

Demystifying deliverance ministry

□ Combined clergy & lay ministers' conference

Anastasia Webster-Hawes has presented a very positive report on a deliverance ministry conference she had attended in Brisbane late last year.

The Blayney parish priest was speaking at the combined clergy and lay ministers' conference in Wellington on Saturday March 21.

Organisers of the conference were very pleased with the day, which brought together about 75 clergy and Licenced Lay Ministers from across the Diocese of Bathurst.

Kelso priest Tim Fogo, who had helped plan the event, said that while he had not yet seen the written feedback sheets, he had picked up very positive verbal responses from a number of people.

In addition to Anastasia's report, Bishop Ian gave an update on the legal proceedings between the Diocese of Bathurst and the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

He said the case is due to be heard in the Supreme Court of NSW, commencing on Monday April 3, with at least three weeks set aside for the hearing.

A condensed version of Bishop Ian's presentation can be found in Bishop Ian's Easter message to the diocese on the Diocesan website, at <http://www.bathurstanglican.org.au/>

(Also see Bishop Ian's column on page 2, for prayer points regarding the hearing.)

Anastasia Webster-Hawes said that she had come back from the deliverance ministry conference "with my mind changed in many ways - perplexed in some ways, but wanting to learn more".

She said she had attended the conference with Gilgandra priest Graham Yager, together with about 30 other clergy from across Australia. Most were Anglican, with some Roman Catholic and a few Lutherans

Anastasia explained that deliverance was the term that is now used to replace the word 'exorcism' – "but don't run for cover," she added. "There's a lot of hoo-haa and superstition around the subject ... but what we learned at the conference



MIND-CHANGING: Anastasia Webster-Hawes told the clergy and lay ministers' conference that her experiences in Brisbane had changed her mind 'in many ways'.

was unsensational, mainstream, authorised and recognised."

She said that one speaker at the conference, Roman Catholic Archbishop Julian Porteus from Hobart, described deliverance as "an important everyday area of ministry which provides care for people with spiritual afflictions".

"No-one at the conference was a ratbag – it was serious, scholarly, cross-disciplinary and soundly theologically and biblically based," she said.

The term 'deliverance' has been used, rather than 'exorcism' for about 30 years, and describes the procedure whereby a person is 'delivered' from evil or spiritual affliction, and released from what was troubling them.

"On the other hand, when you talk of exorcism, it is a demon that is exorcised, not the person," she explained.

The conference speakers all stressed that only a small part of the ministry

relates to exorcism and demon possession, which they say is very rare.

The two keynote speakers were from the UK. One was Bishop Dominic Walker, the former Bishop of Monmouth, who succeeded Rowan Williams when he became Archbishop of Canterbury. The second was psychiatrist Dr David McDonald. They are co-chairs of the Christian Deliverance Study Group (CDSG) in the UK.

The study group was formed in UK in 1995, and in 2000 it released a report on the healing ministry entitled 'A time to Heal', which includes a chapter on deliverance ministry. This report has become the standard of good practice in the UK, where the deliverance ministry is very carefully controlled with theological, pastoral and safeguarding guidelines now employed for good practice.

(continued on page 2)

Prayer points for coming weeks

The Proceedings against our Diocese begin in the Supreme Court of NSW on Monday 13th April.

The matter is set down before Justice Hammerschlag and expected to be heard for more than three weeks.

As we move into Holy Week we recall that Jesus prayed, with his disciples in the upper room (John 17) and in the garden alone (Mark 14.32-42) before his ordeal began. So I am calling our Diocese to prayer over the coming weeks.

When Jesus prayed for his disciples he looked to the future; praying for their protection in trials, that they would live Godly lives, that through their faithful witness others would believe and he expressed his longing that his followers would live in harmony with one another (John 17).

When Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane on his own (Mark 14.32-42), he sought God's will, praying that, despite his own inclinations, the purposes of God would be worked out through his obedience.

