



Diocese of Willochra

'Little Tribe, Big Vision'

Our diocese is characterised by diversity and distance, with great contrasts between the wineries and vineyards of the Clare Valley; the expansive horizon of the mid-north; canola, lentils, wheat and barley paddocks across the Yorke and Eyre Peninsula; the semi-arid and arid lands as you move further north into the vast tracts of grazing land; mining and heavy industry; the fishing industry and tourism. The variation between small population centres occurring some twenty minutes apart along the Horrocks Highway in the

A Prayer for our Diocese
God of hope and love,
you have called us to be the body of Christ.
Inspire us in the Diocese of Willochra
to worship with joy and energy,
serve with compassion and
be welcoming of others in our communities,
so that all will know the good news of Jesus
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be honour and glory for ever. Amen.



St Raphael, Mount Rat

south to the vast distances between population centres in the west and north is mirrored in the strength of each community's identity. The people of Willochra are people of this vast land, truly they are the 'Little Tribe, Big Vision'; people of hope following where God leads, confident in the reign of God. The diocese of Willochra, although numerically one of the smallest dioceses in the Australian church, has forged a distinct identity and has left its own imprint on the map of Christianity in Australia. Since its foundation, it has preached the gospel and provided a regular pastoral ministry to people of

diverse backgrounds, in towns and settlements

scattered over a huge area. Our diocese is looking to our next bishop to continue to lead us in innovative and creative ministry development as we face the challenges that the future offers.

The Diocese of Willochra was the twenty-third Anglican diocese to be founded in Australia since the formation of the diocese of Australia and Tasmania in 1836. It was created in 1915 out of the northern region of the diocese of Adelaide, which itself had been founded in 1847. The Diocese of Willochra covers 907,578 Km² (92% of the geographic area of South Australia). It is 13% larger than New South Wales, 30% larger than Texas and 66% larger than France and yet the estimated population is 160,000 (13,400 of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Heritage). The diocese is essentially rural. Only four population centres are greater than 10,000. (Whyalla, Port Pirie, Port Augusta and Port Lincoln).



Baptism – Point Pearce

In 1908, Dorothea MacKellar wrote My Country.

The second Stanza reads:

I love a sunburnt country
A land of sweeping plains,
Of ragged mountain ranges,
Of droughts and flooding rains.
I love her far horizons,
I love her jewel-sea,
Her beauty and her terror
The wide brown land for me!

It is almost as if she was thinking about the Diocese of Willochra as she wrote it.

This is the quality we are seeking in our new bishop.

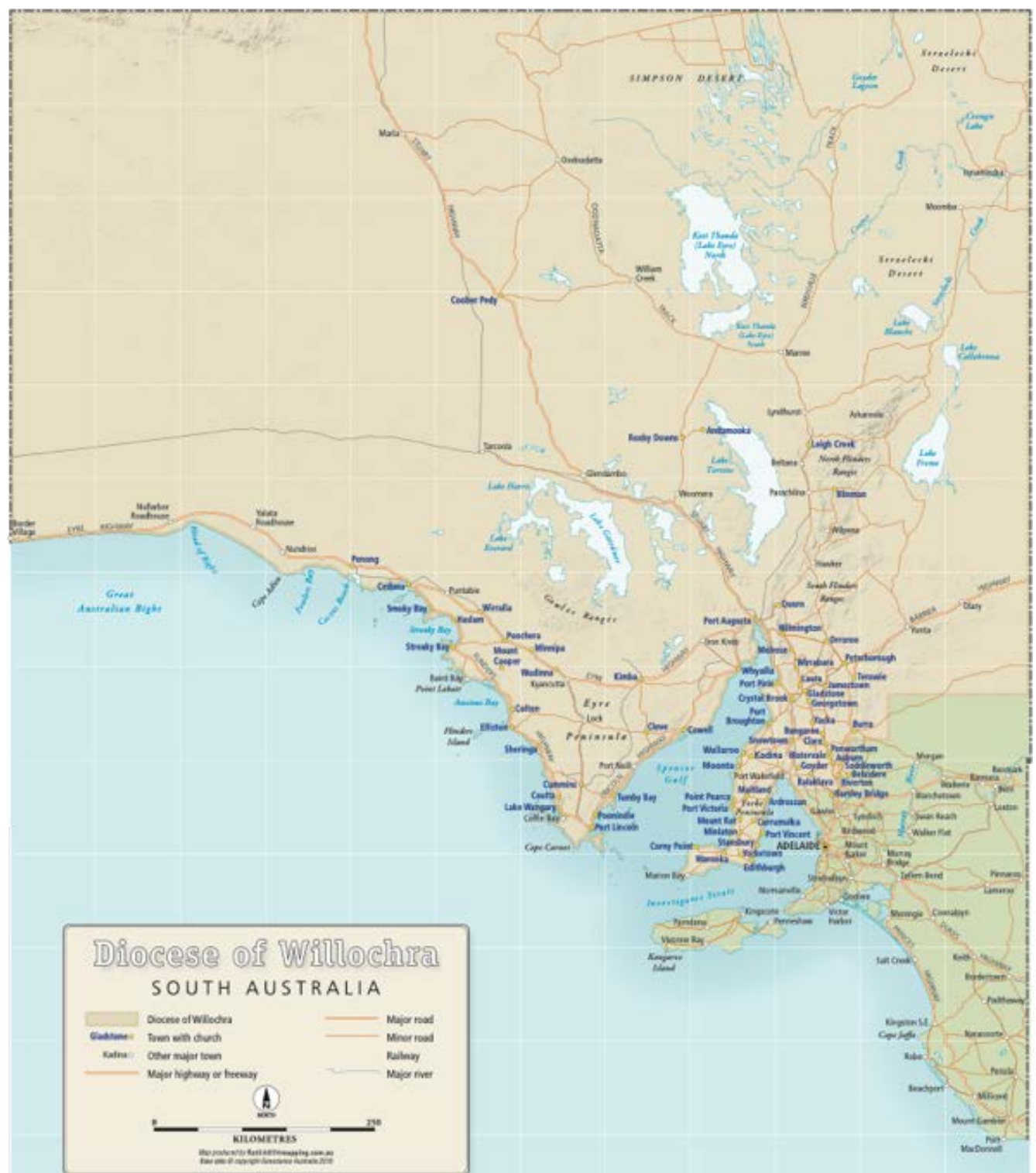
The diocese has 62 gathered congregations, grouped into twelve parishes and four ministry districts. Individual congregations are generally less than twenty in number. Although this has its own issues, there is a level of connection across the diocese. It is important to understand that keeping in touch personally with the communities and parishes around the Diocese and the desire for ongoing, personal pastoral engagement is an integral part of the role of the Bishop of Willochra and the travelling is a key expectation of the role. There is a contrast between the North and South of the diocese that is quite significant. A line drawn from Eucla to Broken Hill (approximately 38°S) demarcates the extent of nominal normal ministry. It is. It represents approximately 91% of the diocesan land area but only 6,000 people.

