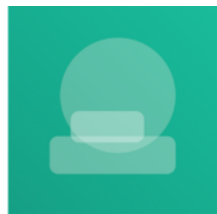




2025 Annual Report

AGM, Sunday, 31st August 2025



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Agenda



1. *Prayer*
2. *Appointment of Minutes' Secretary*
3. *Declaration of a Quorum, Attendance & Apologies (Quorum = 12)*
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 2025-26*
8. *Adoption of mission organisations to be supported in 2025-26*
9. *Other reports to be tabled and/or read:*
 - Mission Report*
 - 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.



2025 Reports

Vicar's Report.

What a year it's been! As I sit down to write this report, I'm struck by some of the joys and challenges we have faced, and the incredible ways that God has worked in, amongst and through us.

There is no greater privilege than being a member of Jesus' family, and taking our place in the local congregation. Thank you for taking this calling seriously, and for every little step of trust in him this year. And praise our Lord that he calls us his treasured possession, and uses each of us to build one other up to look more like King Jesus each day.

Before I outline various areas of ministry, I cannot thank Louise and my family enough - Whilst I am 'the Vicar', the ministry that follows is very much the result of serving you as a 'ministry family'. Although we aren't all involved in everything around church, at many points Lou's ministry to me by caring for our family frees me up for other word ministry. THANK YOU, Louise!

Sunday Services

Sunday services are always going to be an important part of church life. They are multi-directional as God himself meets with us, and ministers to us through his word, and we, his people, respond to him in prayer, praise and thanksgiving.

As I mentioned above, each of us have a responsibility to 'work with God' in building one another up in our common life together, and unsurprisingly our weekly Sunday services have been some of the most encouraging times of the week for us all, as we 'let the word of Christ dwell richly amongst us'.

As we have seen in our studies in Psalm 119 recently, God's word preached, proclaimed, sung, spoken, prayed, believed, trusted, recited and meditated upon is so important to keep our meetings and our very communal life centred on our God, and I have tried to keep that wholly Biblical flavour in our forms of service, and through the rhythms of the church calendar by telling the Gospel story through the different church seasons through the year.

As is my custom, I've tried to keep systematically working through books of the Bible in preaching. Over the last 12 months, I've preached through:

- ✠ Psalms 17-19
- ✠ Songs for Advent (Individual Psalms)
- ✠ Luke 2-24
- ✠ 1 Corinthians 1-7
- ✠ Psalm 119 (first 5 stanzas)

As we marked the 1700th anniversary of the first council of Nicaea, I also preached a one-off sermon about the importance of our creeds, and the Biblical theology surrounding their writing.

I have wanted to get more people to be involved in Sunday ministry this year, but it's been hard-going. This is partly my own fault - I don't believe I am very persuasive when it comes to encouraging people to do things. But it's also a feature of our current congregation. Many are already involved in multiple areas of church life. Some are not able to do things (due to health or age), and others have busy lives outside of church which limits how much they can do.

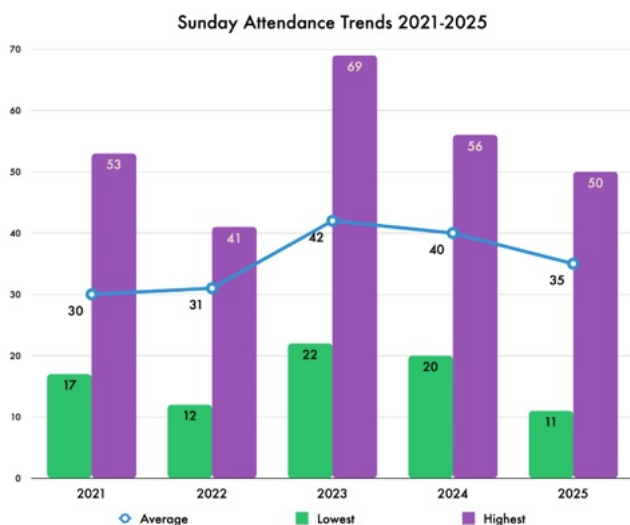
It is always a helpful thing to think about how we can be serving the Lord and his people, and if in the following year, we all could do just one more thing around church once a term, then this will be a step in the right direction - Perhaps this could be Reading the Bible, or helping with A/V, serving morning tea, welcoming people at the door, or cleaning the church mid-week. No matter your availability, ability or personality, there is something that everyone can do to put their hands to.

We continue to have an inter-generational flavour at church on Sundays. Us adults teach the kids, and the kids teach us. Hence, having particular teaching times for kids within the service and at kids church remain important for us as a parish. Some times it is just my own kids attending Church, but these features make it easier for parents to bring their kids along, and we pray more families in our town would make use of these opportunities.

Sunday Attendance

As I mention every year, attendance is not the only indicator of health in a church but it is still helpful to report on, as it can help us to forecast our finances and other areas for growth or change into the future.

You will see that this year's attendance data has taken a dip. I think this is largely due to some faithful people moving out of town (or to glory!), and not as many joining us in their stead. I take this as a helpful reminder that if we want to see Jesus' church grow in Warialda, we all have a role in inviting our friends & neighbours along, whilst also prayerfully expecting God to move people's hearts to accept our invites.



Normal Sunday Attendance:

Highest weekend attendance:	50	(56)
Lowest weekend attendance:	11	(20)
Average weekly attendance:	35	(40)
(Last year's figures in brackets)		

Easter/Christmas Attendance:

Christmas Eve - 6pm Family:	23	(63)
Christmas Eve - 11pm trad:	5	(14)
Christmas Day:	23	(24)
Maundy Thursday Gospel Dinner:	40	–
Good Friday Morning service:	16	(23)
Good Friday Evening service :	14	(28)
Easter Sunday:	47	(81)
(Last year's figures in brackets)		

I find it interesting to see the Easter/Christmas attendance numbers, which I tend to keep out of the normal Sunday trends. Obviously not as much of an uptake from 'Easter/Christmas only churchgoers' this calendar year, but we ran our first Passover/Gospel dinner on Maundy Thursday this year, which I think was a huge success - many church & non-church people came and provided a lot of positive feedback.

