall style is soft and artistic, with visible brushstrokes and a gentle color palette.

2024 Reports

Vicar's Report.

The year in Brief

As we look back on the year that's been, there are some wonderful things to celebrate, and praise the Lord for. I will try to outline most things in this report, but there may very well be some things that I miss out, and I apologise for that up front.

As I have done in previous years, I wish to give God great thanks for YOU, our whole parish, to our wardens and parish councillors, and for everyone who has done even the smallest things around church - sometimes our hard (and seemingly insignificant) work doesn't get acknowledged by others, but our God definitely sees it!

A massive thank you to Louise, who often has to single-handedly deal with grumpy or sick kids, (and a selfish and sometimes grumpy husband). Lou, not much of what follows in this report is possible without your ministry to us, your family - again sometimes it seems insignificant, but God definitely sees it, and smiles! And I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Sunday Services - Warialda

Sunday services are one of the key ways that we, God's people, receive encouragement, correction, and building up. As I've written in the bulletin in the last year, the point of Sunday services is not primarily to offer God anything, but to be shaped BY God into his people together, as we keep following his risen Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

To that end, Sundays have, and will continue to remain steeped in the Bible. The forms of service that we use, the content of our songs, prayers and readings are all directly from the Bible, or based on clear Biblical doctrine. If we ever cease to be 'Bible-based', or get distracted by other things, then we cease to be God's Spirit-filled church.

This is why it's important to have a varied diet of all God's word whilst we systematically work our way through the Bible each day, week, month and year. In the last 12 months, on Sundays, I have preached through the following:

- ‡ Biblical theology of Kingship (Christmas)
- ‡ Matthew 1-7
- ‡ Exodus
- ‡ 1 Peter
- ‡ Matthew 8-13 (just started at end of July)

It has been encouraging to see people keep meeting weekly to worship God together, listen to him, pray for our world, and to serve one another. It is great to see people offering their time and effort to ensure Sundays happen well, and it is on my heart to do some training in the coming year so that we can hone our skills together for good Gospel ministry, and perhaps to whet the appetite of others to start serving in different ways.

By far, the best Sunday of the year was Easter Sunday as we celebrated Jesus' victory over death, and saw Bryce, Tania, Beau, Lachie and Bella, baptised and confirmed. Bishop Rod joined us for that service, as did 80 other people, and it was a wonderful celebration of the life that we have in Christ.

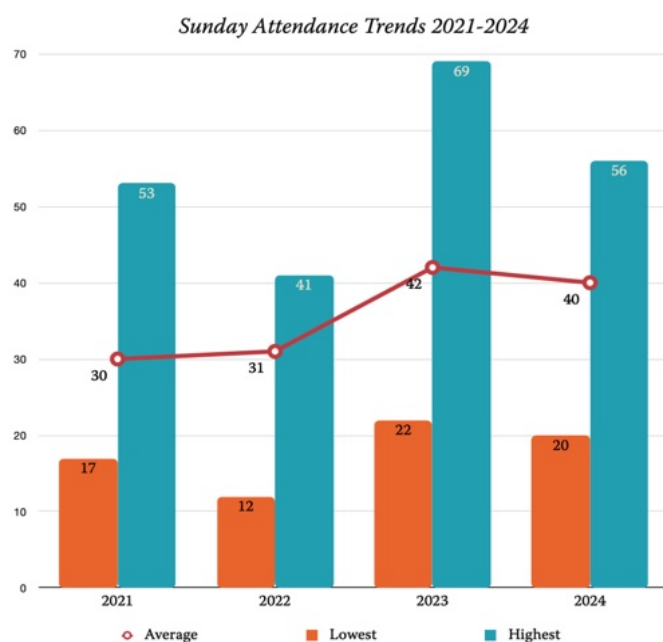
A close second was the Sunday when Bryce & Tania were married in our Sunday service. It is superb to keep seeing God's work in people's lives, particularly in miraculously bringing them to faith, and then growing in that faith. Please keep praying for this to happen in the souls of those around us. The Lord knows there are many people in our town, country and world who do not know the Love and life of Jesus.

We continue to try and have an intergenerational flavour at church on Sundays. This is achieved through particular teaching times in the service, as well as a dedicated kids church on Sundays. I remain committed to not just shoving the kids into a room, but instead to have a balance of age-appropriate teaching for them, as well as including them to be a regular part of our congregation, as they learn from the adults, and we adults learn from them.

Attendance is not the only indicator of health in a church, but it's still helpful to report on it, as it also affects other areas of church life like our financial position, or areas for growth in volunteering etc.

What we see this year is consistency - considering that some people have joined us, and some have left, the picture our attendance numbers paints is positive.

Here are the numbers for the whole year (July 2023-June 2024), as well as a graph of the trends over the last 4 years.



Sunday Attendance:

Highest weekend attendance:	56	(69)
Lowest weekend attendance:	20	(22)
Average weekly attendance:	40	(42)

(Last year's figures in brackets)

Easter/Christmas Attendance:

Christmas Eve - 6pm Family:	63	(45)
Christmas Eve - 11pm trad:	14	(14)
Christmas Day:	24	(22)
Good Friday Morning service:	23	(32)
Good Friday Evening service :	28	(21)
Easter Sunday:	81	(84)

(Last year's figures in brackets)

Branch Church Services - Coolatai

Last year, I started providing services for Yetman. Yetman is a part of the Bogabilla parish, but the lay leaders who looked after this parish retired and moved out of their parish, so I said to them that I was willing to help out.

After a few of these services, the Yetman and Coolatai congregations decided to join these two services together to alternate every month; one month the Yetman people would come down to Coolatai, and the next month, everyone would go up to Yetman.

This has been a good idea from the congregations to pool resources, however I fear that it also means a lack of momentum for both the congregations; firstly locals are left guessing WHERE church is for that first Sunday of the month ('is it Yetman or Coolatai this month?'), and second, if people miss a service, then it's a pretty long time between drinks.

Each time we hold a Holy Communion service at Coolatai or Yetman, it is a deeply encouraging time for those who attend. It is my prayer that each of the congregation members of these little towns would be sharing the Gospel of Jesus with their friends and neighbours, and inviting them along to church.

We held a carols service at the Coolatai hall in December 2023, as is our custom, and about 25 people (young and old) attended. This year's attendance was slightly down from previous years, as there was another community event in Coolatai on the same evening. We have pencilled in this year's event for Wednesday, 18th December.