In the North, only Coober Pedy and Roxby Downs are staffed Ministry Units. Both are funded BCA Locations, although Coober Pedy has remained vacant for several years. Leigh Creek and Blinman are points of ministry that have church buildings. These meet two or three times a year for worship. Currently they are staffed by 'fly in' clergy. The remaining area is nominally covered by Mission Patrols but staffing of these has also been a challenge.

The diocese has introduced some parish-based pioneer ministry and actively evaluates and appropriately implements cutting edge ministry alternatives as a way forward.

Administration

The Bishop and Registrar reside in Gladstone in the mid-north at the southern end of the Flinders Ranges. The Diocese office is situated at 8 Gladstone Street, Gladstone and is supported by the SEE Fund. The SEE is partially funded and relies on contributions from Quotas and The Leigh Trust to fulfill its mission objectives. The Archdeacon for Mission and Ministry Development is also based in Gladstone. The Archdeacon for Mission and Ministry Development, the Territorial Archdeacon(s), the dean and the Registrar act as the senior management team for the diocese assisting the bishop in the provision of ministry and pastoral oversight.



In addition to the Registrar the Diocesan office is staffed by one full-time and two permanent part-time employees. The full-time employee provides secretarial assistance to the Bishop and Registrar

and is also responsible for Child Safe Ministry and the day-to-day administrative matters. The two permanent part-time employees are responsible for the financial accounts and like the Administration manager, report to the Registrar. One of these employees is a fully qualified accountant whilst the other holds a Certificate IV in Financial Accounting.

Diocesan Mission Statement

The Anglican Church of Australia - The Diocese of Willochra
OUR MISSION STATEMENT

OUR VISION To be followers of Christ, filled with the Holy Spirit, confident in faith and sharing it boldly.

BIBLICAL MANDATE
 Jesus came and said to his disciples, "All authority in heaven and on earth is given to me. *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.*" Matthew 28 : 18 - 20
 Jesus said, "*You will receive power* when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and *you will be my witnesses...* to the the ends of the earth. Acts 1 : 8

OUR GOALS

OUR FOCUS
 Growing Christian Communities

FIVE MARKS OF MISSION (ACC 2012)

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

OUR FOUNDATIONS

"Mission and evangelism are the very life-blood of the church" (Stephen Pickard).

We, the church in the Diocese of Willochra, are not only about ensuring a "future church", but about "*entering into God's mission which desires life in all its fullness for the earth and all that dwells therein*" and allowing that mission to transform our church now. (Life in Abundance: Imagining the present Church).

Bishop's House

When Bishop Gilbert White was enthroned on 28th July, 1915 in St. Paul's Church, Port Pirie, it had not been decided where the Bishop should live and he rented the Rectory at Petersburg. Then the Bishop rented a house in Gladstone for three years from March 1, 1917. The 1917 Synod initiated the "Bishop's House Fund", with the aim of building a suitable house after the war. Two acres of the Boyoolie Estate were bought in late 1918 for further half acre in 1923. The house is designed for hospitality with a number of guest rooms, formal dining and a modern kitchen. It has a private chapel and comfortable study. It also features a cellar.



Governance

Our Synod meets annually in October of each year, to update and monitor legislation and to consider the life and challenges of the Diocese. In 2021, in addition to the usual legislative programme, the diocese committed to the development of Reconciliation Plans (RAP) across the diocese; adopted the Ten Commitments for prevention and response to domestic and family violence in the Anglican Church of Australia, and to a process of cultural change, education, training, and support in accordance with the Ten Commitments; and affirmed the work of the role of the Ministry of Eco-Spirituality in this diocese, as part of our lamentation, prayer and spiritual pilgrimage within God's creation, acknowledging the ongoing work of the Anglican Creation Care Network. The synod is held at the cathedral for the first session and then is hosted by Ministry Units across the diocese,



Synod 2021 – Port Pirie



Socialising at the end of the day

one in the East and then one in the west to complete the triennium. These are not all business and offers the opportunity for the local church family to socialise with Anglicans from across the diocese.

The Diocese has an active Diocesan Council meeting six times a year and also functions as the board for the Willochra Home and Camp Willochra. Members are appropriately equipped with governance training. In addition, there are committees created for specific management tasks within the diocese.

Governance in the parishes and communities is taken very seriously and the support provided by the Diocesan Office is critical to enable the current training and education to be embraced. Governance documents may be found on the diocesan website at:

<https://www.diowillochra.org.au/ministry-and-parish-ministry-district-support-2/>

Safe Church

The Diocese is pro-active and highly engaged in creating Safe Church work. South Australia has taken a provincial approach with online and face-to-face group training, which is centrally and locally provided. There are comprehensive compliance obligations for all leaders, coordinators, facilitators, and people who are considered church workers, whether volunteers or paid employees. Regular police checks, volunteer checks and Safe Church training are now included in the Parochial and Licensing Statutes for parishes and individuals together with ensuring ongoing, up-to-date understanding of roles, responsibilities, and accountabilities. The recommendations from the Royal Commission about the protection of children and vulnerable people are in the process of being implemented across the diocese and the province.



**Saint John the Evangelist
Anglican Church Sheringa**

We work closely with the Professional Standards Unit located in Adelaide. This provides services and support to the diocese as required as part of a province wide system with complementary legislation in each diocese.

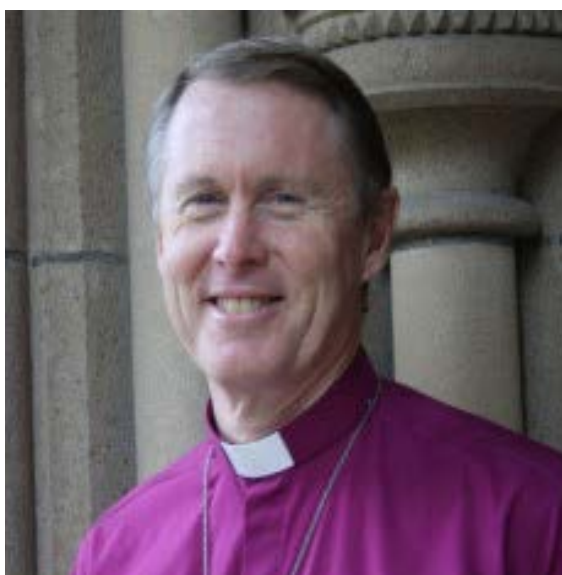
The Cathedral of St Peter and St Paul

The Cathedral of the Diocese is in Port Pirie, a half hour drive from Gladstone. It was proclaimed the Cathedral by Bishop McCall in 1999 when the existing church was redeveloped, and an extensive hall and kitchen were added to the building. Audio-Visual equipment has recently been installed to facilitate live-streaming of services. The cathedral runs a major community support programme called Food on Friday. This program feeds up to 90 individuals and families each week. During Covid, the programme delivered food packages to various home.