Coolatai

Ministry to people in Coolatai has been tough over the past 12 months. Tania Stevens has coordinated this congregation. Most months when she does the 'call around' to see if people are going to come to church, either they have been unavailable or she has received no response, and so every service since February 2024 has been cancelled, which is a great sadness to me.

I believe these lack of numbers is due to a few reasons: first the regular attenders liked meeting in the church (which was closed in Feb 2024 due to it being unsafe). Secondly, services were dropped from monthly to every second month, which always means it's hard to get momentum. Third, people's lives are busy, and if they are nominally Christian, church is simply the first thing to get stripped from a busy schedule.

We did, however, run a carols service in the Coolatai Hall for Christmas 2024. This was a joyful service, where about 25 people attended. It was particularly great to have the Ukulele group perform a few songs for the locals.

I mentioned last year that a local builder had expressed interest in renovating the church building, and keeping it in the community for ongoing use. In October 2024, we held a congregational meeting at which the decision was made in favour of selling the building to him. This decision was communicated to the community through various means, and in February 2025, the sale was completed. I do not know how or when the new owner intends to finish the renovations of the church, but I look forward to see what he does to try and give this building a new lease of life.

Bible Studies

There are 4 mid-week Bible Study groups which are actively meeting together. Two mixed-gender groups on a Wednesday afternoon, a women's Bible Study group on Thursday evenings, and a 'Mums & Bubs' group which meets after Junior Jivers.

I am incredibly grateful to Rod & Janelle Smith, Garth Skinner and Eddie Ladmore for running these groups and providing pastoral care to those who attend. This year, these Bible Study Leaders met once for some training in this task, and although I had wanted this training and team time to be more regular, I dropped the ball on organising more meetings. I hope to schedule in this time once a term in the coming year.

Across these 4 groups, there are about 18 adults regularly involved. This is not quite half of the 44 Adults who regularly attend Sunday mornings. As your pastor, I could not encourage weekly Bible Study in these informal settings enough, as this is where a good amount of spiritual and relational growth occurs, as well as a lot of personal pastoral care through the ups & downs of life together. If you're not in a Bible Study group, please join one - it will be one of the best ways to spend 2 hours of your week.

Morning Prayer

I have continued leading mid-week Morning Prayer meetings this year - These are informal gatherings in the Parish Office (air-conditioned) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9am. We follow the rhythm of morning prayer in the Book of Common Prayer by listening to God's word, and praying together.

Sometimes there are 5-6 people in attendance, and at other times it's just myself. The group even continues to meet when I am called out of the parish for other engagements.

I know that I need other Christians to pray with me, and help me to pray - so these times are as much a ministry to me, as I know they are to everyone else who attends. I commend Morning Prayer to you.

Aged Care Ministry - Naroo & MPS

Formal ministry at Naroo and the Hospital (MPS) has been quite sporadic this year - Largely due to illness, and a few times when these facilities had forgotten that a chapel service was scheduled. I have noticed this year that the residents at Naroo have generally declined in cognitive ability: Where I was able a few years to run a whole chapel service, feeling like the residents interacted with the readings, hymns, prayers and a scaled-down sermon, it has not seemed the case this year - most of the time, our chapel services have been interrupted by loud or absent-minded residents, and often I just see 'blank faces'.

This is not the case, however, when we are praying the Lord's Prayer, singing Amazing Grace, or saying a Creed - Even those whose minds are largely absent, are able to remember these things, and therefore remember our God and his gracious actions toward us.

Although the formal chapel times have been isolated, I have been able to provide a fair bit of incidental pastoral care to those in the long-stay, acute and palliative wards in both facilities.

Hospital/Emergency Chaplaincy

A fair bit of administrative effort was expended this year in my role as the chair of our Local Health Advisory Committee (LHAC) - this was mainly due to structural changes in Hunter New England Health, which was trying to make big changes to how our local committee was run. Our group opted for a more casual and local approach rather than the centralised approach that HNEHealth was pushing. Although it took quite a few days of my time, this governance work was helpful to clarify things for all, and will be better in the long-run, as it will mean less red-tape, and getting down to discussing better health outcomes for our local town.

Regarding the hospital, I remain as the local chaplain. If you are ever admitted, please let the nurses know that you would like pastoral care, so I can visit you. If I don't know you're in hospital, I won't know to visit.

Occasional Services

I performed just one wedding this year - for my old house-mate, in Port Macquarie. Although this wedding was on the coast, we still did a good amount of marriage preparation together. A few other de facto couples have asked for marriage, but have deferred, due to long engagements (24mo. plus)

After preaching about Baptism earlier in the year, We had one adult Baptism, for Maryanne Daley, who shortly moved down to Bingara. Be praying for her, that our Lord would strengthen her trust and love of him. There have been no infant baptisms during this period.

For the year July 2024 to June 2025, I had 10 funerals (contrast this with 5 funerals in the previous period). Many of these were beloved and faithful parishioners: Frank Egan, Alice Bowman, Dorothy Hawkins, Noeline Hatcher.

We were also privileged to see Bruce Stevenson come to faith prior to his death in November 2024. This was largely due to the faithful witness of Garth Skinner, who quietly but boldly shared the Gospel with Bruce throughout the years, and regularly met with him to read the Bible and pray together.

Praise the Lord for new life, even in the face of funerals & physical death!

Evangelism and Outreach

In the same vein as above, how wonderful is it when people are plucked from death to life, through the proclamation of the Good News of Jesus! This task of sharing the Gospel is every Christian's job, and we have a responsibility to continue in it.