Can I encourage us to pray in a

similar way during the coming weeks, taking these themes:

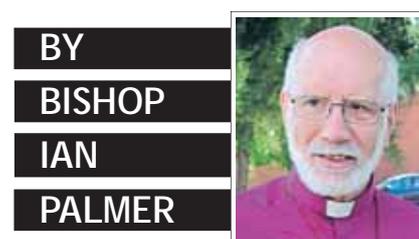
- ♦ seeking God's will and purpose for our Diocese,
- ♦ asking for protection in the trials of life,
- ♦ courage and faithfulness in our mission,
- ♦ Godliness in our lives and
- ♦ unity with one another.

Can I ask clergy and wardens to arrange for churches to be open and times of prayer announced.

Can I ask lay people to join with clergy for prayer and all people to make time to pray on their own and together.

Even though financially our Diocese continues to be in a very difficult place I live with hope that God will bring us through. I echo the words of Bishop Lesslie Newbigin "I am not an optimist, but I live with hope because Jesus Christ is risen."

I am grateful to God that both Macquarie Anglican Grammar School (Dubbo) and Orange Anglican Grammar School continue to flourish. Clergy and



lay people from our diocese are on the staff and boards of these schools, they are chaplains and support people. Pray for these schools: pupils, parents, staff and governing bodies.

I am grateful to God for the faithful ministry of clergy and people in our Diocese. I am expectant that as we go forward into an unknown future that churches in our Diocese will be characterised more and more by the service they give to their communities and their Christ-like witness through which they show and tell the love of God.

Warmly and prayerfully in Christ,

+ Ian Bathurst .

Demystifying deliverance ministry (from page 1)

Anastasia said that only a priest with proper training could conduct an exorcism, but minor deliverance can be conducted by anybody with the correct authority and permission.

Bishop Dominic led a theological reflection on deliverance ministry in the New Testament in which he considered different approaches to the biblical texts, the part played by culture in biblical interpretation.

He spoke of world views, and our own cultural limitations, and considered the difference in approach of the Synoptic Gospel writers compared to John (he pointed out that John does not have any accounts of exorcism; John talks about cosmic conflict between darkness and light).

Paul on the other hand talks about sin and personal responsibility.

"The church of today is not bad at looking at evils of society, but not good at looking at evils within," Anastasia reported. "We ourselves are ministers of healing and deliverance, and we might need the same ourselves. But yet the problem of personal evil might blind you

to the evils of society, so a balance has to be maintained."

She said Archbishop Julian Porteous had spoken of the church's role in helping people who are spiritually afflicted.

He emphasised the "normalcy" of this ministry, especially "minor exorcisms" – which he defined as "helping people who are spiritually afflicted". He described such ministry as "par for the course for a priest, and part of regular ministry".

The Archbishop had stressed that deliverance ministry should be done within the context of faith and belief in the power of Christ: there is no place for sensationalism, and it is not about Christian magic.

Anastasia said he also asserted that it was not about formulas, but "is prayerfully done in faith and should be approached with the greatest of care".

The second keynote speaker from the CDSG, Dr David McDonald, is a psychiatrist and he spoke on evil and psych-pathology – linking spiritual affliction with the harms of inappropriate attachment.

Anastasia quoted Dr McDonald as

having said that ongoing attachment to God was our greatest and original attachment, and our spiritual destiny.

He stressed the need for integration in delivering people from darkness to light, from disease and suffering to healing, to mental and physical health, from fragmentation to wholeness – just as Jesus did in his ministry.

Anglican

e-News

A newsletter for the western NSW Anglican Diocese of Bathurst

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Disclaimer:

The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Anglican Diocese of Bathurst.

Training disciples to make disciples

□ Goulburn convention features UK specialist in discipleship training

Bishop Ian Palmer has given a strong endorsement to a lay ministry conference being held in Goulburn Cathedral on Saturday May 16.