The Cathedral is part of the Parish of Flinders Plain, which also incorporates St Silas in Crystal Brook and ministry in Port Broughton. There is an excellent working relationship between the Diocese and the Cathedral, facilitated by the Cathedral Chapter. The current Dean of the Cathedral is The Very Reverend Mark Hawkes, who is the fourth incumbent.



The Provincial Connections



Archbishop Geoffrey Smith
Adelaide

The province of South Australia consists of the Diocese of the Murray, the Diocese of Adelaide and the

Diocese of Willochra. Unique to South Australia is a strong commitment to sharing the Anglican Ministry in South Australia. This can be as simple as a shared prayer diary where upon each diocese is encouraged to pray for the people and ministry of the other two, to the sharing in the administrative processes that promote Safe Ministry and other personnel interests including the provision of training and state-wide Clergy conferences.



Bishop Keith Dalby
The Murray



Who we are?

We are Farmers

One of the principal activities in the diocese is the growing of grain and pulses. Both the Eyre and Yorke peninsulas have vast tracts of land dedicated to the broadacre production of Wheat, Barley, Canola and Lentils. These are modern farms with large and efficient machinery. Often they are family enterprises and managed by families who have held the land from first European settlement when these areas were opened up. There is a certain stability, with the little change in the names of the people on the land. Those working the land are now often fifth generation. The last time a new farming family came to the Yorke Peninsula was over fifty years ago. As properties have come up for sale, they have been bought by the neighbours to expand their holdings.

The large scale of mechanisation has led to the depopulation of these areas, where single family units now run the large properties rather than, multiple workers with families. Across these areas abandoned churches and buildings can be frequently seen.

The towns in these areas basically exist to service the farming industry and the families. With the depopulation, schools, hospitals and medical services, financial services are often in decline meaning the necessity for the people to travel large distances to obtain services. The older generations often leave the farms and settle in the communities.

In addition, there is the grain handling industry. Although grain in some places is transported by rail, most is transported by truck to places where it is silo and then shipped out of the ports like Port Lincoln, Port Pirie, Port Giles, Wallaroo, Lucky Bay and Thevenard.

The rhythm of the land is reflected in the rhythm of the diocese. Seeding in April May and Harvest in November December are periods of intense activity and in the cropping areas, the church programmes are a little more subdued.



Harvest at Melrose, Wheat crop in the mid North, Canola, Modern John Deere equipment

We are Pastoralists

In the southern parts of the diocese, some areas with cropping also have sheep and cattle industries as well. North of the Goyder line, agriculture is based on pastoral leases. A pastoral lease, sometimes called a pastoral run, is an arrangement used in both Australia and New Zealand where government-owned Crown land is leased out to graziers for the purpose of livestock grazing on rangelands. A pastoral lease allows the occupation and use of Crown (government) land for the use of grazing or raising livestock (pastoralism). There are 323 pastoral leases that cover over 40% of South Australia. Typically called 'stations', these occupy the areas north of 38° S.

Clifton Hills Station

These are big enterprises. Established in 1878, this is a cattle property on the Birdsville Track in the far north-east corner of South Australia. As one of the biggest farms in the world, with an area more than half the size of Belgium. The site is divided into four neighbouring pastoral leases, two for Clifton Hills, Goyder Lagoon and Kanowana, which support an estimated 18,000 head of cattle. The remoteness and the size means that they are supported by air as much by road. Not all ventures were successful.

Not all ventures were successful. Kanyaka station was founded north of Quorn in 1852 as a cattle station. It grew in size until it was one of the largest in the district with 70 families living and working there. Because of the difficulties of transport, the station had to be very self-sufficient and Kanyaka station grew to include a large homestead, cottages for workers, workshops, huts and sheds, mostly built from local stone due to limited supplies of workable local timber. The station switched from cattle to sheep, but had cows, pigs, and vegetable gardens to supply food for the residents. There was also a cemetery. It boasted a 24-stand shearing shed and in its heyday had 12,000 sheep. Severe droughts resulted in massive losses of sheep and eventually the station was abandoned. Due to its stone construction, many of the buildings survive today as ruins and are a popular tourist attraction.

Ministry to these areas is the challenge of outback ministry. History of Pastoral Leases can be found at <https://www.southaustralianhistory.com.au/overview.htm>.



Kanyaka Station Ruins



Clifton Hills Station

We are Vignerons

The Clare Valley wine region is one of Australia's oldest wine regions, best known for Riesling wines. The valley runs north-south, with Horrocks Highway as the main thoroughfare. The town of Clare is near its northern extent and the town of Auburn near its southern extent. The Valley boasts some 53 Wineries. The most important white variety is Riesling, with the Clare Valley regarded as its Australian home. Principal red varieties are Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz. They make a range of styles of varietal wines, reflecting different approaches to winemaking as well as the influences of the various sub-regions and micro-climates in the valleys. Many other lesser varieties are also grown, including Chardonnay, Semillion, Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Noir, Tempranillo and



Grenache. The Clare Valley Region contributes around 2% of the Australian national grape crush, but wins over 7% of all medals awarded for Australian wine.



Sevenhill

In the mid-1800s and why two young Jesuit priests found themselves on a four-month voyage to Australia. After landing in Adelaide in 1848, one of the priests, Father Kranewitter, struck out North with a group of over 100 German and Silesian migrants. Amid the beautiful rolling hills of the Clare Valley is where they decided to settle and, after purchasing 100 acres of land in 1849, the young priest named the property Sevenhill in honour of the seven hills of Rome. The creation of

gardens and orchards were prioritised along with the building of basic accommodation and the first grapevines were planted in 1851.

In 1856, Saint Aloysius' College was established. By 1866 the college was housed in fine buildings in extensive grounds, including playing fields. Renowned throughout Australia, it was at that time the only Roman Catholic educational establishment in South Australia, having pupils from nearly all the other colonies of Australia. The college operated until 1886, by which time Catholic education was more widely available. The Sevenhill Centre of Ignatian Spirituality provides a unique setting for prayer and contemplation within the tranquil surroundings of the oldest winery in South Australia's Clare Valley. The Centre, which is open to all denominations, is ideal for silent retreats, planning days, formation programs and day workshops. The park-like setting, shrines, the Stations of the Cross, surrounding vineyards and walking paths, including the nearby Riesling Trail, create an environment conducive to encountering God in a hospitable, peaceful rural setting.