As a Church, we ran the Gingerbread events for a second year, over Christmas. Louise led a team of people to pull off two events, an adult event and a family event. A Gospel talk was presented at both, and there was good conversation about the true meaning of Christmas, whilst people had fun assembling their Gingerbread house kits.

I have not pushed many church-wide evangelistic events this year, partly because we haven't seen people come to faith through them over the last

5 years. I also want individuals to take the responsibility of sharing their own faith with people around them, rather thinking that this task is the responsibility of a program that the church runs.

I maintain to offer basic evangelistic courses to those who genuinely want to explore the core tenets of the Christian faith, and if you have a friend or neighbour who would like to do this, I encourage you to get in contact with me, and we can do this together in the coming months.

If you have an idea for a bigger style of evangelistic event, please come and talk to me - These kind of events definitely have a place in the life of the local church, but they work the best when there is more buy-in from people in the pews, rather than if they are thrust upon us from on high (or at least the vicar).

Holiday Kids Club

One such Evangelistic Event has been our Holiday Kids Club - This year, we have just finished holding it in the Winter holidays. A team of 5 came up from Wahroonga Anglican to help us run the kids club, and we had 23 kids attend.

I was greatly encouraged to see our whole parish get behind this week in lots of different ways - from those who led the kids, to those who prepared the hall, made and served food, organised crafts, activities, & games, those who cleaned and those who prayed. Do not underestimate the importance of even the littlest of these things. It enabled the Good news of Jesus to be preached in word and deed to these kids and their families, and we will keep praying that they might believe, and connect in with us at church.

I hope you have seen the highlight video that we produced - and can see how great this mission week is for our parish and our community. Please be praying now for the young families in our town, and how you might be involved in next year's Holiday Kids Club.

Kids & Youth Ministry

This year is the second year of having regular Kids Church on Sundays. Louise Cimarosti, Margaret Haug and Wendy Johnston look after these Sunday School sessions, which run two

Sundays each month during term time.

Regarding Youth ministry, our parish does not have the capacity for a regular youth group, however we do relish having our high-schoolers amongst us, and are greatly encouraged by their involvement on Sundays. During our recent mission week, we held a relaxed youth night, which was a great night, although under-attended. In August, I will run the 3-2-1 course with the youth, and I hope that this might morph into a more regular Bible Study where they can explore and grow in their faith together. We continue to encourage the youth to attend bigger diocesan events like Youth Muster and Barraba Bash, and we sent Ezra Johnston on Youthworks LIT (Leaders In Training) event in January 2025.

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

I want to specifically thank Cecile Egan, our treasurer, for all the diligent work she does for us - Most of it is behind the scenes, but it is no small task. THANK YOU, Cecile!

This year, Ann Willis also stepped in as assistant treasurer, to give Alison Allen some well needed rest. I want to thank Alison for the work she has done over the years, as well as Ann for jumping in so easily this year. Thank you both!

I will leave the main financial report to Cecile, but I think our finances tell an important story: despite lowering attendance figures, we met our budget. This means that less people gave more generously. Praise the Lord for His own generosity to us through you, his people, and Praise him for the Joy and Gospel-mindedness that you have practiced this year - This really is 'faith in action'.

As we look at the budget for 2025/26, I want to mention three things that will be financially helpful for our parish:

Vicarage Renovation Loan

We have roughly \$10,000 in debt. If we can pay off this loan, it will save us thousands of dollars in interest, and give us extra funds for our budget.

Cecile tells me that if we down-paid \$7,000, the loan would be practically paid off by the end of this financial year. Would you consider donating a lump-sum to help us to do this?

Online Giving

If you haven't set up online-giving, would you consider doing so? One of the helpful things about this method of giving is that it is incredibly regular, so it helps our parish do a better job of forecasting into the future.

Building Fund

Would you consider increasing your giving (or giving a one off donation) to our building fund? In order to balance our budget, we have not budgeted any funds for building maintenance or upgrades. Yet there are three big-ticket items that I would love to see us work on, in regard to building upgrades:

- ⊕ Sound-proofing in the hall so people can hear each other during dinners and other events. This will cost about \$10,000
- ⊕ Installing better lighting in the church so people can read their bibles, service sheets and prayer books. This will cost about \$3,000
- ⊕ Replacing the heaters in the church, as the current heaters are energy-inefficient and do not do a good job of providing heating. This will cost about \$10,000

These are some physical projects that I hope you can see the importance of, and may like to generously support - not just to enjoy in the short term, but also to make our facilities better for the good of others in the years to come.

Please pray.

As 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. Without his power at work, we are nothing!

By Christ's grace alone,

Rev. Steve Cimarosti
Vicar

Churchwardens' Report

Repairs and Maintenance

It has been a busy and productive year. Three working bees have been held. There have been quite a few things achieved in terms of repairs and maintenance. This is as follows:

Church Building and Yard

- ✚ Steve has installed a new skylight above the communion table.
- ✚ A wall mounted fan has been installed in the kitchen vestry.
- ✚ Three trees were removed that were causing concern. The wood was split for firewood for the vicarage.
- ✚ The shelf in the cupboard in the kitchen was replaced due to extensive water damage.
- ✚ The gutters around the church have been cleaned. Thank you Kate.
- ✚ Repairs and ongoing maintenance have been done to the ride-on mower. Many thanks to Marty Ladmore for his help with this.
- ✚ The lock on the back timber door has been repaired.
- ✚ The kitchen vestry door has been repaired.
- ✚ Stain removal from the cement floor.
- ✚ The carpets have been professionally cleaned as well as the chairs. Thank you Phil & Wendy
- ✚ Damaged chair covers have been dealt with. As the fabric was too fragile, covers have been added.
- ✚ Work has commenced repainting the timber doors.
- ✚ Windows cleaned inside and out.
- ✚ Brassware cleaned.
- ✚ Inventory taken of church linen.
- ✚ Yard sprayed for weeds.