As I reported last year, the church building at Coolatai is needing significant repairs. It is unsafe for use until these repairs are made, and has been locked up to eliminate physical harm to others - there is a sign alerting anyone that they may gain access to the church by calling the parish office.

This year we were contacted by a local builder who is saddened by the amount of churches in small towns that are disappearing. He proposed to buy the building with the express purpose of fixing it up, and presenting it back to the Coolatai community for

use. Parish Council considered this to be a deal that would tick a lot of boxes for the Coolatai community and the Parish as a whole, and we communicated this opportunity with the Coolatai parishioners. Negotiations, however, have stalled, but this means that we are currently spending significant money on insurance etc. to have the building simply sit there, not able to be used, and quite literally falling into the ground.

Please pray for wisdom with what we do with this building, and more importantly, how we care for those who live in Coolatai and the surrounding region, with or without a building into the future.

Attendance (Coolatai):

Highest attendance:	7	(10)
Lowest attendance:	1	(4)
Average attendance:	4	(7)

(2 services cancelled due to not enough numbers)
(Last year's figures in brackets)

Attendance (Yetman):

I don't keep accurate records of these services, as the records are kept at the Bogabilla Parish. We normally have 3 to 12 parishioners at these services. As with Coolatai, sometimes services are cancelled due to not enough numbers

Bible Studies

As I mentioned in the 'Sunday Services' section, A clear commitment to the Scriptures is of utmost importance as Christian people. Regular study of the Bible in community with other Christians enable us to grow deeper in our faith by discussing, digesting and exploring God's word together (in a way that we don't get to do, listening to a reading or sermon at church).

This year, a new evening women's Bible Study was started. It meets on Thursday evenings in the Parish Hall meeting room, and is attended by women of all different ages and stages of life & faith. I am grateful to Eddie Ladmore for initiating this group, and for providing ongoing leadership & care of this group.

There are two other Bible Study groups which have continued to run regularly this year (both on Wednesday afternoons). And I thank Rod & Janelle Smith, and Garth Skinner for looking after these.

Please pray for our Bible Study groups, that they would be places of spiritual and relational growth, as God's people keep sitting under the teaching of his word, and share in each other's journey with our Lord.

If you are not in a mid-week Bible Study, I deeply encourage you to get in contact with myself or one of these leaders: Rod & Janelle Smith, Garth Skinner, and Eddie Ladmore, and we can give more details.

Morning Prayer

Mid-week morning prayer meetings have continued this year. We meet on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9:00am in the church or church yard in summer months, and in the warm Parish Hall Meeting Room in winter months.

I am greatly encouraged that there are people regularly gathering together to read the Bible and pray, even when I am unable to attend. Some days, this time is like an informal Bible Study, and some days, we follow the rhythm of the Book of Common Prayer. These times of prayer go for 30-60 minutes, and sometimes people come late, or leave early - it's very informal, but a good opportunity to keep accountable to others in our Christian responsibility to pray for ourselves, others and our world.

Every time we meet for mid-week morning prayer, those who attend are often greatly encouraged to live the coming day to the Lord, and I would love to see this ministry grow - if you are free at 9am on weekdays, why not come and join us and see how your own walk with the Lord grows and matures!

Aged Care Ministry - Naroo & MPS

About every fortnight, I have a Chapel service scheduled to be run at one of our Aged Care facilities, Naroo & MPS. As with last year, there have been quite a few interruptions to the schedule, mainly due to illness, and being careful about not getting vulnerable people sick.

This being said, we have continued to have a good relationship with both the Nursing Home and Hospital, and the staff and residents have been happy to have me there whenever I've been able to attend.

I have been able to visit and give communion to some of these faithful saints who are unable to leave the facilities, and these times have not only been encouraging times for them, but also for myself.

Hospital/Emergency Chaplaincy

This year, I was re-elected as the chair of our hospital Local Health Advisory Committee (LHAC) which has remained a helpful forum to keep abreast of all the health and caring professions around our town. It's a privilege to serve in this way, and has kept good connections between our parish and the hospital, particularly with regard to pastoral and palliative care.

Last year, I reported that I had started giving out 'hope beyond cure' books in the hospital, and was purchasing more to give out. I received a donation for half of these books, and have been able to use them in my ministry at the Hospital - I think some of the orderlies had put these books into ALL the acute rooms, so that more patients (not just palliative patients) could read something helpful if they did a stint in the MPS.

Recently, there has been a lot of palliative care at the MPS and Naroo, which has been a great privilege. As our culture seems to sideline good palliative care (and opting for Voluntary Assisted Dying/Suicide) pray that we, Christians, offer great hope and kindness to those who are going through really tough and hopeless times.

Occasional Services

I've already mentioned Bryce & Tania's wedding, which was a really great occasion for our whole church (not just them!). No other weddings occurred during this year.

4 baptisms were performed (in our Easter Service), (for Bryce, Tanya & Beau Whalan, and Lachie McIntosh. On the same day, we confirmed Bella McIntosh in her Christian faith. A few parents from the community have asked for baptism of their newborns, but none have followed through on this.

There were only 5 funerals for the year (July 2023 to June 2024), however in July 2024 alone, there were another 5 funerals.

Other community events & organisations

Being a Christian in a small community gives us all different opportunities to be involved in other community organisations. And we are often equipped quite well to fulfil these roles. I encourage you to keep doing things that you enjoy, and to share Jesus in word and action in those contexts.

Our Parish involvement in community events like the Honey Festival is a great way to show people that we are an important part of the wider community.

I am very grateful to Ann Willis for overseeing many of these kind of community engagement events. In many ways, these kind of events fall to Ann, at the last minute, and I would like to be a bit more organised and spread the load for these events to others. I think this should be easy to do, as they are events that happen every so often, rather than requiring a regular weekly commitment from volunteers.

Evangelism and Outreach

Evangelism (sharing the good news of Jesus) is every Christian's job, and as I mentioned above, it happens often in our personal relationships as we rub shoulders with others. Sometimes, however, this doesn't flow into a formalised or systematic approach to teaching the faith, and seeing people come to faith.

This year, we had planned a Basic Christianity course, and a few non-christians said that they would attend, but it seems the timing was not right, or there were other priorities for them. I still think it's of great worth to keep planning and running these types of courses, but they will only be attended and utilised well if we all do our part in inviting (and bringing along) our friends.