We are in Aquaculture

The South Australian aquaculture industry is one of the largest primary production sectors in South Australia with South Australia's aquaculture industry produces some of the most sought-after seafood in the world including Southern Bluefin Tuna, Pacific Oysters, Yellowfin Kingfish and Greenlip Abalone. South Australia is home to the most diverse range of aquaculture systems in Australia, including subtidal and intertidal mollusc farming, sea-cage farming of finfish and a range of land-based systems. The majority of South Australia's aquaculture farming resides in the coastal waters of Eyre Peninsula. Aquaculture has had a positive impact to regional economies and community employment.

A large proportion of South Australian aquaculture production, particularly Tuna, is exported overseas, primarily to Japan and other Asian countries. A significant amount is also sold locally and around Australia.



We Live by the Sea

The South Australian Seafood Industry is an integral component of the South Australian community and way of life. Fishing began with settlement and one of the State's icon is King George whiting and a signature dish in SA, salt and pepper squid. Thanks to the numerous individual commercial fishing businesses, everyone has the ability to enjoy clean and safe produce from our pristine oceans! These fishing businesses are generally family enterprises that operate throughout regional South Australia. For multiple generations these fishers have been battling the wind, waves and tides to ensure a fresh supply of local seafood is available.



Ceduna Jetty



Port Vincent Foreshore

Recreational Fishing is a popular pastime. Our many coastal settlements are destinations for holiday makers and retirees. Boating is popular, but many locations have piers and jetties a legacy of past maritime history accessible to the public. The Yorke Peninsula and Eyre Peninsula and the west coast offer great surfing locations. Many of our coastal towns have fine beaches and are holiday destinations for people from Adelaide and inland.



The other major maritime industry is freight. The agricultural and mining production is shipped overseas through a number of ports in the diocese. Grain is shipped from Deep Water Ports: Port Giles, Port Lincoln. Shallow Draught Ports: Wallaroo, Thevenard. Contingency Ports: Ardrossan Port Pirie. This continues the historical maritime tradition of South Australia. Many settlements are: Port _____ and the network of piers and abandoned piers are a reminder of the maritime backdrop. In the earliest of days before the infrastructure, the ketches would be beached in the shallow waters of the gulf and the goods hauled out to the boats across the sand.



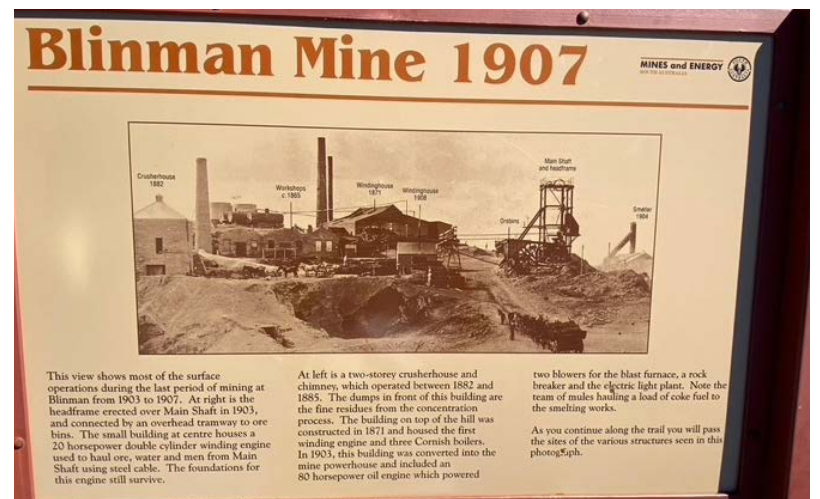
Port Lincoln Grain Terminal

We are miners

Mining has always been an integral part of South Australia. Historically, copper created the wealth in the emerging colony, as well as shaping migration of labour from Cornwall and other places to these mines. This has led to the strength of the Methodist (now Uniting Church) through many areas of our diocese. The gradual opening up of South Australia saw a series of profitable mines opening up. Copper was discovered at Kapunda in 1942, then Burra in 1945 and the copper triangle in 1861. Copper was discovered at Blinman in 1862. Mining expanded throughout the Flinders Ranges with many ore discoveries in these remote regions. After the Victorian goldrushes, and the return of experienced, but mostly unsuccessful diggers, gold, copper, and silver mines were in production within a short time. Some of the best known among them were the Talisker, Teetulpa, Kanmantoo, and Aclare mines. Later there were the many mines in the Flinders Ranges. All these mines, and the different smelters at Copley, Bolla Bollana and Port Augusta, provided work, stability and settlement in the arid north of SA. Most of these failed with the depletion of the ore bodies, increasing difficulty of extraction and falling world prices and demand with a series of depressions and wars.

The history of uranium in SA goes back to Radium Hill discovered in 1906. This is continued with Beverley, Olympic Dam. Iron Ore has been mined in the Middleback ranges since 1901. and Jade at Cowell and Opals at Coober Pedy and Gas fields at Moomba.

Modern mining is highly mechanised and the mines do not have the same population impact as in past times. Moomba is staffed from Adelaide with fly in/fly out staff. Never the less Mining has been responsible for the industrialisation of Whyalla and Port Pirie.



Port Pirie and Whyalla Major Industrial Locations

We are a destination

Many people choose to make a sea change and retire to our many seaside villages. These are often vibrant active communities of seniors, with many community options available.