Still to do:

- ✚ Rust treatment on toilet gutters.
- ✚ Paint the timber panels under the windows.
- ✚ Replace the florescent light in the office vestry,

- ✚ Replace the fans.
- ✚ New and more efficient heating system.

Parish Hall and Surroundings

- ✚ The new sign board was installed on the highway side of the hall replacing the deteriorating timber one. It is now better suited to display banners when appropriate.
- ✚ The flood light on the hall had a time release feature added to enable everyone to leave safely at night.
- ✚ The chairs have been tagged underneath to identify them.
- ✚ A small, second-hand Tuckerbox freezer has been added to the kitchen.
- ✚ The bird hole has been blocked.
- ✚ Yard sprayed for weeds.



Still to do:

- Adjustment of kitchen sinks to increase the height to make them more ergonomic.
- ✦ Replacement of the stove to something more suitable for functions.
- ✦ Sound proofing in the main hall to curb noise levels.
- ✦ Sanding and finishing of pew in hall.

Vicarage and Yard

- ✦ Paving from the western porch to the gate to the hall was installed by Steve.
- ✦ An arborist was employed to remove dangerous branches in the vicarage yard.

Still to do:

- ✦ Remove two pine trees from the highway side of the vicarage
- ✦ Western porch railings
- ✦ Concrete at the back of the house needs upgrading.
- ✦ Pergola reconstruction over the back cement area including corrugated iron and alsonite. Replacement of guttering in that area to increase the water flow away from that area.
- ✦ Guttering on north-west corner of the house needs adjusting and the overflow from the water tank needs adjusting and repairing.

Wharoonga Church Partnership

Our Partnership with Wharoonga church continues successfully. The minister from Wahroonga, Rev. Andrew Rees, visited in May and shared with us some insights into the work been done in their parish. He also preached for us at the Sunday service. Quite a few parishioners joined together after the service to enjoy lunch at the Royal Hotel with Andrew and to get to know him better.

A small band of young people, lead again by Tamar, arrived in June to help us run another holiday kid's club with a Christmas theme. There were 23 attendees of primary school age and, again, they all had a wonderful time learning about Jesus over three fun filled mornings. Many

thanks to all the volunteers who prepared craft activities, cooking, running the kitchen, setting up, cleaning up, and many other tasks. Our Kids Club wouldn't have run without you!

Community Pot-Luck Dinners

We have held two community dinners throughout the past year, one with an Asian theme and the other with a Mexican theme. These were well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Our aim for these dinners continues to be community outreach so it is important we continue to invite people who do not regularly attend church.

Vision Christian Media Radio

Vision Christian Media continues to broadcast from equipment installed in the church hall. Its content is very grounded in the Bible and is great listening. You can tune in on 87.6 FM. Vision Christian Media donate some money to the church to offset the electrical costs incurred by broadcasting the radio station.

We look forward to the coming year and all the possibilities it holds.

Yours in Christ,

Garth Skinner and Margaret Haug

Mission Report

We have been responsible for the church Mission Portfolio since the 2024 AGM.

Warialda Anglican Church is most actively involved with:

- ✝ Church Missionary Society (CMS), particularly Gillian Law in Rome. We are also encouraged to be more widely involved with CMS through Summer School at Mt Tambourine in January of each year, and Mission Encounter, held in Tamworth each August.
- ✝ Pioneers, who support the Applebys in SE Asia.
- ✝ Bush Church Aid (BCA)
- ✝ The North Kigezi Diocese in Uganda.
- ✝ Wahroonga Anglican Church.

ACTIVITIES DURING THE 2024-25

During the past year, Members of our church have attended Mission Encounter in Tamworth in 2024 and in 2025.

In 2024, Gillian Law was one of the guest missionaries. It was especially rewarding to connect with Gillian at that conference, because Warialda church wasn't included in her schedule for that particular home visit. Many of us have enjoyed our interaction with Gillian during the time she has been serving in Rome. We've enjoyed meals and conversations with her and she has joined us in our Bible Studies.

Gillian was finding, at that time, that her ministry in Rome was becoming more firmly established after the initial five years. One of her major strategies has been to train student leaders of study groups.

In her August 2025 newsletter she was intending to attend the IFES student conference in Latvia, and was pleased that a first year student would also be attending because she would have 3 or 4 years to assist in ministry after the conference.

In 2025 a larger number of Warialda people attended Mission Encounter, including two of our High School students and three of our younger children. There appeared to us to be a larger attendance at Mission Encounter generally this year. Visiting missionaries who spoke to us were Adam and Helane (Japan), Josh and Sarah (Central Asia) and Steph, who is preparing to serve in Austria next year. Simon Gilham, Vice Principal and Head of Mission at Moore College was our guest speaker. He spoke on the book of Colossians. Simon served in Namibia for a number of years and is preparing to return there soon.

For our Mission Sunday at the end of March, 2025, Phillip Van't Spyker and his family visited and Phillipspoke to us about CMS, as well as showing us a video from Gillian in Rome. Phillip is assistant vicar in Moree, and for one day per week is the CMS representative for our area.



Gillian Law

Our interaction with BCA has been less than in previous years. We invited them to send us a representative to speak at our July Mission Sunday, but that wasn't possible. Perhaps next year we may have a representative visit.

One visit which was very enjoyable was in October last year. Bishop Onesimus, Mama Florence and their chaplain from the North Kigezi Diocese in Uganda had a night with the members of our church for a Sunday night dinner during which he spoke to us and had a Q&A session. Mama Florence also met baby Florence Doyle which she found a delight.

Wahroonga Anglican church again sent a ministry team for the Kids' Holiday Club in July. Twenty or so local kids attended and really enjoyed the time. They were also helped by four of our High Schoolers, either in the activities or in providing food.