We haven't done any specific bigger evangelistic events this year (except for Holiday Kids Club, below). Community Dinners have been well attended, and although these are not evangelistic events where we share the gospel, they are being used well to break down the barriers between non-christians and Christians. I would like to do a bit of a better job to invite people to church from these events.

Holiday Kids Club

This week in April was another clear high-point for our parish. A team of 8 from our Partner Parish, Wahroonga Anglican, came up to Warialda. This team consisted of Adults and young adults, of which a few were British ministry trainees. This team joined us to help run our first ever Holiday Kids Club.

I want to say a big big thank you to all of you who were involved in leading the kids, preparing the hall, making and serving refreshments, making and running crafts and games, hosting the Sydney team, and engaging with parents and families. Without us all being involved in these ways, this week would not have gotten off the ground.

I set the upper limit of kids for this inaugural event at 40, and we got just over 20 kids through the week, which in hindsight was a good number to start off with. If we aimed for 30 kids next year, that would still be manageable, whilst offering more availability to families.

The feedback from the week has been positive: many parents have asked us if we are running a Holiday Kids Club each school holidays. Kids have had more positive engagement at SRE throughout the term. Some parents came to church on Sunday after the week. Also, one parent whom we met over the week, met with Louise for some personal pastoral care a few months later. I don't believe this would have happened, had she not been introduced to us through the Kids Club.

It is our hope that this partnership with Wahroonga is strengthened as we run these holiday kids clubs each year, and see children and their families hear and hopefully believe the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ. Please continue praying that this event will become 'an institution' in our town, and that it would be used to bring families to faith in Jesus. Please be praying now, and considering how you might be involved in next year's event, so we can make it a helpful time for all the kids and their families who are involved.

Pastoral Care & Visitation

As with evangelism, Pastoral care is every Christian's job - both to those who have faith, and those who don't. It's been marvellous to see genuine personal pastoral care happening amongst our parishioners - I know that there are lots of people visiting others,

and making meals, praying, and offering lots of practical support for those who need it, both within our parish, and out in the wider community.

As I have said many times in the past, there are many people who are willing, and keen to provide physical and pastoral care to others in need, but sometimes we don't know when people are going through tough times. If you are struggling, please do let me know so we can be praying for you, and offering assistance where possible.

Later on in the year (starting at the end of October), I am going to run a pastoral care course which has been developed by Sharon Kirk, a theologically trained lay-minister at the Cathedral, to help us all keep our eyes open to others' needs, and aware of our own abilities and resources to be able to meet the needs of others.

I hope that every parishioner in our parish would join us, so that we can keep caring for each other well, and grow in our capacity to care for others around us in our community.

Kids & Youth Ministry

Last year we started a regular Kids Church on Sundays. This ministry is being run by a small team of Louise Cimarosti, Margaret Haug, Wendy Johnston and Bella McIntosh. Thank you ladies for teaching our young ones in word, and through your Godly example.

Kids Church is run two Sundays each month during school term. This has been a helpful way to not overwhelm our volunteers, and to still include our children in 'big church'. Louise heads up this program, and organises the teaching units, the team, and rosters - it takes a lot of time and effort, which often goes un-noticed. Again, thank you Louise!

In February, a group of key individuals and parents met up to discuss ongoing youth ministry in our parish. In our context, it became clear that a weekly attractational 'drop-in' style youth ministry would not be the best use of our resources. Instead we were all convinced of the need to provide good discipleship to the youth that God has given us. Peter Neville started to meet with some of the young men, but since he has left town, we are back to the drawing

board regarding form/function of regular ministry to youth. Bigger Diocesan events (youth muster, Barraba Bash etc) will continue to be important for us, and to perhaps encourage other youth in our town.

Junior Jivers continues to be a great blessing to all involved, and I'll refer you to Louise's report for more details.

Parish Administration & finances

You will see the financial reports later in this booklet, however I wish to personally thank Cecile, our treasurer, and Alison Allen, our assistant treasurer, for all the voluntary work they do for our parish. They have worked tirelessly, even when dealing with personal health issues, or bereavement. Thank you so much ladies!

You'll see that we have had another good financial year, and turned a \$17,000 surplus, even though we expected a \$13,000 deficit (this amounts to a \$30,000 difference from what we had expected). This is mainly due to the generosity of our people. There were some sizeable donations which have been for specific issues, and our new partnership with Wahroonga. But do not under-estimate the importance of quiet but faithful week-in week-out giving (even if it feels insignificant) - Parish Ministry is a great investment to be involved in, and I hope you can see the great things that happen when we entrust the Lord with our resources.

As we look ahead to this financial year, our parish council has proposed a balanced budget, by trying to use the \$16,000 saved in the building fund for maintenance, AND to increase our proposed building fund budget slightly. This is mainly because we recognise that there will be some significant maintenance items in the next 3-5 years, and I will refer you to the Warden's report for further information.

Of course, each one of us has to prayerfully consider our part to play, and to make sure our hearts are in the right place - God makes it incredibly clear that he wants our joyful hearts, not any particular amount of money. Giving with the right motive, is what is going to truly be a blessing to you, and to others.

Tech & Website

Not much to report here, except that I have spent a bit of time updating the website with upcoming events and other helpful information. This year I put up our rosters on the website, so that we can all access them easily from a centralised place. If you're ever in doubt about the roster, the one on the website is the correct version.

www.warialdaanglican.org.au/rosters

Supervision

This year, I have met a few times with a professional supervisor, which is a requirement of all our diocesan clergy now. Unfortunately (for me), my supervisor has gone back into vocational ministry, and is unable to continue to provide me with these sessions. So now, I need to find another supervisor, and start this whole process over again, to fulfil what is required of me.

Parish Council

Finally, I wish to thank our Parish Council for their experience and knowledge, their love and care for our parish.

In particular, I wish to thank Mr. Rod Smith for being a Churchwarden for 24 years! Rod was elected as a peoples warden for the first time in 2000, and has faithfully served, and been re-elected every year since. A lot has changed in the parish since then, but Rod's faithful love for the Lord, and Jesus' people hasn't. Thank you, Rod!

Please pray.

As I've done in previous reports, here's my encouragement to you to take a few moments to pray for our parish: thank the Lord for what he's done this year, and ask him to grow his kingdom in us, and amongst us.