Speaking at the recent combined clergy and lay ministers' conference in Wellington, Bishop Ian said that the Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn's Cathedral Convention in Goulburn would have a strong focus on discipleship.

Bishop Ian urged clergy and lay ministers to attend the convention, and encourage others in their congregations to come along.

Alison Morgan, keynote speaker at the convention, has said that she hopes the day helps people realise that discipleship is "a whole load bigger than they'd thought it was".

"It's not just about going to church every Sunday, faithfully and regularly – it's actually bigger than that. It's a choice to be made by every single one of us, not just for the clergy," she told Anglican News recently. "Being a disciple of Jesus is a lifestyle, and that's challenging to everybody, every single one of us, from the bishop down to the newest Christian."

Alison Morgan is thinker and writer for ReSource, an independent Anglican charity based in Wells, Somerset, UK. ReSource seeks to serve the church by teaching, training, and encouraging people to renew their lives and their church through the power of the Holy Spirit, so that God's message of life-changing love reaches out to others.

Alison works widely in the UK in teaching and training, and she is also the editor and director of ReSource's discipleship programme for Africa, Rooted in Jesus, which is now in use in 15 countries.

In three sessions at the Cathedral Convention she will be speaking on the theme, Apprenticed for Mission, encouraging people to discover their identity as disciples and play their part in God's mission.

She said that over the years she has "learned a lot about what it means to be a disciple by reading Scripture, by being part of a church, and a lot by working in Africa".

She is the editor of a discipleship program called 'Rooted in Jesus', which was developed for use in Africa. She said

the program "looks at what it is to be a disciple of Jesus in a different cultural context from ours".

"This has helped me think about our assumptions, and what is actually there in the Bible: what did Jesus actually intend, and what have we filtered out, and what have we kept?"

The cross-cultural experience of working in Africa helped her take a fresh look at Scripture and discipleship as understood by the Anglican Church of the Western world.

Her research has strengthened her conviction that making disciples was the responsibility of all Christians, lay and ordained.

"Linking Matthew 28: 18-20 with 2 Timothy 2:2 (which is the second part of our 'Rooted in Jesus' series) is about teaching these things to people who will then pass them on to others. It seems to me that is part of being a disciple."

She acknowledged that this understanding of discipleship could be quite challenging to those who had grown up in a traditional Anglican context, and in some cases there can be resistance to such a challenge even in the face of many years of steady decline.

However, Alison Morgan said the Church of England seems to be turning that decline around.

"Half the dioceses in England are consistently growing," she said. We've got 43 dioceses and while I haven't seen the latest figures, over the previous two-year period 22 of those grew. I think the decline here has bottomed out, and I think that's partly due to the Fresh Expressions movement we have here which is about planting churches among unchurched communities of people, and which is heavily dependent on lay ownership and lay leadership.

"I don't know about you, but here



PASSION: Dr Alison Morgan is passionate about the role of lay people in growing the church.

we're having to move a primarily pastoral system - where the vicar looks after everybody, teaches everybody – to a model which is a lot more dynamic, where more is expected of lay people."

To register for the Convention:

Download a registration form from the Canberra-Goulburn Diocesan website <http://www.anglicancg.org.au/>

or register online at www.trybooking.com/GLID (booking fee applies)

**Diocesan Camp
at Ridgecrest**

14th-16th August

**Put the date in your
diary now - more
information in future
issues of Anglican
e-News**

Cyclones create urgent need

□ Tropical cyclones wreak havoc in Vanuatu and North Queensland, prompting church aid agencies to appeal for financial support

1: Vanuatu Cyclone Pam Emergency Appeal

ABM has launched an Emergency Appeal following Cyclone Pam which hit Vanuatu on March 14, cutting communications and leaving communities across the islands with no infrastructure.

A State of Emergency has been declared following the cyclone which left 24 people confirmed dead when it hit the 65 islands with a total population of 267,000.

The death toll is expected to rise significantly once communication is re-established with areas outside Port Villa, the capital city.