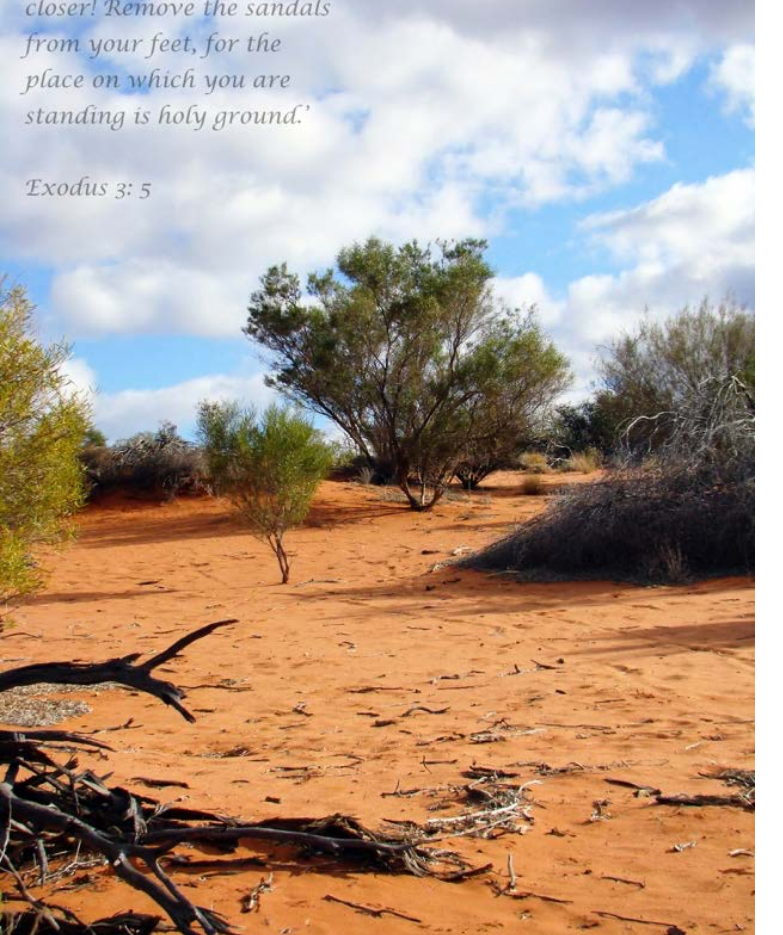
More so, we are a tourist mecca. The diversity of our diocese offers many different holiday alternatives. From the red dirt of the outback, to the rugged landscape of the Flinders Ranges to the pristine beaches of our coastline, whale watching in the west and farm stays or station stays around, or the Riesling trail in Clare, there are many options to be out and about. We are a destination for grey nomads on their great adventures. What follows are some images of our wonderful diocese.





Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.'

Exodus 3: 5

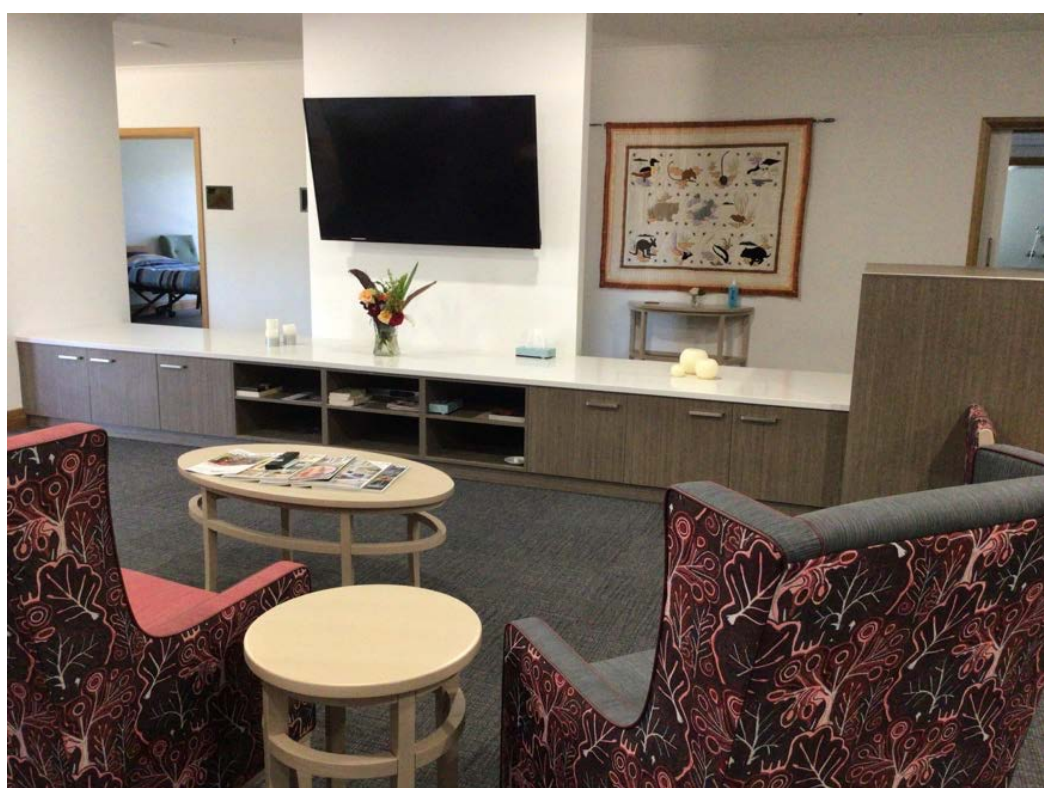


Ministry Initiatives and Partnerships

Ministry in the diocese is provided by diocesan initiatives and key partnerships with other agencies, some working with parish partnerships and others with enthusiastic individuals.

The Willochra Home

The Willochra Home Residential Aged Care Facility is a 42-bed facility. It is situated in the Mid-North country town of Crystal Brook which is 200 kilometres from Adelaide. This area is well known for its country style of living. The facilities provide both low and high level care with the Diocese being the registered service provider. The Finance Manager of the Willochra Home works from the Diocesan office in Gladstone. The Registrar is the CEO of the Willochra Home and reports directly to the Diocesan Council. www.willochraagedcare.org.au



Camp Willochra



In February 1960 the Bishop Jones informed the Standing Committee of the Diocese that Mr Laurie Bishop, of Melrose, had offered him a parcel of land at the foot of Mount Remarkable in the Flinders Ranges, about 5 miles or 8 Kms. north of the town of Melrose. He had inspected the site, which was near enough to the shopping centre, with water and electricity available, and readily accessible from most parts of the Diocese as it was at that time. In May 1960 Bishop Jones submitted to the Standing Committee a proposed plan of the "Youth Centre", as it was called, which was duly approved. He was authorised to arrange for three buildings to be erected.

The Camp has continued to grow and currently Camp Willochra consists of 3 wings surrounding a central oval. There is a total of 18 bedrooms containing bunk beds for between 4 to 7 people. Bannon Wing and Jubilee Wing have an ensuite bathroom attached to each room and American wing has a bathroom at each end the building. This gives a total of 94 beds. Plans are now in place to upgrade the dining and kitchen facilities. The campsite is fully booked out over the Season – March to October, with School Groups, and youth programmes like the



Easter Camp for Scripture Union as well as adults taking advantage of the peaceful tranquillity of this wonderful environment.

Camp Willochra is staffed by the Camp Manager and Catering Manager who report directly to the Registrar. www.campwillochra.org.au

Eco-Spirituality

Eco-Spirituality is a small ministry based in the Mid-North of South Australia that offers moments of contemplation within God's Creation. We believe the Spirit inspires awe and wonder revealing God's presence both in the vastness, and the intricacies of landscapes, whether they be in the arid zones, the coasts, or in the ranges of this diocese. This ministry seeks to foster, or indeed rekindle, a love for the environment, by inviting people to experience our interdependence within God's Created world, by visiting local sites that emphasise God's wonderful creation.