By Christ's grace alone,

Rev. Steve Cimarosti
Vicar

Churchwardens' Report

The Wedding

Just as exciting as the baptisms and confirmations was the June Long-weekend Wedding of Tanya and Bryce. Steve very skilfully incorporated the wedding ceremony into our regular Sunday church service.

Tanya had many members of her family join us the celebrations, with most of them playing a part as members of the wedding party. Beau (done up in his tuxedo) took on the very important role of "Ring Bearer" and did this job beautifully.

Eating, talking, singing and dancing went on into the afternoon, and it was a great day for everyone involved.

Community Pot-Luck Dinners

Our Parish Hall has seen quite a bit of use during 2023 and 2024 where we conducted community pot-luck dinners and lunches. Our aim has been to reach out into the community, that we might establish some relationships with some of the locals who aren't church attendees.

These events have been well attended and the hall has been packed out on each occasion. The greatest array of food has always been brought along. This has been a great initiative on the part of some hard working members of our parish. It's exciting that a number of those attending the dinners are now regularly attending church.

Ukulele Group

A ukulele group meets each week in the Parish Hall under the very excellent tutelage of uke and guitar maestro, Bill McIntosh. The group has performed publicly at the ukulele muster in Bingara which attracted hundreds of participants from all over the state, and also at Naroo Aged Care Facility.

Naroo have asked the group to perform again, this coming Christmas.

Wharoonga Church Partnership

We are excited to have forged a church partnership with Wahroonga Anglican (in Sydney's upper North Shore). The possibility of this partnership has been on the cards for a while now, but as of December it has been formalised. Wahroonga have committed to pray for us, provide some financial support to the parish and send a 'mission team' of people to Warialda annually.

During the first week of the April school holidays, we received a visit from a number of members of the Wahroonga Parish to help us run a holiday kids' club for primary school-aged students.

The camp was booked out and the kids had a really wonderful time, enjoying the exciting activities that were put in place by Tamar – the kids' activity leader, and there were many gospel-based games and exercises that our children really took to the exciting thing is that Wharoonga have agreed to go again next year.

Thank you Tamar and team. We can't wait until next year!

Vision Christian Media

Vision Christian Media approached our Parish to set up a local radio repeater in our town as a ministry to those in the local area. After deliberation as a parish council, we decided to let Vision install their equipment in the Parish Hall; a satellite dish, FM Antenna, and associated equipment was installed on 28 June.

Their radio channel can be listened to on 87.6 FM.

Repairs and Maintenance

The following items have been completed in the last 12 months:

Parish Hall & Surroundings

- + Completion of our storage shed, and now addition of new shelving to make better use of our space.
- + Construction of security fencing to prevent children's access to the highway.
- + Addition of storage shelving to the hall store room.
- + Continued upgrading of facilities and equipment in the hall kitchen, including cutlery, crockery and storage containers to store them hygienically.
- + Our chest freezer failed, and was replaced by an upright freezer.

Church Building & Yard

- + For some time, the front glass panels had been cracked, broken and dangerous. A generous donation has allowed us to replace the whole front doors of the church, using aluminium and armoured glass. These new doors provide a safer, more welcoming appearance, and allow considerably more light into the foyer.
- + To address the leaking roof, we have had to replace some of the roofing screws and washers, which have been causing leaks, and are in the process of replacing the skylight, which has also deteriorated and allowing the ingress of water.
- + Power points were installed in the kitchen in preparation to install a wall-mounted fan, and under-cupboard lighting (still to do).
- + The urn in the Kitchen was replaced, as it was faulty, and new tea-pots were donated.
- + A new Sound desk (to replace an older faulty one) was donated and installed by Steve.
- + The Sandpit has been maintained, with new base, sand and cover. Parents are reminded to recover the pit after use, to stop cats defecating in it.
- + Chinese elms have been pruned to allow parking access under them.

Vicarage & Yard

- + A pathway from the vicarage to the Parish Hall has been completed using donated materials from the Community Preschool, and from Steve.
- + Fallen limbs from the large Angophora on Geddes Street were cleaned up after a storm.
- + The Vicarage dishwasher was repaired after it stopped working.
- + Better lighting and an overhead fan was installed in 'siberia' (Louise's sewing room)
- + Smaller ongoing maintenance of the house and yard has been undertaken by the Cimarosti family.

The following items are yet to be completed:

Parish Hall

- + Adjustment of Kitchen basins to increase the height and make them more ergonomic.
- + The stove and the fridges need to be rearranged to make it possible to enjoy a safer work environment.
- + Sealing of the small hole in the ceiling under the deck to prevent access by the sparrows.
- + Sound-proofing in the internal hall to prevent excessive noise and make it more comfortable and easier to hear conversations.
- + It has been suggested that we improve the grass area on the southern side of the hall to make it a better and safer area for community activities.
- + Attaching more under-skirting on the Western side of deck, to restrict children's access to under-floor area.

Church Building & Yard

- + The church is approaching sixty years of age and is now requiring noticeably more repairs and maintenance:
- + There is a general deterioration to the roof, including the hardwood bearers and the guttering, with some areas of rust in the roof sheeting.
- + Skylight replacement needs to be completed.
- + A number of windows are difficult to close and need adjustment.
- + Exterior wall timbers need repainting and in some cases, replacing.
- + Both lighting and heating in the church are aged and inefficient, and need replacing.

- ⊕ Seats in the church yard need repainting.
- ⊕ Spring-loaded hinge of fence needs adjusting.
- ⊕ Several trees on the church land have been deemed diseased and/or dangerous, and need to be removed or lopped.

Vicarage & Yard

- ⊕ The concrete paving on the back porch needs to be upgraded
- ⊕ Bannister on Western entrance needs to be installed
- ⊕ Pergola on back porch needs to be reconstructed including corrugated iron and alsonite. To make this possible, guttering needs to be addressed to increase water flow away from the residence.
- ⊕ Guttering on North-West corner of the house and the overflow from water tank needs adjusting and repairing.
- ⊕ Pathway to clothesline needs completion.

In Christian love

Rod Smith and Garth Skinner.



SRE Report

In 2023-24, protestant SRE (Special Religious Education) has continued to be taught weekly at Warialda Public School (WPS).

We have a similar number of students enrolled in SRE as last year, sitting a little above the 100 students mark. The children are split across 4 separate classes: Kindy, yrs 1-2, yrs 3-4 and yrs 5-6. I remain the sole SRE teacher (the same as last year). It is a joy to enter WPS each week and freely teach over 100 kids about Jesus.