ABM's staff member responsible for our programs in Vanuatu, who was on a monitoring visit to the country, was unable to leave Northern Vanuatu last week as the rains meant that planes could not land on the sodden grass runway.

Bishop Nathan Tome, currently Bishop of Guadalcanal who was formerly the Bishop of Banks and Torres, the northern most diocese of the Anglican Church of Melanesia (ACOM) in Vanuatu, spoke with ABM on a

scheduled visit to its Sydney offices.

"I spoke with my wife last week; she was concerned as the winds are quite strong, the seas are high and the rain heavy. I have not been able to speak with her or anyone else from

ACOM all week-end," he said.

Please pray for the cyclone victims, ABM staff and all who are helping in the relief effort.

ABM is seeking to raise \$100,000 to provide emergency relief for those displaced. ACOM is currently assessing



DESTRUCTION: Vanuatu faced the full force of Cyclone Pam, leaving 24 people dead and whole communities flattened.

their most immediate requirements and we will respond accordingly.

To keep up-to date or to donate to ABM's Vanuatu Cyclone Emergency Appeal please call on 1300 302 663, email info@abm.asn.au or visit www.abmission.org/vanuatu-emergency

2: Bishop David Robinson and AnglicareCQ launch the Anglican Bishop's Cyclone Marcia Appeal

Bishop of Rockhampton David Robinson and Anglicare Central Queensland have launched the Anglican Bishop's Cyclone Marcia Appeal.

Cyclone Marcia left a trail of devastation across the region, and the hardship it has caused will continue for months and in some cases years to come. As well as the immediate costs of cleaning up and recovering, the price of rebuilding damaged homes and lives will be felt long into the future.

The Anglican Diocese of Rockhampton covers the whole Central Queensland area, including communities around Rockhampton and the Capricorn Coast, as well as flood-affected Callide towns like Thangool, Biloela and Jambin.

When a disaster like cyclone Marcia strikes, we know we can rely on our local communities to rally around those who've been hit hardest, as well as generous donations from further afield as people across the country chip in to help.

AnglicareCQ CEO Suzie Christensen says the Anglican Bishop's Cyclone Marcia Appeal will help the organisation's ongoing work supporting the most vulnerable people in our community.

"We've already helped more than 180 families affected by cyclone Marcia with emergency financial support in just two days," Ms Christensen says. "Through this appeal, we'll be able to meet the current critical needs, the need that will arise in the coming weeks and months."

Bishop David Robinson says the Anglican community around Australia have already reached out to help. "We



BISHOP David Robinson.

extend our thanks to the Archbishop of Sydney's Anglican Aid for kicking off the appeal with a generous donation."

To contribute to the Anglican Bishop's Cyclone Marcia Appeal

Visit the AnglicareCQ website at anglicarecq.org.au to donate by credit card or PayPal, or use these details to donate by direct deposit:

Anglicare Central Queensland
BSB: 014 690
Account number: 108 490 187

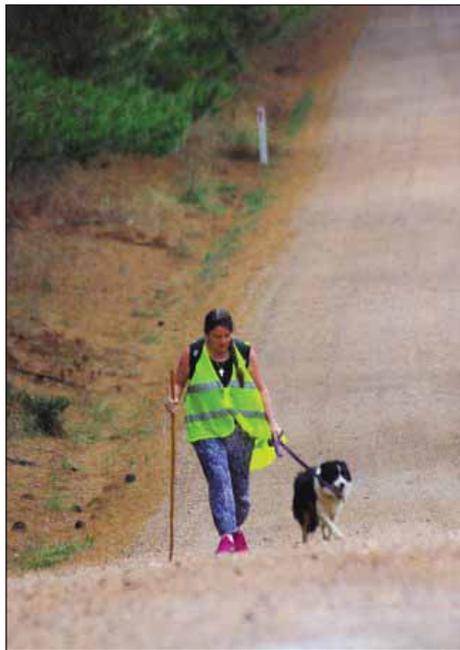
All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. If you donate via direct deposit and would like a receipt for taxation purposes, please email web-enquires@anglicarecq.org.au to let them know your name and address so they can mail you a receipt.

