

REPORT TO THE 2012 SYNOD BY THE DIOCESAN REGISTRAR

ANGLICAN CENTRE

The Centre now has a fibre optic connection into its offices, which will help considerably to improve speed of communication between the Centre and other Diocesan entities. The Diocese, WASSTB and Anglican Care (Waiapu) Limited are combining to purchase a new server array which will be held off site and will serve the needs of all the organisations. It is pleasing to note the much improved level of co-ordination and co-operation between the various diocesan entities operating out of the Centre.

There have been some staff changes during the current year. Delwyn Dacre resigned as Accounts Payable Clerk and was replaced by Robyn Owen. Tanvi Agarwal, the Parish Accountant, has moved on to an external position to improve on her work experience and she has been replaced by Lesley Thomas as the Parish Administrator. Lesley also carries out work for WASSTB as a finance administrator. Tracey O'Shaughnessy has been appointed as Parish Accountant and will look after the formal parish reporting and such issues as payroll, GST and PAYE.

PARISH ACCOUNTING SCHEME

It is now a requirement of our Accounting Standards that the accounts of individual parishes be incorporated into the main accounts of the Diocese. We have been unable to achieve this position for the year ended 31st March, 2012 as some of the parishes, external to the Parish Accounting Scheme, have not yet provided us with their audited accounts. We will be working with the parishes concerned to try to ensure that there is a better outcome for 2013.

The Accounting Standards also require us to merge the accounts of the Diocese with those of Diocesan Trusts Boards. This is a major exercise and certainly cannot be accomplished for the year ended 31st March, 2012. Dialogue will have to be initiated to see whether we should comply for the year 2013 or fail to comply and accept a qualification to our accounts. Our view is that a total consolidation of the accounts of all diocesan entities would be a meaningless exercise with the outcomes being reported being of little value to anyone including the diocese.

WEBSITE

We have continued to work on improvements to the content of the website www.waiapu.com .

We are currently investigating better ways of presenting the dropdown menus, which I know are difficult to use for some of you. Unfortunately, when the Reverend Blake Ramage resigned from his post as Vicar of Gisborne we lost a very valuable IT resource. We are currently working on ways to rectify this problem and to share a joint approach to websites with WASSTB.

VIDEOCONFERENCING

The General Synod Communications Commission has not yet finalised its plans for the whole country. However, it appears that it has obtained finance to cover most of the capital involved for the Dioceses and Amorangis.

In the meantime, we have been conducting successful video conference meetings and interviews using a Skype based system with a large monitor in our Boardroom. Even this limited application has provided to be very useful in the life of the diocese.

Cliff Houston
Diocesan Registrar

14th August, 2012