We are allowed 30 minutes per class of teaching time in which I teach them from the Bible using story, song, memory verse, games and craft. We use an excellent curriculum (CEP) which lays out the lessons in full and over a 3 year period the kids learn a huge chunk of the Bible in an age appropriate way. This year we have spent a lot of time looking at who Jesus says he is in Luke's Gospel and discovering that he is the powerful Son of God who forgives sin. In Term 3 and 4, we will be walking through Genesis, with a focus on Abraham and God's promises to him.

I have been teaching there for 3.5 years now and feel that the school respects me and the lessons I teach. It has been wonderful to hear excellent feedback from students, teachers and parents. Kids really enjoy the classes!

This year, SRE was a great way to promote the Epic Explorers Holiday Kids Club - with almost all the children who came being already known to us through SRE. Those who attended the Kids Club came to class in Term 2 excited and very ready to learn more. This attitude was very contagious, in our singing and learning, and has brought a great atmosphere in the classroom recently.

Here are some encouraging stories:

- + One Yr 3 boy expressed to me how before this year he didn't know about Jesus, but now he loves him and wants to know more.
- + A Yr 5 girl's parents' didn't enrol her in SRE this year like they had previously. But upon finding out she went home and asked them to change her enrolment from non-scripture to SRE. It's been a joy watching her learn.
- + A Kindy boy has opened up and gone from literally hiding under the table when I came into the room, to excitedly moving to the front for the lesson.
- + A lesson about Jesus' death on our behalf really hit the mark for the year 5-6 class, moving them to ask many questions (when they are typically quite quiet).
- + Many teachers listen in, while doing their own work at their desks, and will occasionally chime in and offer their opinion.

All praise to God that his word is going out and the young ones (and some adults) are hearing about the saving work of Jesus.

Please take some time to pray:

- + that our students desire to grow in their knowledge and faith.
- + that they take what they learn home and share it with their families.
- + that with the change of School Principal in the coming year, scripture will continue to be valued and respected.
- + for me, as I prepare & teach lessons, get to know kids, work on good relationships with the school - it's sometimes quite exhausting.
- + For more Christians to teach their faith to the next generation in this way. ('The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few').

Thanks,

Louise Cimarosti

Junior Jivers Report

Junior Jivers began February 15, 2023. An outreach initiative at Warialda Anglican Church aimed at 0-5 year olds and their parents & carers. It has now been running weekly for the past year and a half.

The program has run every Wednesday morning of the school term.

The aim of the program is to provide a fun and engaging environment for children and adults, in the hopes that through story, song and conversation they might come to know and love Jesus.

Team

In 2024, a team of 4 Warialda Anglican Church volunteers run Junior Jivers - Eddie Ladmore, Raelene Jones, Wendy Johnston, and myself. It's been an excellent, committed and helpful team. I feel very blessed to have them serving alongside me in this ministry.

We are very thankful to the whole Parish and Parish Council for your support, prayer and help as needed to ensure our ministry is cared for. Additionally we are very grateful for the new cupboard space in the Hall!

Teaching

Since the last AGM, we have covered four teaching topics over the year:

- + Term 4 (2023) - Let's Go Exploring,
- + Term 1 (2024) - Opposites,
- + Term 2 (2024) - Numbers,
- + Term 3 (2024) - Transport

Each week a variety of Christian and secular songs are sung/danced to, with special attention paid to not shying away from songs about Jesus/God/Christianity. We aim to be proudly Christian. We read a book each week and pray.

Weekly Attendance

Our average weekly attendance per term (adults and children):

Term 4, 2023:	22
Term 1, 2024:	15
Term 2, 2024:	16
Term 3, 2024:	19

Unlike our first year where Terms 2 and 3 saw a significant dip in attendance, we have had some very well attended sessions during these cooler months.

Our attendance is about 50/50 church to non-church families.

Finances

We charge \$2 per family each week to cover our costs (materials for craft, musical instruments, morning tea supplies, Christmas gifts).

For the 2023-24 financial year, Junior jivers had:

Income of	\$652
Expenses of	\$467

This equals \$185 profit & is accounted for in the church books.



Fruit of the ministry

While we can never know how God will use our efforts at Junior Jivers in his own private ways, some of the visible fruit we have seen is:

- ✦ One family hooking into regular church attendance
- ✦ 2-3 families attending church irregularly
- ✦ Impromptu prayer with and for families at Junior Jivers.
- ✦ Growth within the leadership team as we serve the Lord together, support one another and step into new skills.
- ✦ Deepening of relationships with local families
- ✦ Many invitations to church events such as the community dinners, Easter and Christmas events, Gingerbread house building.
- ✦ more that don't immediately come to mind.

Challenges faced:

I would say most of the challenges we faced this year were 'teething problems' for a new ministry, but these have been discussed by our team and solutions implemented. One issue which caused some stress was the lack of fencing between the hall and highway. We are very thankful for the erection of the fence on both sides of the building for the safety of our little ones.

Collaborations and Partnerships:

Warialda Community Preschool has been excellent to work with. They happily advertise the program for us and have also on occasion lent us instruments and other teaching aids. We are thankful to Carly and her team for this collaboration.

I will be providing them with flyers to pop into the packs for new families next year.

Louise Cimarosti



Safe Ministry Report

Safe Ministry is an important system in place within our whole diocese to ensure that we maintain a safe environment and our duty of care for all people associated with our parish (volunteers, parishioners, visitors, and staff).

Whilst Safe Ministry Training is a requirement for Wardens, Parish Councillors, and Children's Volunteers within the parish, my ongoing encouragement is that every parishioner does the Safe Ministry Training course, so that we all can have our eyes open to care for each other well.

The Training course covers things like:

- ✦ Identifying and appointing appropriate leaders for Christian ministry,
- ✦ Safe practices to protect vulnerable people,
- ✦ Recognising and reporting abuse,
- ✦ Providing a safe physical & social environment within a church context.

This year was a bit of a 'fallow year', as most of our training and WWCC have remained valid for the year (thus not requiring re-training). Although a few have taken the option of online training as the need has arisen.

Our Parish continued to use the Safe Ministry Records Online (SaMRO), a secure online system, to record all our Safe Ministry data. Volunteers will get an email and/or SMS notification as their Working With Children Checks or Safe Ministry Training are close to expiry.