We would like to become more mission focused as a church, so hopefully next year we may be able to continue to encourage parishioners to attend CMS events and to have more mission people attend our services and speak to us.

Janelle and Rod Smith



Junior Jivers Report

Junior Jivers has now been running for two and a half years! The program for 0-5 year olds and their parents/carers is an outreach initiative at Warialda Anglican Church. It runs 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 2024-25, a team of 4 Warialda Anglican Church volunteers run our Junior Jivers program; 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 Parish for your support, prayer and help as needed to ensure our ministry is cared for.

Teaching

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

- ✝ Term 3 (2024) - Transport
- ✝ Term 4 (2024) - Food
- ✝ Term 1 (2025) - God Gives Us...
- ✝ Term 2 (2025) - Emotions.

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.

This year we have made sure to have one 'theme song' for each week which is Christian and sung on repeat. The hope is that it will be sung again and again in homes across Warialda. We aim to be proudly Christian.



Weekly Attendance

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

Term 3: 2024:	1	9
Term 4, 2024:	7	
Term 1, 2025:	15	(same as (23/24)
Term 2, 2024:	12	

Attendance has held pretty steady since last year, and we have four families who come every week they are able. Our demographic is about 30/70 church and non-church families.

Finances

We ask \$2 per family each week or \$15 per term to cover our costs (materials for craft, musical instruments, morning tea supplies, Christmas gifts). However, this is not strictly monitored, as we want families to come, whether they can afford to or not.

For the 2024-25 financial year, Junior jivers had:

- ✝ \$396 income
- ✝ \$128 expenses

This equals \$268 profit & is accounted for in the church books.

Thanks to Cecile for managing this side of things for us.

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:

- ✦ Mums and Bubs bible study runs immediately after Junior Jivers, and has three Junior Jivers families attending weekly. It has provided a place for deeper conversations as we read the bible and discuss.
- ✦ 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, evangelistic courses and Gingerbread house building.



Collaborations and Partnerships

We are thankful for the support of Warialda Preschool and the Toy Library in allowing us to borrow supplies as needed for our program.

We have also approached different community members to offer chats relating to their expertise.

Into the future

Prayerfully, I would like to see the ministry grow, seeing new families from the community attend. There are many local families with 0-5 year olds - and we would love your help advertising the program to them.

It would be safe to say that Junior Jivers is continuing to be a great asset to our church and community. Every week we see God working in both large and small ways through this ministry. The team and I are very grateful for the support of the church and community. Please keep praying for Junior Jivers. We are excited to see how God will use this time together to further his Kingdom.

Louise Cimarosti



SRE Report

During 2024–25, Special Religious Education (SRE) has once again been a regular and joyful part of the weekly routine at Warialda Public School.

Each Friday, I teach four classes back-to-back: Kindergarten, Years 1–2, Years 3–4, and Years 5–6. I continue to serve as the sole SRE teacher and count it a real privilege to walk into WPS each week and openly share the good news of Jesus with the students.

This year, student numbers are slightly down—just under 100 enrolled in total—which aligns with a broader trend across NSW schools. Unfortunately, efforts to shift SRE away from Friday (a day filled with competing activities) were unsuccessful, but we are thankful to still have a consistent time slot each week.

Each class receives 30 minutes of Bible teaching, which includes storytelling, songs, memory verses, games, and craft. I continue to use the excellent CEP curriculum, which provides a well-structured, age-appropriate plan that introduces children to a significant portion of the Bible over a three-year cycle.

Throughout this past year, our focus has been on God's promises to Abraham, tracing how these were worked out in the lives of Isaac, Joseph, and Moses. In Terms 3 and 4, our attention shifts to the book of Romans, where we see how Jesus is the ultimate fulfilment of those promises—a wonderful thread tying the whole Bible together.

At the end of Term 2, I hosted a combined Easter Assembly with Sue Barwick, the Roman Catholic SRE teacher. We brought our classes together for two extended sessions; K–2 & 3–6. The morning was a lively and joyful mix of fun and learning, and every child heard that Jesus did the impossible: He defeated sin and death.

This marks my fourth full year (and a bit!) teaching SRE at WPS, and I'm grateful for the good relationship we continue to have with the school community. The transition to a new principal, Tracey Digby, has been smooth with

her own Christian faith bringing warmth and understanding to our partnership.

SRE has also opened the door for promoting our Epic Explorers holiday club, with nearly every child who attended having already encountered us through SRE. I used the recap video from last year, which sparked great excitement—especially among kids who attended previously. As Term 3 begins, I look forward to hearing how God has been at work in their hearts following that event.

There are opportunities for more people to be involved in Teaching Scripture. Please come and talk with me if this sounds like something you would like to do.

Here are a few highlights from the year:

- ✚ A parent told me their child had been asking lots of questions about Jesus—even getting into debates with his sister because he's so convinced that Jesus is real!
- ✚ A Kindy boy sat wide-eyed as we read the account of Jesus' death and resurrection—seeing him process that story for the first time was unforgettable.
- ✚ The Years 5–6 students continue to arrive with questions week after week, showing they're thinking deeply between lessons.
- ✚ During one lesson, a classroom teacher began singing along with our memory verse—she remembered it from her own childhood experience!

Please join me in praying:

- ✚ That the students would grow in their understanding of Jesus and develop a lasting faith.
- ✚ That what they hear in class would overflow into their homes and families.
- ✚ That I'd have strength and wisdom as I prepare lessons, build relationships, and manage the weekly demands of teaching—some weeks are more tiring than others!
- ✚ That God would raise up 'workers for the harvest' in this important mission field.

With gratitude,
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 we have not run any training in-house, however 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.

