

Wardens Report to the AGM 2025/26

This past year has certainly been a year of change and challenges for all in the Cathedral Parish. With the departure of Dean Di, the ongoing uncertainty of the impact of seismic reports on the Cathedral structure and ongoing financial focus, we are continually impressed with the resilience of everyone who supports the ongoing ministry of the Cathedral.

The Wardens have been supported by a small but very dedicated and enthusiastic Vestry team who have continued to focus on the core issues of running the Cathedral responsibly and within budget with clear but supportive direction from Acting Dean Alister and the Diocesan Finance Manager. We also deeply appreciate the work of past Treasurer Lyndsay Browne prior to her resignation from that role.

We would like to highlight the dedicated work of Dean Di in managing us through the first months of the year, and in a short but effective hand over to acting Dean Alister. Your ministry as always was ably supported by the non stipendiary clergy who, along with Anthony Tattersall, enhanced your work through their supportive ministry roles and of the Cathedral music to an exceptionally high standard.

We summarise some other key aspects of the year below:

- The welcoming of Acting Dean Alister Hendery and Rev. Dr. Deborah Broome. Both have continued the legacy of welcoming all and presenting services with dignity and genuine care and planning
- Deanery repairs following serious leaks have been completed. This involved major reconstruction and waterproofing of the South East exterior cladding and decking in a significant area of the structure
- following Dean Di's departure, the Deanery was rented out to ensure income for the parish and to cover accommodation allowances. This has been managed by a property company as required by the Diocese
- SafeGuarding Training courses have been run and well attended by members of the Parish. Additional training will be offered as and when required. Thank you to all who have taken part and attended these courses
- we have had to deal with significant vandalism around the precinct with the theft of door trims and copper flashing in the area of the construction site on the South Side of the Cathedral creating substantial damage. We are appreciative of the Diocese for arranging the repair of the door trims on the south side of the Cathedral
- Working Bee's were undertaken at the Cathedral and Ormond Chapel to tidy up before Easter and Advent
- Charlene van Eeden departed the Administrator role and joined us again following advertising of the position and after a family trip to South Africa
- A full inventory of Cathedral assets involving 274 items and 400+ photos was undertaken and completed last year. This was a significant and time consuming task. Thank you Susanna Tayler for your assistance in completing this work and your knowledge of ecclesiastical terminology

- Jan Martin is leading Vestry in sessions developing on the theme of the Cathedral as a 'Welcoming Place.' There will be more on this in the near future
- We would like to acknowledge the tireless energy of Anthony Tattersall in continuing the quality of music leadership within the Cathedral Parish. We often hear that there are few children at the Cathedral, however we are blessed with a group of up to 15 children who are at the Cathedral on Thursday evenings for YPC (Young Peoples Choir) rehearsal and who also lead music at Ormond Chapel and join the Cathedral Choir at times throughout the year.
 - It is important to include the work with and dedication of the Cathedral Strings who contribute to the wonderful tapestry of Cathedral music in their own right, but also in support of the excellence of the Cathedral Choir and their music throughout the church year

Finally, to all members of the Parish family, in whatever role you assist in, we thank you most sincerely. May we be blessed to navigate the future together with courage, wisdom and loving respect.

Susan John (People's Warden)

Graeme West (Bishop's Warden)