Blayney priest's Lenten Pilgrimage

❑ Beating the bounds of the parish in prayerful contemplation

Anastasia Webster-Hawes spent the week before Holy Week beating the parish bounds (metaphorically speaking - not with birch sticks).

She said that walking around the seven centres of the parish was a prayerful and positive Lenten Pilgrimage.



COMPANIONS: Sometimes just Anastasia and her dog were companions on the journey ...

“A Pilgrimage is a meaningful journey with a hallowed purpose, to a sacred place,” she explained. “In this case, the sacred places are the village centres where we worship around our wide parish.”

“Pilgrimage is a time to discern God’s will and guidance, a time to be strengthened in faith. It is a time to feel inspired by the communion of saints who have gone before us – in this case, all the faithful worshippers of the parish over the past hundred and fifty or so years.”

She also used the time to “encircle the villages of the parish in love and prayer, to draw together and unite the people of our parish”.

“I also prayed for each property I passed – the farm, the people and the animals. I was dropping cards with a message in mail boxes, but I ran out!”

However, she said the walk was “really more about the people of the parish than about me”.

At each stop along the way, she gathered people in prayer for the parish, with its people and places, and for the church throughout the Diocese.

Beginning in Blayney after worship



MORE COMPANIONS: Sometimes others joined in for parts of the walk.

on Sunday March 22, her pilgrimage took in Barry (Evening Prayer Sunday), Trunkey Creek (Evening Prayer Monday), Neville (Evening Prayer Tuesday), Mandurama (Eucharist 1.pm Wednesday), Carcoar (Evening Prayer Wednesday), Forest Reefs (evening Prayer Thursday), Lucknow (Evening Prayer Friday), Millthorpe (Mid Day Prayer Saturday) and back to Blayney for a Thanksgiving Service at 5.pm.

Diocesan celebration for 30 years of Cursillo

Bathurst Diocese will celebrate the 30th anniversary of its first Cursillo retreat with a gathering at Dubbo’s Big 4 Parklands on the weekend of May 1-3.

Beginning on Friday evening with a nostalgic reflection on Cursillo events over the 30 years, the program continues on Saturday with a series of presentations from speakers including our Diocesan Lay Director, Liz Smith, who will speak on the topic, *Answering the call*.

National Lay Director of the Cursillo Movement, Diana Smith from Brisbane, will deliver two talks: the *Meaning of the Call*, and the *Action of the Call*.

In his capacity as National Episcopal Advisor to Cursillo, Bishop Ian Palmer will be the after-dinner speaker on Saturday night.

On Sunday morning Lew Hitchick



will give the final talk of the program, entitled the *Fourth Day: Living the Call*.

The program allows opportunities for discussion of these topics, and also includes plenty of free time for people to catch up with friends from Cursillo gatherings in other times and places.

Bathurst Diocese will also be hosting the annual meeting of the National Cursillo Secretariat in Dubbo, over the two days prior to the 30th anniversary celebration. Most members of the secretariat intend to stay on to join in the local event.

The organising committee is pleased with the response so far, with registrations approaching the 70 mark, but points out that the venue will be limited - so if you are interested, please register as soon as possible.

Registration forms are available on the diocesan website at <http://www.bathurstanglican.org.au/AboutUs/Cursillo.html>

Responding to human need

□ Overview of Anglicare's work in Western NSW

Sue West, Chair of Anglicare Western NSW, took the opportunity of the combined clergy and lay ministers' conference in Wellington on Saturday March 21 to present an overview of the work of Anglicare in central and western NSW.

She explained that Anglicare NSW South, NSW West & ACT had been formed by an alliance of Anglicare in Canberra/Goulburn, Bathurst & Riverina Diocese, and is part of the Anglican Church.

