



Newcastle Anglican Schools Corporation

REPORT TO SYNOD JULY 2012

The Newcastle Anglican Schools Corporation continues to serve and support the four member schools of the Corporation under the direction of the Board. The Board meets six times a year with an additional special meeting convened to receive and approve school budgets. Twice a year meetings are convened at member schools. In July 2012, Ms Bev Birch joined the Board as School Boards' Representative and in September, Mr Alan Green, Executive Principal of Bishop Tyrrell Anglican College, resigned as the Principals' Representative on the N.A.S.C. Board, and was replaced by Mr Michael Hannah, Principal of Lakes Grammar - An Anglican School.

This past year has seen significant and innovative changes within the N.A.S.C. in the formation of the Schools Management Division, a team under the direction of the N.A.S.C. Business Manager, responsible for the financial management of two schools, Bishop Tyrrell Anglican College and Lakes Grammar-An Anglican School, in partnership with the school boards. The N.A.S.C. continues to maintain financial oversight of Manning Valley Anglican College and Scone Grammar School.

Staffing changes: *Appointments:* Mrs Lorin Livingstone, N.A.S.C. Business Manager; Ms Xanthe Simpson, SMD Accountant; and three SMD Support Staff.

Resignation: Mrs Sharon Waters, Business Manager 2009 - 2011.

Significantly, and for the first time, Chaplains have been appointed to all Diocesan Schools, full-time in three schools and 0.8 FTE at Manning Valley Anglican College.

During the year, the following have been facilitated by the N.A.S.C.:

- The Combined Schools Boards Conference in August
- Schools Celebration Day at the Cathedral in November
- Induction of New Staff in N.A.S.C. Schools in February
- Retreats for Schools Executive Staffs in October 2011 and May 2012
- Meetings, with presentations, of school principals, school chaplains each term
- Christian Religious Studies Syllabus planning, progress and evaluation workshops in November and June with schools' staff members and Principals.
- Professional development services to support new staff in Diocesan schools, new Chaplains, newly appointed school Board members, and all schools' board members.

Guest presenters at these occasions have been Bishop Brian, The Rev'd Matt Shorten, Ms Katherine Gibson (Youth and Family Minister in Newcastle), Mr Chris Day from Enigma Corp Marketing, Fr John Power re the 'Explore' group and peer mentoring in our schools, Mrs Sharon Waters, Mrs Elizabeth Baker from Samaritans, Mr Michael Hannah, Mrs Lorin Livingstone, personnel from the Association of Independent Schools NSW, the Rev'd Richard Browning, Bishop Peter, Mr David Hartley, Fr Nicholas King.

The NASC Officers have represented the N.A.S.C. at:-

- The *Anglican Schools Australia* Annual Conference in Hobart in August 2011
- The official opening of the Mid North Coast Independent Trade Training Centre at St Columba's Anglican College Port Macquarie - a partnership with Manning Valley Anglican College
- Bursars' Association of NSW Conference and professional development days

Current initiatives of the NASC include:-i. The implementation in the four member schools of a common curriculum in Christian Religious Studies that is delivering a syllabus encompassing years K to 12; ii. the embedding and operation of the Schools Management Division; iii. investigation of centralised banking for the Corporation; iv. investigating professional support for school staff delivering the Christian Religious Studies Syllabus; v. opportunities for better reflecting the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in our schools' structures and extending the missional impetus of the schools.

Current challenges on the educational landscape of Australia include the timing of the implementation of the Gonski Federal Funding Review, MySchool website, the National Curriculum.

The Corporation acknowledges, with great appreciation, the support given to Bishop Tyrrell Anglican College from September 2009 to December 2011 by the Newcastle Grammar School, by Mr Alan Green, and by the Diocese, which has enabled the college to become fully alive under the new leadership of Mr Bruce Rixon, Principal, and the reconstituted board, and to begin to realise its potential.

Margaret Gibbs
CEO