In addition, we seek to foster a spirit of hope in these troubling and challenging times. By celebrating our recognition of God's Creation, through worship and liturgy, and through continuing theological conversations and dialogue, encouraging our Christian commitment and responsibility to the care of creation, through the love of Christ.



Eco-Spirituality first began as camping expeditions to the Flinders Ranges nearly thirty years ago, immersing participants in opportunities to perceive God's presence. Later, smaller, and more frequent groups were hosted at Station Stay accommodation. Invited spiritual directors provided a particular theme for the participants to contemplate as they journeyed through the ancient landscapes. More recently, the tide of environmental concern required a wider response from the Christian perspective, and in particular from this diocese.

Naturally, the Mark of Mission for Creation is a key action theme for the Eco-Spirituality ministry and is necessarily nuanced by the Social Justice Mark of Mission. Environmental responsibility requires an environmental and socially just response and so through the contemplation of God's Creation, and ongoing creating, Eco-Spirituality seeks to respond through action, justice, scripture, and worship.

Currently, our ministry is focussing on promoting better understanding of our relationships between God, creation, and humanity. We have a Season of Creation, (September) each year, we hold Blessing of the Animals at a variety of places, and other seasonal worship.

We have examples of other creation care in a variety of places across the diocese that have been developed locally and we hope to use those places as locations for contemplation by other groups or individuals in the future. We would like to return to longer programs in the north and west of the diocese when practical.



Eco-Spirituality participates with the broader Anglican Creation Care Network, a provincial body. This enables us to access a wider knowledge base of practical creation care, particularly in encouraging church-based communities to reduce their ecological footprint.

Anglicare Willochra

AnglicareSA is part of the Anglican community which supports our work in various ways as we participate together in the well-being of the wider community of South Australia. Anglicare Willochra manages and initiates Anglicare activities within the diocese. The footprint of Anglicare is small, with an Outreach Centre in Whyalla, an Emergency Food centre in Wallaroo. A third centre in Maitland has closed and negotiations are in progress to relocate this service to Yorketown. The overall management remains with AnglicareSA working in partnership with the local Ministry unit.

Anglicare Willochra is managed by a small diocesan committee and employs a part-time worker. It is tasked with the extension of Anglicare services within the wider context of the diocese. This not only engages in the caring dimension, but also acts as a focus for advocacy for social justice.

The Willochra Bursary.

School completion rates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are well below the rates for non-Indigenous students. In recent years there has been an improvement in retention rates and we are proud to be involved in this movement for change. Mission, it's been said, is finding out what God is doing and joining in. (Archbishop of Canterbury). We established the Willochra Bursary in 2015 to assist bursary winners with the costs associated with their study. The bursary grant may be used for stationery and equipment, books, IT supplies, uniforms, sporting goods, school excursions, or school fees.

Friends of Willochra

This initiative was launched in 2007 initially to raise funds for the purpose of endowing the See. People within and beyond the Diocese were encouraged to join as members, to pay a small annual fee and to attend fund-raising events. Over the years, the focus has broadened to include other mission and ministry causes which benefit the Diocese in some way, most of which are mentioned elsewhere in this profile.

At present, the group has over a hundred members, most of whom live outside the Diocese but retain a sympathy with it.

Mission to Seafarers

Mission to Seafarers is an Anglican mission located in ports across the world. We genuinely care for seafarers, not just physically in time of illness or injury, but spiritually and emotionally through the provision of a chaplain. We also distribute Bibles and portions of the Scriptures and provide a Christian environment with people willing to listen and share the good news of Jesus.

Our diocese is privileged to have Mission to Seafarers centres operating in the ports of Port Giles, Port Pirie and a programme of ship visiting at Thevenard. Although local ministry units have the prime involvement in this ministry other units across the diocese raise funds or donate goods for this activity.



Each mission centre provides a safe-haven for seafarers who live and work in a dangerous environment. At these centres, seafarers will find a place to relax, have a coffee, and a chat with sympathetic listeners. They're often away from their families for long periods of time, so we also

provide an opportunity to obtain phone cards, or inexpensive internet to connect with loved ones. Seafarers can stock up on essentials for life at sea or purchase gifts to take back home. They will also be offered Bibles or other Christian literature and an opportunity to discuss the Christian faith.

Each centre enlists the help of volunteers from the community, usually recruited from churches in the town. They are an invaluable ingredient in the provision of care for seafarers — without them centres could not meet the needs of seafarers in an adequate or sustainable way.

Chaplains will advocate for seafarers when there's a need — whether it be raising unfair wages or conditions with the appropriate maritime authorities, advocating for better medical evacuation procedures, or supporting seafarers who have had a serious accident while in port.

Our chaplains visit ships anchored in port to speak with the Captain and crew — sometimes to run a church service, or to read the Bible and pray with people. It's an opportunity for members of the crew to speak with someone who isn't part of the ship's structure, especially if there is a matter of concern, worry, or injustice. These visits may also enable the chaplain to facilitate assistance if crew members are suffering from illness or grief.

We can provide transport to the centre if required, into the town for shopping, or from ship to shore. Centres also provide currency exchange facilities. There is a chapel at each centre where church services are held, or it may simply provide a space for people to quietly sit, pray, and reflect on God's love in Christ.

At times, chaplains are able to provide ongoing Bible study materials for seafarers that maintain the link established during a port visit. They offer a means of encouragement to Christians in the lonely times of life at sea.

The Community of Saints Barnabas & Cecilia

The Community of Saints Barnabas and Cecilia (CSBC) is both a residential and dispersed religious community founded within the Anglican Diocese of Willochra in rural South Australia.

CSBC was founded in 1997, when Bp. David McCall invited Sr. Jean Johnson and Sandra Sears to the Diocese of Willochra to form Community. Sr. Jean had been a solitary religious who formed a music team to minister to church communities with limited musical resources, and Sandra was a member of that team. As a result they, with others, had conducted workshops for several years in country churches.

Sr. Jean and Sandra had a vision of forming a community to continue this work, with members living together in one house in rural South Australia. It was to be a community consisting of men and women, married and single, of any Christian denomination. The opportunity came when Bp. David asked them to set up house in Jamestown, 225 km north of Adelaide. They moved into the Anglican rectory there in January 1997. Bp David received Sr. Sandra's vows, and Sr. Jean renewed hers on



May 15 (Ascension) that year. The following January they moved to Peterborough, a further 43 km north, where they were based for the following 13 years.