"Anglicare is called by Christ's example to respond to human need by providing loving service and seeking to transform unjust structures in society," she said.

Sue West serves as a member of the Board of Management of Anglicare NSW South, NSW West & ACT.

She listed the services that Anglicare provides in the region:

- ♦ **NILS (No Interest Loans Scheme)** – based in Dubbo, and providing access to the scheme for people in 22 centres in Bathurst Diocese.
- ♦ **Op Shops** in Parkes and Coolah-Dunedoo.
- ♦ **Emergency Relief** combining funds from a small grant as well as the donations received.

♦ **Out of Home Care** – based in Orange, this program assists children and youth at risk and provides care away from their home situation involving Foster parents and residential care if needed. The Samaritans (the sister organisation in the Newcastle Diocese) runs this program from Mudgee covering the upper Hunter area.

Sue West also provided information about changes in the area of Specialist Homeless Services, which will assist Priests in providing support for the homeless in their parishes. She said that these grants had been announced recently, and there had been some confusion in the community about who to contact. While Anglicare is not a provider of homeless services it is important to be able to advise who to refer people to.

Disaster Recovery

The day also provided an opportunity to update people about the changes that had occurred in the provision of Disaster Recovery following the withdrawal from the service of St Vincent de Paul, which meant that Anglicare was now being tasked to provide Material Aid.

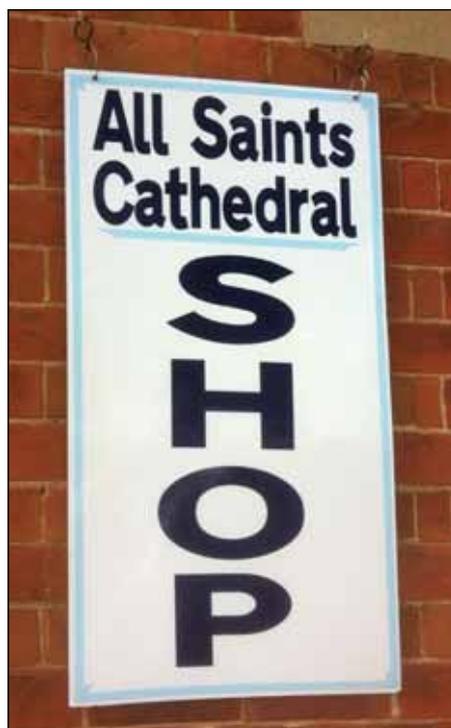


CHAIR of Anglicare Western NSW, Sue West, presents an overview of Anglicare's work in the region.

She said training was being planned across the Diocese and those between 18 and 80 are welcome to volunteer.

"On an average, we are activated every one or two years - usually for flood or fire," she said.

Anglicare volunteers have also been invited to participate in Interagency Evacuation Centre Exercises in Coonamble and Forbes in June.



All Saints' Cathedral Shop

□ A range of very individualised gift ideas

Offering a range of craft items, locally-made jewellery used books and CDs, art and photography, the Cathedral Shop in Bathurst is wonderful place to find that out-of-the-ordinary gift.

Opened almost a year ago, the shop is located in the front corner of the cathedral's Walshaw Hall next door to the parish office and Diocesan Registry at 3 Church Street, Bathurst..

It is staffed by volunteers, offering a friendly retail environment where customers are welcome to browse, or just sit and enjoy a conversation.

Shop manager Tania Harvey said all craft items are made locally, and the range includes hand-made candles (from local beeswax), jewellery and

wooden products including some finely-crafted woodturning.

Art includes paintings by local artists, as well as some amazing photographic work by local photographer Peter Brady.

As well as a constantly-changing range of pre-loved books, the shop can order new books as required.

And speaking of pre-loved items, there is a variety of ornaments and knick-knacks on sale as well.

The shop is open from 10am to 4pm, Tuesdays to Fridays.

All proceeds from the shop go to support the mission and ministry of All Saints' Cathedral.