In the system, we have 18 people trained in the Safe Ministry Training (SMT) course as well as NSW Working With Children Check (WWCC) accredited. (This number is down from 20 last year, as some people have left the parish).

As part of our Safe Ministry responsibilities, our parish has a Safe Ministry Representative. The Safe Ministry Representative ensures that we comply with Safe Ministry Protocols, and is the first point of contact for our parish, for any questions or concerns in this area.

Rev. Steve Cimarosti is our Safe Ministry Representative.

For all Safe Ministry questions or concerns within the parish, please contact Steve on the parish phone number: (02) 6729 1501.

If the Safe Ministry concerns are related to Steve's personal conduct, then the next level of contact would be the Diocesan Registry Office at (02) 6772 4491.

Further information about Safe Ministry Policies, and our Diocesan code of conduct: "Faithfulness in Service" can be found on the Diocese website: www.armidaleanglicandiocese.com



Financial Reports

Balance Sheet

*St Simon's & St Jude's Anglican Church, Warialda
As at 30 June 2024*

Assets

Bank

Warialda Anglican Church Building Fund	16,386
Warialda Anglican Church General Fund S3	38,662
Total Bank	55,048

Non-current Assets

Youth Ministry Seed Fund (AIDF)	2,243
Total Non-current Assets	2,243

Total Assets **57,291**

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

GST	(4,016)
PAYG Withholdings Payable	912
Superannuation Payable	-
Total Current Liabilities	(3,104)

Non-current Liabilities

Loan-Armidale Diocese (2020 vicarage renovation)	18,103
Total Non-current Liabilities	18,103

Total Liabilities **14,999**

Net Assets **42,292**

Equity

Current Year Earnings	17,850
Retained Earnings	24,442
Total Equity	42,292

**Values rounded up to the nearest whole dollar*

Income Statement

St Simon's & St Jude's Anglican Church, Warialda
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Income

Offertories	
Direct Deposit	63,201
Warialda	32,754
Coolatai	134
Total Offertories	96,089
External Mission Giving	
External Mission Giving	6,393
B C A Boxes Giving	1,023
Total External Mission Giving	7,416
Building Fund Giving	11,660
Other Income	
Funerals/Occasional Services	1,800
Grant Income	12,039
Mission Partnership	14,820
Interest Income	111
Hall Hire	91
Clergy Supply (Yetman)	280
Junior Jivers	652
Donation	20,199
Miscellaneous	2,505
Total Other Income	52,497
Gross Income	167,662

**Values rounded up to the nearest whole dollar*

Expenditure

Staffing Expenses

Stipend (inc. PAYG)	35,629
Stipend Sacrifice & Ministry Expenses	
Stipend Sacrifice	23,753
Motor Vehicle Allowance	9,960
Mileage	1,954
Book & Tech. Allowance	1,000
Entertainment for the Parish	1,040
GST Reimbursement	178
Total Stipend Sacrifice & Ministry Expenses	37,885
Superannuation	10,095
Clergy Accident & Sickness Insurance (CASI)	594
Long Service Leave	1,686
Total Staffing Expenses	85,889

Running Expenses

Church Services	619
Kids Church Supplies	10
Junior Jivers	467
Office & Administration	1,343
Outreach	552
Electricity	
Vicarage	2,248
Church Building	924
Parish Hall	1,524
Total Electricity	4,696
Vicarage Heating	159
Water Rates	631
Diocesan Quota	10,632
Diocesan Events (Synod, Conf etc)	874
Insurance	8,094
Telephone & Internet	983
Miscellaneous	787
Property Expenses	
Building Maintenance	14,205
Interest on Vicarage Renovation Loan	1,433
Volunteer Grant Redemption	10,945
Total Property Expenses	26,583
Total Running Expenses	56,430

External Mission Giving

CMS - Law G	2,156
Pioneers - G & R Appleby	2,153
North Kigesi Diocese in Uganda	2,161
BCA Boxes	1,023
Total External Mission Giving	7,493
Total Expenditure	149,812

Surplus

17,850

Warialda Anglican Church

Proposed Budget for Financial Year 2024-25

- Expenditure

	BUDGET 2023-2024	ACTUAL 2023-2024	BUDGET 2024-2025
STAFFING EXPENSES			
Stipend (inc. PAYG)	\$ 35,629	\$ 35,629	\$ 38,729
Stipend Sacrifice & Ministry Expenses	\$ 38,300	\$ 37,885	\$ 37,800
Superannuation	\$ 10,095	\$ 10,095	\$ 10,973
Clergy Accident & Sickness Insurance (CASI)	\$ 594	\$ 594	\$ 645
Long Service Leave	\$ 1,656	\$ 1,686	\$ 1,716
Professional Development	\$ 600	\$ -	\$ 800
Category Total	\$ 86,874	\$ 85,889	\$ 90,663
RUNNING EXPENSES			
Church Services	\$ 400	\$ 619	\$ 500
Kids Church Supplies	\$ 200	\$ 10	\$ 200
Junior Jivers		\$ 467	
Outreach	\$ 2,000	\$ 552	\$ 2,000
Office & Administration	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,343	\$ 1,800
Electricity:			
Vicarage	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,248	\$ 2,000
Church Building	\$ 1,500	\$ 924	\$ 1,000
Parish Hall	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,524	\$ 1,500
Vicarage Heating	\$ 450	\$ 159	\$ 450
Water Rates	\$ 550	\$ 631	\$ 600
Diocesan Quota	\$ 10,632	\$ 10,632	\$ 10,392
Diocesan Events (Synod, clergy conf. etc.)	\$ 700	\$ 874	\$ 800
Insurance	\$ 7,000	\$ 8,094	\$ 8,000
Telephone & Internet	\$ 920	\$ 983	\$ 920
SRE Materials ¹			
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 787	\$ -
Category Total	\$ 26,222	\$ 29,847	\$ 30,162
PROPERTY EXPENSES			
Building Maintenance	\$ 3,000	\$ 14,205	\$ -
Interest on Vicarage Renovation Loan	\$ 1,578	\$ 1,433	\$ 1,100
<i>Vicarage Renovation Loan Principal²</i>	\$ 2,622		\$ 3,204
Parish Hall Renovation	\$ 1,000		
Government Grant Redemption	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,945	
Category Total	\$ 19,200	\$ 26,583	\$ 4,304
EXTERNAL MISSION GIVING			
	\$ 5,000	\$ 7,493	\$ 5,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			
	\$ 130,926	\$ 149,812	\$ 130,129