By 2004 the original vision of a community based in one place had not come about. There were several friends who were interested, but due to family commitments, work, etc. could not make the move. After much prayer, the idea of a dispersed community became clear, and after much consultation with those friends, this came about in June 2005, when Bishop Garry Weatherill received the vows of three new members, from Adelaide, Moonta and Maitland.

The members were also clothed, as it was decided to go into habit at that time, although this is optional for members. The habit consists of a full length grey alb, navy blue scapular and girdle,

complete with three knots (simplicity, chastity and obedience), and the Community cross. In 2011, with Sr. Jean moving into a nursing home, the Community house moved to Gladstone, 220 km from Adelaide. Sr. Jean died in September, 2014, and Sr. Sandra lives in the Community house, which is open to guests.

While its foundation is within the Anglican tradition, it seeks to be ecumenical in spirit and practice. The Community of Saints Barnabas and Cecilia are a group of Christians who are seeking to glorify God by a life of daily prayer and ministry of encouragement to develop the talents God has given them for a ministry in the church and in the world.

The members of CSBC aim to love and serve God by maintaining a balanced life of prayer, study, manual work, hospitality, recreation and ministry. They also strive to discern the Spirit of God calmly and quietly, emphasising simplicity of life a commitment to the local church, care for the environment and concern for truth and justice.

The community has 6 members at present, with some members coming and going. This is the nature of the Community – hospitable and flexible. <http://communityofstsbarnabasandcecilia.com>

The Diocese of Mandalay (Myanmar)



The Diocese of Mandalay is located in the Province of Myanmar under Archbishop Stephen Than. The Right Reverend Bishop David Nyi Nyi Naing has been leading the Diocese of Mandalay since 2012. There are 23 parishes and 48 churches or stations in the Diocese. In Mandalay City, second largest in Myanmar there are two parishes, St. Mary and Christ Cathedral. There are two archdeaconries, Mandalay and Homelin within the Diocese of Mandalay. The Diocese has 38 clergy, 16 office staff and 35 catechists.

Our diocese as a long-standing partnership with the Diocese of Mandalay in Myanmar. This includes prayer for each other's ministry, Visits to each other's diocese and financial assistance to expedite the mission of the Anglican church and the challenging needs of the people of Mandalay.

Adventure Connect

It all begins with an idea. Our idea is that people need to have fun in order to thrive. Our Christian faith informs us that God wants all people to be able to enjoy happy, healthy and full lives, and so we believe that the Church ought to be known to the community as a provider of real 'Re-Creation'! We are very serious about fun. Adventure Connect exists solely to provide recreation opportunities to people who normally find it hard to access serious fun - you know, the sort of thing that people with the right financial resources to support them might do on the weekend. It might be going up the River and enjoying watersports, or taking off fishing in the Gulf Waters or on Kangaroo Island. Obstacles for many people include not being able to afford a holiday, or a boat, or struggling with access issues due to living with disability. We seek to break down these these barriers by sharing resources and programs we have to truly Bless the community in God's name.



Adventure connect runs programmes out of Wallaroo and draws on local parishioners as well as others from across the diocese, and is a brainchild of our Archdeacon for Mission and Ministry Development, The Venerable David MacDougall.

St Peter's Sacred Space - Mintaro



This is an ecumenical and interfaith mission. In the light of the Royal Commission findings, the grounds of St Peter's church Mintaro have been developed as a quiet, sacred and safe place, where people feel and know the healing presence of God's love, particularly for those people, and survivor groups, who need spiritual healing having been harmed and abused by ministers of religion. With a focus on spiritual companionship, this is to assist survivors of abuse in their quest to experience God and God's love for them in the aftermath of their betrayal from those they have trusted. Spiritual companionship is the help given to another that provides the recipient an opportunity to listen to God's personal communication to them; an opportunity to grow in friendship with God; and lastly to live more fully in this new or renewed relationship with God.

In addition to providing a quiet, sacred and safe place for survivors to feel reconnected with God or feel connected with God directly for the first time, pastoral care and spiritual companionship are offered by two retired military chaplains who

both saw active service in Afghanistan. The provision of pastoral care focuses on offering visitors a safe place in which spiritual and emotional support are offered to those who wish to share their stories with the spiritual carers at St. Peter's. The listening that takes place and the emotional and spiritual support offered here at St. Peter's is not counselling. What is hoped for during a pastoral care listening session is simply to listen to what the person wishes to share, to accept and believe their truth, and to provide emotional and spiritual support in light of what has been shared.

St Peter's Sacred Space has recently dedicated The Blue Tree Grotto which is a special place for small memorial pieces of slate with the names of loved ones who have taken their own lives can be placed. It is the hope of this initiative that those who mourn their loved ones will find a measure of comfort in the healing garden.



The Mothers' Union

MU Australia is part of the world-wide organisation, The Mothers' Union, which was founded by Mary Sumner in 1876. Mary was inspired by a great vision concerning Christian responsibilities of motherhood. She gathered together young women from the parish for weekly classes, where many of the people were unaware of the significance of baptism or the teaching of the Christian Faith. It was not long before branches of Mothers' Union spread throughout England and then overseas. Today there are four million members in 81 countries ministering in parishes, managing literacy programmes, organising HIV/AIDS programmes, playgroups, and meeting community needs.



MU Australia members are involved in many exciting and innovative activities which seek to fulfil our vision. The Mothers' Union is alive and well in the diocese. They continue to engage in the ministry of prayer, good works and social justice. But the existing members are ageing and don't like travelling, and younger people have other things to do. The current membership is down to 130 and our lone members almost exceed current branch membership! What doom and gloom, you might say – but it must be stressed that those members are enthusiastic, knowledgeable about MU and very much prepared to assist their church, their community and MU Australia.

Anglican Board of Mission



ABM is the national mission agency for the Anglican Church of Australia. It is the channel through which Australian Anglicans participate in mission, both here and overseas. Through our Anglican church partners both in Australia and overseas, ABM's Church to Church program serves Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglicans as well as theological education overseas.

Anglicans in Development (AID) is wholly owned by ABM and operates ABM's Sustainable Communities program. AID works with church partners to deliver grassroots, community-driven development, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership, and disaster preparedness and response.

In all the work, ABM want to see people everywhere experience the wholeness of life God offers in Jesus Christ, and to this end we support our partners as they participate in God's mission. Ministry Units Support ABM financially and prayerfully.

Bush Church Aid

The ministry of the Bush Church Aid Society is to provide ministry units in places too small to be viable, yet too remote to join with others. BCA use the model of establishing 'centres'. Although rarely able to establish a self-supporting church community, BCA took advantage of population concentrations particularly associated with mining or commercial points. This centralising of ministry will gather in those living in proximate surrounding areas but has its limitations because of distance.