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 2025

Assets

Total Bank Accounts	58,369
<i>Warialda Anglican Church Building Fund</i>	12,781
<i>Warialda Anglican Church General Fund S3</i>	45,588
Total Non-current Assets	2,111
<i>Youth Ministry Seed Fund (listed as 'AIDF Investment')</i>	2,111
Total Assets	60,480

Liabilities

Total Current Liabilities	569
<i>GST</i>	(343)
<i>PAYG Withholdings Payable</i>	912
<i>Superannuation Payable</i>	-
Total Non-current Liabilities	10,733
<i>Loan - Armidale Diocese (2020 Vicarage Renovation)</i>	10,733
Total Liabilities	11,302

Net Assets (Total Assets minus Total Liabilities)	49,178
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Equity

<i>Current Year Earnings</i>	6,886
<i>Retained Earnings</i>	42,292
Total Equity	49,178

**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 2025

INCOME

Total Offertories	98,758
<i>Direct Deposit</i>	60,770
<i>Warialda</i>	37,988
Total External Mission Giving	8,033
<i>External Mission Giving</i>	6,950
<i>B C A Boxes Giving</i>	912
<i>World Day of Prayer giving</i>	171
Total Building Fund Giving	7,936
Total Other Income	28,735
<i>Funerals/Occasional Services</i>	3,638
<i>Mission Partnership (Wahroonga Parish)</i>	6,447
<i>Sale of Coolatai Church</i>	16,364
<i>Interest Income</i>	229
<i>Hall Hire</i>	500
<i>Junior Jivers</i>	396
<i>Donation</i>	180
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	981
Gross Income	143,462

**Values rounded up to the nearest whole dollar*

EXPENDITURE

Total Staffing Expenses	89,897
<i>Stipend (inc. PAYG)</i>	38,729
Total Stipend Sacrifice & Ministry Expenses	37,808
<i>Stipend Sacrifice & GST Reimbursement</i>	25,859
<i>Motor Vehicle Allowance</i>	9,960
<i>Mileage</i>	1,989
<i>Superannuation</i>	10,973
<i>Clergy Accident & Sickness Insurance (CASI)</i>	646
<i>Long Service Leave</i>	1,741
Total Running Expenses	27,777
<i>Church Services</i>	540
<i>Kids Church Supplies</i>	50
<i>Junior Jivers</i>	128
<i>SRE Materials</i>	81
<i>Office & Administration</i>	1,139
<i>Outreach</i>	(269)
Total Electricity	4,509
<i>Vicarage</i>	1,695
<i>Church Building</i>	1,336
<i>Parish Hall</i>	1,478
<i>Vicarage Heating</i>	385
<i>Water Rates</i>	525
<i>Diocesan Quota</i>	10,392
<i>Diocesan Events (Synod, Conf etc)</i>	369
<i>Insurance</i>	7,667
<i>Telephone & Internet</i>	983
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	1,278
Total Property Expenses	10,991
<i>Building Maintenance</i>	5,918
<i>Cost of Coolatai Church Sale</i>	4,243
<i>Interest on Vicarage Renovation Loan</i>	830
Total External Mission Giving	7,911
<i>CMS - Gillian Law</i>	2,273
<i>Pioneers - G & R Appleby</i>	2,274
<i>North Kigesi Diocese in Uganda</i>	2,281
<i>BCA Boxes</i>	912
<i>World Day of Prayer</i>	171
Total Expenditure	136,576
Surplus	6,886

Warialda Anglican Church

Proposed Budget for Financial Year 2025-26

- Expenditure

STAFFING EXPENSES

Stipend (inc. PAYG)
Stipend Sacrifice & Ministry Expenses
Superannuation
Clergy Accident & Sickness Insurance (CASI)
Long Service Leave
Professional Development

Category Total

BUDGET 2024-2025	ACTUAL 2024-2025	BUDGET 2025-2026
\$ 38,729	\$ 38,729	\$ 40,898
\$ 37,800	\$ 37,808	\$ 39,300
\$ 10,973	\$ 10,973	\$ 11,588
\$ 645	\$ 646	\$ 682
\$ 1,716	\$ 1,741	\$ 1,764
\$ 800	\$ -	\$ 640
\$ 90,663	\$ 89,897	\$ 94,872

RUNNING EXPENSES

Church Services
Kids Church Supplies
Junior Jivers
Outreach
Office & Administration
Electricity:
 Vicarage
 Church Building
 Parish Hall
Vicarage Heating
Water Rates
Diocesan Quota
Diocesan Events (Synod, clergy conf. etc.)
Insurance
Telephone & Internet
SRE Materials ¹
Miscellaneous

Category Total

\$ 500	\$ 540	\$ 500
\$ 200	\$ 50	\$ 200
	\$ 128	
\$ 2,000	\$ (269)	\$ 2,000
\$ 1,800	\$ 1,139	\$ 1,200
\$ 2,000	\$ 1,695	\$ 2,000
\$ 1,000	\$ 1,336	\$ 1,500
\$ 1,500	\$ 1,478	\$ 1,700
\$ 450	\$ 385	\$ 200
\$ 600	\$ 525	\$ 600
\$ 10,392	\$ 10,392	\$ 12,228
\$ 800	\$ 369	\$ 650
\$ 8,000	\$ 7,667	\$ 8,000
\$ 920	\$ 983	\$ 990
	81	
\$ -	\$ 1,278	\$ -
\$ 30,162	\$ 27,777	\$ 31,768

PROPERTY EXPENSES

Coolatai Church Sale Cost
Building Maintenance
Interest on Vicarage Renovation Loan
Vicarage Renovation Loan Principal²

Category Total

	\$ 4,243	
\$ -	\$ 5,918	\$ 1,200
\$ 1,100	\$ 830	\$ 628
\$ 3,204		\$ 3,572
\$ 4,304	\$ 10,991	\$ 5,400

EXTERNAL MISSION GIVING

\$ 5,000	\$ 7,911	\$ 5,000
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TOTAL EXPENDITURE