Warialda Anglican Church

Proposed Budget for Financial Year 2024-25

- Income

	BUDGET 2023-2024	ACTUAL 2023-2024	BUDGET 2024-2025
OFFERTORIES			
Direct Deposit	\$ 60,000	\$ 63,201	\$ 63,000
Warialda	\$ 35,000	\$ 32,754	\$ 35,000
Coolatai	\$ 800	\$ 134	\$ 300
Category Total	\$ 95,800	\$ 96,089	\$ 98,300
EXTERNAL MISSION GIVING			
	\$ 5,000	\$ 7,416	\$ 5,000
BUILDING FUND GIVING			
	\$ 8,000	\$ 11,660	\$ 11,000
OTHER INCOME			
Funerals/Occasional Services	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800
Grant Income	\$ 11,000	\$ 12,039	\$ -
Mission Partnership		\$ 14,820	\$ 10,000
Interest Income	\$ -	\$ 111	\$ 100
Hall Hire	\$ -	\$ 91	\$ -
Clergy Supply (Yetman Parish)	\$ 500	\$ 280	\$ 280
ATO GST Refund ³	\$ 3,383		\$ 3,224
Miscellaneous ⁴	\$ 1,100	\$ 22,704	\$ 1,000
Junior Jivers ⁵		\$ 652	
Category Total	\$ 17,483	\$ 52,497	\$ 16,404
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 126,283	\$ 167,662	\$ 130,704
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (From opposite)	\$ 139,926	\$ 149,812	\$ 130,129
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	\$ (13,643)	\$ 17,850	\$ 575

Explanatory footnotes

1. There is currently \$1,568 in reserves for SRE materials, although no figure is budgeted in the annual budget.
2. This is not technically an 'actual expense', so not included in last year's actuals, but is considered an expense for budgeting purposes. Currently, the parish is attempting to pay slightly more principal than required, so as to pay off the loan quicker.
3. GST Refund is not technically 'income', so not included in last year's actuals, but is considered as income for budgeting purposes. The parish is owed \$3,224 of GST refund from ministry purchases in 2023-24.
4. Miscellaneous actuals for 2023-24 include a few sizeable donations given to the parish by individuals.
5. Junior jivers is a self-sustaining ministry. For accountability, the finances are banked through the Parish books. This means that this is listed as 'actuals' in the budget, but no budget currently given from wider parish funds.



Tania L Stevens

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3rd August 2024

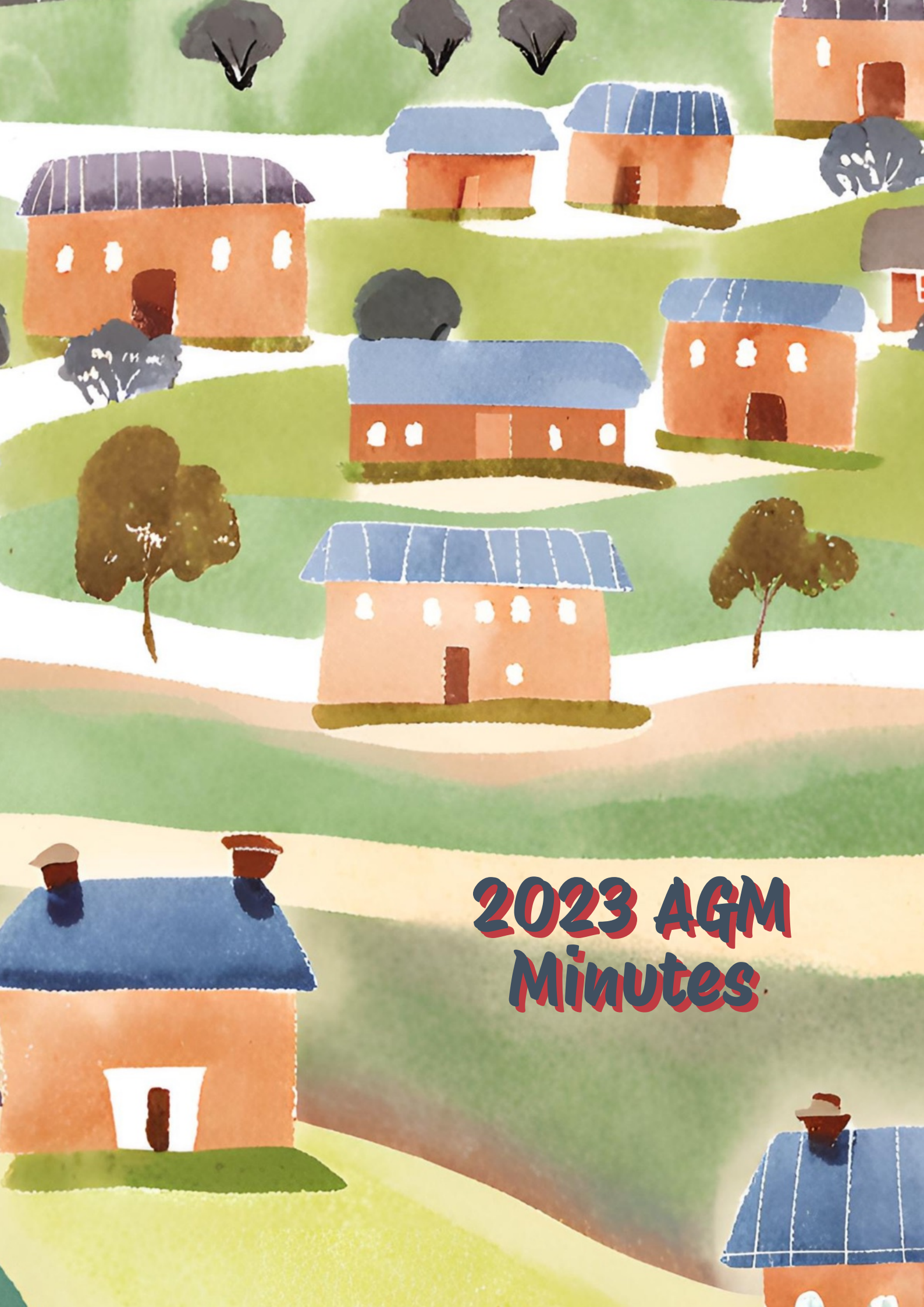
St Simon's & St Jude's Anglican Church

I have examined a selection of the transactions, all balance sheet items and supporting documentation made available of St Simon's & St Jude's Anglican Church for the year ended 30 June 2024.