Our diocese has the support of BCA in two Ministry Units, Roxby Downs (3,600) and Coober Pedy, (2,600). BCA provides funds to support ordained ministry in these places although there has been difficulty recruiting someone for Coober Pedy over the last few years. At present they are providing a series of short term locums

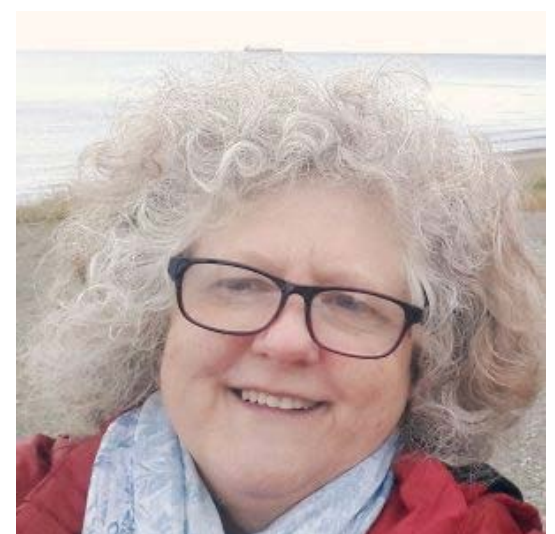
Church Missionary Society

The Church Missionary Society is a national mission agency, sending to various parts of the world where there is a need. CMS is a fellowship of Christian people and churches committed to global mission. We work with churches to set apart long-term workers who cross cultures to share the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Join us in our vision by praying, caring, giving, and going so that the world may know Jesus.



Currently there are over 200 missionaries serving our Lord in various ways in countries throughout Africa, Asia, Europe, South America, the Middle East, the Pacific and Northern Australia. Our own Willochran

connection to CMS is through Frances Cook serving the Lord teaching Greek and Church History to future church leaders and administering the Chilean Provincial Certificate in Theology program in Santiago, Chile. She is from Minlaton on the Yorke Peninsula and has family still farming in the area.



The Willochran

The Willochran is the diocesan magazine published four times each year. It provides a mixture of news and views and is available online at <https://www.diowillochra.org.au/the-willochran>

Ministry to the Edge

At present the diocese is looking at the arrangements for ministry in the vast areas with little population. These have been serviced by Mission Patrols and the current arrangements have their limitations. The aim is to bring these into a more manageable and funded structure.

Ministering Communities.

Having been shaped by practical concerns, the diocese has provided little space for theological exploration or controversy. Instinctively it has responded to the demands of its environment. It was one of the first rural diocese in Australia to introduce a form of local ministry that would enable the church to maintain regular worship and pastoral care in areas where the Anglican population was too small to maintain the traditional English model of parish churches in villages, served by priests who do everything for the people who are expected only to turn up, does not serve us well. The diocese is rather to be thought of a collection of ministering communities reaching out to those around. This ministry of the baptised is promoted and especially in the ministry districts, where it is the local congregations reaching out to and supporting the local communities. The diocese has a tradition of Lay Ministry. David Hilliard reports that in the 1870's. thirty lay ministers covered the diocese. These are often supported by the ministry of the locally ordained. At times this is challenging, as we share the problems of aging and declining populations, The depopulation of rural areas and the consequential decline in rural services in these small communities puts pressure on not only financially but also with the availability of personnel.

But in spite of the distinctives of our diocese we are also just churches doing the things that churches do but with their own local flavour. Our churches in action:



Diocese of Willochra – Ministry Units (2022)

Burra

Burra, St Mary the Virgin

Ceduna

Ceduna, St Michael and All Angels
Smoky Bay, Community Church

Cooper Pedy (BCA)

Cooper Pedy, Catacomb Church

Copper Coast

Kadina, Christ Church
Moonta, All Saints
Wallaroo, St Mary the Virgin

Eastern Eyre

Cleve, St Michael and All Angels
Cowell, St Hugh's
Kimba, St John the Baptist

Flinders Plains

Crystal Brook, St Silas
Port Pirie, St Peter and Paul's Cathedral

Leigh Creek

Blinman, St Mark
Leigh Creek, Church of the Good Shepherd

Port Augusta and Quorn

Port Augusta, Christ Church
Port Augusta, St Augustine
Quorn, St Matthew

Port Lincoln

Lake Wangary, St Matthias
Poonindie, St Matthew
Port Lincoln, St Thomas

Roxby Downs (BCA)

Andamooka, Community Church
Roxby Downs, Christian Community Church

Streaky Bay

Mount Cooper
Streaky Bay, St Augustine of Hippo

Whyalla (Eyre)

Whyalla, St Martin of Tours

Ministry District of Eyre

Cummins, St Simon and Jude's
Colton, St Luke's
Elliston, St Andrew's
Minnipa, St John's
Sheringa, St John's
Tumby Bay, St Margaret's

Ministry District of Southern Flinders

Georgetown, St George
Gladstone, St Alban
Jamestown, St James
Melrose, Holy Trinity
Orroroo, St Paul
Peterborough, St Peter
Wilmington, Christ Church
Wirrabara, St Margaret

Ministry District of Wakefield

Auburn, St John
Balaklava, Christ Church
Belvidere, St Philip
Bungaree, St Michael
Clare, St Barnabas
Hamley Bridge, St Thomas
Mintaro, St Peter
Penwortham, St Mark
Riverton, Holy Trinity
Watervale, St Mary

Ministry District of Yorke Peninsula

Ardrossan, St James
Corny Point, Mission Hall
Curramulka, St Christopher
Edithburgh, St Mary
Maitland, St John the Evangelist
Minlaton, St Benedict
Mount Rat, St Raphael
Point Pearce, Holy Trinity Chapel
Port Victoria, St Alban
Port Vincent, St Neot
Stansbury, St Augustine of Canterbury
Warooka, St James
Yorketown, St George

Eyre Archdeaconry

Wakefield Archdeaconry

Designated Mission Patrols

- ⇒ Gawler Ranges Mission
- ⇒ North East Mission - Blinman to Broken Hill
- ⇒ Northern Mission - Cooper Pedy to Marla, Oodnadatta and William Creek
- ⇒ Far North East Mission - Leigh Creek - Birdsville Track - Birdsville - Strzelecki Track - Blinman

This document was prepared by Archdeacons Andrew Lang and Heather Kirwan as part of the process of the calling of the next Bishop to Willochra. Further information can be obtained from the diocesan website: <https://www.diowillochra.org.au/> or "The Anglican Diocese of Willochra" on facebook or contact the Diocesan Office: administration@diowillochra.org.au. June 24, 2022