\$ 130,129	\$ 136,576	\$ 137,040
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Warialda Anglican Church

Proposed Budget for Financial Year 2025-26

- Income

OFFERTORIES

Direct Deposit
Warialda
Coolatai

Category Total

BUDGET 2024-2025	ACTUAL 2024-2025	BUDGET 2025-2026
\$ 63,000	\$ 60,770	\$ 63,000
\$ 35,000	\$ 37,988	\$ 36,000
\$ 300	\$ -	\$ -
\$ 98,300	\$ 98,758	\$ 99,000

EXTERNAL MISSION GIVING

\$ 5,000	\$ 8,033	\$ 5,000
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BUILDING FUND GIVING

\$ 11,000	\$ 7,936	\$ 11,000
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OTHER INCOME

Funerals/Occasional Services
Sale of Coolatai Church (Net of GST)
Mission Partnership
Interest Income
Hall Hire
Clergy Supply (Yetman Parish)
ATO GST Refund ³
Miscellaneous
Junior Jivers ⁴
Donation

Category Total

\$ 1,800	\$ 3,638	\$ 2,000
\$ -	\$ 16,364	\$ -
\$ 10,000	\$ 6,447	\$ 16,000
\$ 100	\$ 229	\$ 200
\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 2,600
\$ 280	\$ -	\$ -
\$ 3,224		\$ 343
\$ 1,000	\$ 981	\$ 1,000
	\$ 396	
\$ -	\$ 180	\$ 500
\$ 16,404	\$ 28,735	\$ 22,643

TOTAL INCOME

\$ 130,704	\$ 143,462	\$ 137,643
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TOTAL EXPENDITURE (From opposite)

\$ 130,129	\$ 136,576	\$ 137,040
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SURPLUS/DEFICIT

\$ 575	\$ 6,886	\$ 603
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Explanatory footnotes

1. There is currently \$1,487 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 \$343 of GST refund from ministry purchases in 2024-25.
4. 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 is currently given this ministry from wider parish funds.

27th July 2025

St Simon's & St Jude's Anglican Church Warialda

Review of year ending 30th June 2025

I have reviewed a selection of the transactions and supporting documentation made available of St Simon's and St Jude's Anglican Church Warialda for the year ended 30 June 2023.

In my opinion, based on the information supplied, the Balance Sheet and accompanying Income Statement are properly drawn up as to give you a true and fair view of the St Simon's and St Jude's Anglican Church Warialda affairs and the operations of for the year ended 30 June 2025.

I take no responsibility for the correctness of the church's accounting system but believe it to be correct at the time of this review.



Melissa Landers



2024 AGM Minutes

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Sts Simons and Jude Anglican Church Warialda
Sunday 25th August 2024**

1. Welcome: Meeting opened 11:15 am with prayer

2. Secretary for the meeting appointed/elected

Moved from Chair: That Edweena Ladmore be appointed, uncontested, as secretary for the meeting.
Carried

3. Declaration of a quorum, Attendances and Apologies
(Quorum= 4) Quorum declared.

Apologies: Mr. Rod Smith, Mrs. Pam Ramsey, Mr. Dave Coulton

4. Call for items of General Business

No items of General Business were raised, and the agenda stands as written.

5. Declaration of Vacancies

The Chair declared all Parish Council & Churchwarden positions vacant.

Alison Allen has retired from parish council and has not sought re-election. Rev. Steve specifically thanked Alison for her service. This was marked with applause.

6. Reports for Tabling and Adoption

a) The **Vicar's Report** was tabled and questions and comments from the floor were noted and answered.

Steve commented that Sundays were a high point in the church and it has been wonderful to see people attending and growing together. He continued by saying that he has been convicted that one of the greatest threats to personal faith, is not meeting together with other Christians. Steve wants to keep encouraging us to keep coming together on Sundays, coming together as a Christian community, and as Jesus' followers. Doing the things that Christians do together is really important and we should not isolate ourselves from the community of faith.

Attendance has been relatively stable. Steve cited the Census data, which shows 35% of Warialda say they are Anglican, commenting that if 35% attended church, we would see around 350 people attending – wouldn't it be wonderful to have at least 100 every week. He went on to say that we should be encouraging our friends who say they are Christians to come to church. Hopefully we all want to see our numbers increase, not for numbers sake, but to see more people regularly joining us to grow their lives in Christ.

Steve would love to see more people involved attending Bible Study, weekly prayer meetings, and in volunteering to spread the load across the whole parish, to see God's people work together to grow their lives in Christ.

Steve specifically mentioned some recent challenges with the Coolatai congregation: Services are not well attended and the building is unusable. A few questions were asked, and extended discussion was had about the options for the building and congregation. No matter what happens in the future, we should still remain committed to see the gospel go forth in Coolatai, and we need to think about how to deal with the property.

Kids Club was a wonderful time in church life, starting something new with Wahroonga Parish injecting energy and love into this. Steve thanked everyone who was involved and impressed upon us that this is 'our' kids club, we have ownership, with Wahroonga parish partnering with us to do it. Steve acknowledged that we don't have a lot of young people to lead, but we pray that will change. A lot of great stories came from Kids Club, however, we could do better with follow-up, connecting with kids and families into the church.

Steve is encouraged by the pastoral care undertaken in the parish. He hopes to help us be more aware of needs by running a pastoral care course later in the year as a mid-week meeting. He would like to see a majority of the parish be involved with this and learn how to care for those who need it together.

Steve highlighted that Warialda is no longer a place of just elderly people in the church community. He reflected that God has been kind to us bringing young people and families into the church. Junior Jivers, SRE and community involvement has provided access to families. He affirmed that we need to ensure our young kids grow and also keep the intergenerational flavour in church; thinking about the mechanics of how we do this well, looking after the people in our mix. Steve thanked those who run kid's church. He felt at present it is difficult to do this more than two Sundays a month with limited volunteers.