I believe these to be a true and fair record for the Church's activities for the 2023/2024 year.



Tania Stevens CA



**2023 AGM
Minutes**

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Sts Simon and Jude Anglican Church Warialda
Sunday, 27th August, 2023

1. Welcome: Meeting opened 11.00 am with prayer

2. Secretary for the Meeting appointed/elected

Moved Bill McIntosh, seconded Garth Skinner that Janelle Smith act as secretary. **Carried**

3. Declaration of a Quorum, Attendance and Apologies

(Quorum = 12) Quorum declared.

Present: See attached sign-on sheets

Apologies: David and Jenny Coulton, Di Coote, Phil Johnston, Amy McIntosh

4. Call for items of General Business (to be included for discussion)

No further items for discussion.

5. Declaration of Vacancies

The Chair declared all positions (wardens and parish councillors) vacant.

6. Reports for Tabling and Adoption

Motion from the Chair: To receive all reports as read. **Carried**

- a) The Vicar's Report was tabled as read and questions and comments from the floor were dealt with.
- b) Steve expressed his thanks to the whole parish and said that we are a wonderful parish in which people with different abilities and passions serve under the banner of Christ. He thanked God for the year we have had. He thanked his family for the daily basis on which they support him. Steve also said how very important it is that our Sunday services are biblically founded because this is how God reveals himself to us and how we grow around God's Word. He is encouraged by our lay preachers; Rod, Garth and Bill. He is encouraged by God's kindness shown to us in our numbers increasing from an average of 31 last year to 42 this year. He spoke about the Coolatai church building challenges, the morning prayer group, the hall shed, the aged care ministry, the hospital and emergency care chaplaincy and the Hope Beyond Care books. Steve made particular mention of personal evangelism; of people sharing their faith out of an overflow of their own love for the Lord, and of the way parishioners care for each other within the church. He commented on the way that kids' ministry is now growing and asked for our prayers for the kids involved. We were shown a video of Bishop Rod speaking about the Armidale Diocesan Development Fund as a means of personal investment which opens up another potential stream of income for our parish. He is grateful to God for our backgrounds and his own IT background so that our church website is being built up. For the past 12 months Steve has been working on building up a partnership with a Sydney church. There was also discussion concerning the Yetman church and of the charge for clergy supply.

Rev. Steve Cimarosti moved that the Vicar's Report be received. **Carried**

- c) The Warden's Report was tabled as read and questions and comments from the floor were dealt with. Rod spoke to the report and offered his thanks to Steve, Louise, parish councillors and others for the work that has gone on in the past year. He mentioned that Warialda was described as the "jewel in the crown" of the diocese by a former bishop because the generosity of the people causes us to "punch above our weight".

Rod and Garth moved the report be accepted. **Carried**

c) The Audited Financial Statements for Financial Year 1 July, 2022- 30 June, 2023 were tabled. Cecile praised God for his blessing in meeting both our spiritual and financial needs. She thanked the parishioners for the sacrificial generosity given to the church. Cecile noted the rising cost of borrowing money because interest rates have increased 5 times during the past year. We incurred a loss of \$4 000 instead of the projected loss of \$21 000 because of generous offertories. The church has supported our mission partners both through prayer and generous giving. Cecile thanked Alison Allen for the marvellous job she has done again as assistant treasurer.

Moved: Cecile Egan, seconded Alison Allen: that the Treasurer's Report be adopted. **Carried**

7. Adoption of Budget for 2022-2023

This budget was prepared in consultation with Steve and Alison and based on the actual expenditure and income for the year just concluded, and other relevant information. The projected deficit is \$13,636.

Moved Cecile seconded Rod: that the budget for 2022-2023 be adopted as written. **Carried**

Ann asked the size of the church loans. Our total owing is \$25,870 over the remaining 27 years of a 30 year loan.

It was moved Alison Allen, seconded Bill McIntosh that returnable GST funds are to be used to pay off the loan. **Carried**

Moved Cecile, seconded Garth, that the proposed budget be adopted. **Carried**

8. Adoption of mission organisations to be supported in 2022-2023

Motion moved Cecile, seconded Garth: to split mission monies received by the parish equally between our mission partners CMS, Pioneers and the North Kigezi Diocese. **Carried**

A concern was expressed concerning our lack of information concerning missionaries and the appointment of a mission director discussed. It was suggested that Wendy Johnston should be appointed, and Wendy will give consideration to the idea.

The Chair formally moved a vote of thanks to Cecile and Alison. **Carried**

9. Other reports to be tabled and/or read

The following reports were adopted as read and questions were dealt with.

- a) SRE: Louise expressed joy in the SRE ministry and has asked that parishioners consider whether anyone would like to be her partner in that ministry as the introduction of Junior Jivers and Kids' church has increased her ministry load. There is training available to anyone who would like to fill that role.
- b) Safe Ministry

10. Appreciation of retiring Councillors

The chair expressed thanks to the outgoing wardens and councillors

11. Election Nominations

Elections will be held for Parish Councillors.

Motion from Chair: the candidates be elected unopposed for the positions of parish wardens and nominators. **Carried**

Rod Smith – People's Warden

Garth Skinner –People's Warden

Rod has informed the Parish that 2023-2024 will be his last year as warden.

The need for a succession plan was mooted as Steve remarked that our wardens are in their "twilight years".

After elections, 4 Parish Councillors were duly elected: Margaret Haug, Helen Rose, Bill McIntosh and Peter Neville.

Within a few days Steve will appoint 2 more Parish Councillors.

Parish Nominators continue to be Bill McIntosh, Janelle Smith and Garth Skinner.

12. Appointment of Honorary Auditor for 2022-2023

Moved Alison Allen, seconded Bill McIntosh: to appoint Melissa Landers as honorary auditor for 2022-2023. **Carried**

13. Items of General Business

There were no items of general business.

14. Appointment of AGM minutes' approval and signing

Motion from the Chair: that the minutes of the AGM be read at next Parish Council General Meeting and signed as an accurate record at that meeting. **Carried**

15. Close Meeting closed at 12.30pm with prayer

This is a true and accurate record of the meeting.
Signed: Rev. Steve Cimarosti, Vicar.





**Warialda
Anglican**
Est. 1853

www.warialdaanglican.org.au