The young adult/teenagers also need to be looked after. Bigger events will continue to happen throughout the year. Bill and Amy McIntosh are keen to run a basic Christianity course with the teens in our church.

We have a generous God as we come into the new financial year with a surplus rather than a deficit. We follow a generous God, and the church is responding to that through their giving. Be encouraged and keep going, the more we release for God's ministry the better.

Steve specifically thanked Rod Smith for his involvement in the parish. Rod has retired as a churchwarden after serving faithfully and tirelessly for 24 years. He has humbly served us with a lovely Christian heart, who loves serving the Lord and God's people. Leadership in church is in God's hands and pray he would raise up people for the harvest.

Moved: Chair **Seconded** Garth Skinner: That the report be received as read. **Carried**

b) The **Warden's Report**

Garth spoke to the report, and thanked Rod as his 'business partner', a wonderful friend and support.

Pot luck dinners have been a wonderful way to come together at regular intervals, in an atmosphere that brings us together. Garth thanked Ann for all her organisation of the dinners. Garth extended thanks to both Ann and Bill for the Ukulele group, the teaching and making music available. This group has been a source of great joy.

A lot of maintenance work has taken place and is yet to happen around the church. The main thing is meeting together at the church, worshipping the lord, but coming together to work has been a good thing that has been happening.

Garth also expressed thankfulness for the young families with young children now coming to church.

Moved: Garth Skinner **Seconded:** Bill McIntosh. That the report be received as read. **Carried**

- c) The **Treasurer's Report** was given, and the Reviewed Financial Statements for 2023-24 were tabled. The treasurer summarised the financial position, income, and expenditure of the church.

Financial Statements

Cecile thanked God for His steadfast love and provision, which has met our every need. She expressed her appreciation of the support of our parishioners, whose prayers and financial contributions have been a blessing.

Cecile mentioned the following points regarding the Balance Sheet:

1. The bank account balance has shown a significant increase, rising from \$45,616 in 2023 to \$55,048 in 2024, a 20.7% growth or a \$9,432 increase, this means we've maintained healthy cash reserve.
2. The 2024 GST refund of \$4,016 has been successfully claimed from the ATO and is deposited into the Building Fund Account.
3. With 30% reduction in our loan balance, equivalent to \$7,767 from 2023 to 2024, we're making a steady progress towards our goal of becoming debt free.

Total Income for 2024 was \$167,662 up 26.6% equivalent to \$35,281 from \$132,384 in 2023.

Our sincere appreciation goes to Wahroonga Anglican Parish, and our anonymous donors, who have provided crucial financial support.

Currently, 15 parishioners contribute to our church through direct deposit, yet we've noticed a slight decline in Warialda account receipts, which may be due to the shift towards online giving.

Our expenditure of \$149,812 represents a 9.1% increase from the previous year. As pointed out in the other report, a considerable amount of this was spent on Property expenses. The Insurance, electricity, and other expenses have risen, thankfully, we received a \$650 government rebate on our electricity account.

Paying the loan upfront resulted in a savings of \$145 in interest expenses.

A net surplus of \$17,850 for the year ensures our church's financial stability.

Cecile thanked the parish for entrusting Alison Allen and herself with the Church's finances, and recommitted to manage them with faithfulness and care.

Moved: Treasurer **Seconded:** Alison Allen. That the reviewed financial reports be received as read.
Carried

7. Adoption of Budget for 2024/25

Moved: Treasurer **Seconded:** Alison Allen. That the proposed budget for the 2024/25 financial year be adopted, without amendment. **Carried**

Moved: Cecile Egan, Treasurer **Seconded:** Margaret Haug

That the 2023/24 GST refund money of \$4000 be used to make a lump sum payment to further pay down our loan with Armidale Diocese.

Carried

8. Adoption of Mission organisations to be supported in 2024-2025

It was moved that the current mission partnerships for our parish remain the same: (CMS - Gillian Law, Pioneers – Applebys, North Kigezi Diocese)

Moved: Margaret Haug **Seconded:** Janelle Smith **Carried**

9. Other reports to be tabled and/or read

That all remaining reports be received as read.

Moved: Chair. **Seconded:** Bill McIntosh. **Carried.**

Mrs. Louise Cimarosti spoke briefly to her reports:

SRE – Lots to pray for, lots of joy. SRE is a constant joy and also a burden that still brings joy. A prayer request that another may join me to share the load of SRE because firstly, this would help to invest in age-appropriate teaching; secondly, we teach over half the primary school for 30 minutes.

Junior Jivers – ‘Stacks of fun’. Louise is thankful for the team support and to a great group of children, mums, Dads and grandparents. Junior Jivers runs on a closed financial system and is not dependent on the church finances.

Kids church- this ministry is growing well. Bella is currently a leader but will be leaving Warialda at the end of the year. This will create a void and we are praying for someone to take up that role.

10. Parish Council Election

Steve reiterated his thanks to the outgoing wardens and councilors.

He advised the parish that he has appointed Mr. Garth Skinner as his Vicar’s warden.

The number of nominations did not exceed the number of positions, so no election was held.

Nominations: Margaret Haug (Warden), Edweena Ladmore, Bill McIntosh, Helen Rose (Councillors)

Motion from Chair: The above candidates be appointed, unopposed, for the positions of churchwarden and parish councilors. **Carried**

11. Appointment of Honorary Auditor for 2024-2025

That Mrs. Mel Landers be appointed as Honorary Auditor for 2024-25.

Moved: Chair **Seconded** Cecile Egan. **Carried**

12. Appointment of AGM minutes approval and signing

That the minutes of the AGM be read at next Parish Council Meeting and signed as an accurate record at that meeting. **Moved:** Chair, **Seconded** Garth Skinner **Carried**

13. Close Meeting closed at 12:32pm.