



OIKOUMENE

Tasmanian Council of Churches
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June 2015

The 'Lund' Principle

Should not the churches act together in all matters except those in which deep differences of conviction compel them to act separately?

TCC Annual Meeting, 2015

WHO CAME

Around 30 people from all over Tasmania representing the seven Member Churches of the Tasmanian Council of Churches (TCC) and Associated Bodies met in Launceston on 27 June 2015 for the Annual Meeting of the TCC. The meeting was splendidly hosted by the Launceston Corps of the Salvation Army, and included a generous roast dinner. The Guest Speakers were Sr Elizabeth Delaney, SGS, General Secretary of the National Council of Churches in Australia (NCCA), who gave the insightful and encouraging keynote address on the national ecumenical scene and Tasmania's part in that, and Mr Jeff Wild of the NCCA's overseas aid agency Act For Peace, which runs the annual Christmas Bowl Appeal.

WHAT WAS DONE

Besides the tabling of the TCC's 2015 budget and reception of financial statements, other reports received included the TCC Emergencies Ministry Project Officer, Christian World Service/Act For Peace, School Chaplaincy and other Christian Ministries in State Schools, Tasmanian Heritage Council representative's report, Liaison Officer, Australian Church Women, ReVenture, and Jane Franklin Hall.

The retiring President, Mr David Morris, presented the President's annual report which covered the context of Tasmanian ecumenism (spiritual, demographic and societal), a discussion about the path the Council will choose as it plans its future operations, a review of the 2014-2015 year of operations, description of the Liaison Officer's and Emergencies Ministry Project Officer's achievements, the re-development of the TCC website, Council advocacy and lobbying, and the Council's involvement in supporting theological education, school ministries, Jane Franklin Hall serving the University of Tasmania at Hobart, and submissions made to the Tasmanian Minister for Education on the review of the Education Act and on the November 2014 Tasmanian Government guidelines for school chaplains employed under the new Commonwealth funding arrangements.

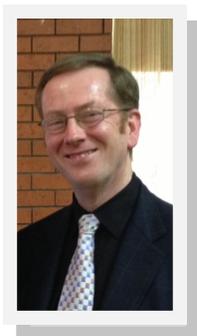
Tributes were paid to long-serving ecumenists who retired from the Council: Mr Paul Dobber and Dr Rosemary Dobber, the Reverend Father Mike Delaney, and the Reverend Dr Bob Faser.

CHALLENGES FOR THE TCC

The immediate challenges are two-fold. First, our State office will not be staffed from 1 July 2015 until a new Executive Officer is recruited, following Dr Faser's retirement. Second, the mode of operation of the Council and its commissions and working groups needs urgent rethinking as to a more effective way forward.

NEW EXECUTIVE APPOINTED

The Reverend Jeff Gray was elected President, the Reverend Ross Ellwood was elected Vice-President, and Mr David Peters OAM was elected Treasurer pro tem.



L.: Outgoing TCC President, David Morris

R.: Incoming TCC President Jeff Gray

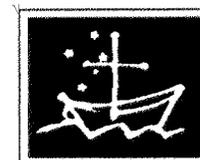


TCC Annual Meeting, 2015

Tasmanian Council of Churches Membership of the TCC Executive as of 27 June 2015, until the 2016 Annual Meeting

Officers (elected by the Annual Meeting)

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| President: | The Reverend Jeff Gray |
| Vice-President: | The Reverend Ross Ellwood |
| Immediate Past President: | Mr David Morris |
| Treasurer: | Mr David Peters, OAM [until 12 August 2015] |
| Executive Officer: | vacant [from 1 July 2015] |

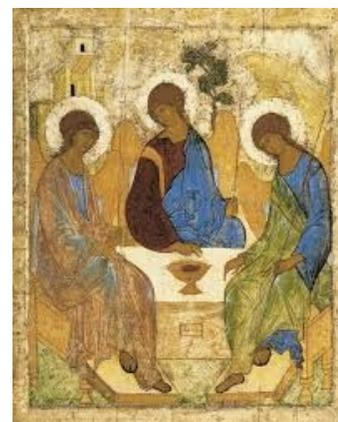


Heads of Churches (appointed by the Member Churches)

| | |
|---|---|
| Anglican: | The Right Reverend John Harrower [retires 12 September 2015] His successor is to be advised. |
| Baptist: | The Reverend John Smith |
| Catholic: | The Most Reverend Julian Porteous |
| Churches of Christ: | The Reverend Graham Mann |
| Religious Society of Friends (Quakers): | Felicity Rose is retiring from this role. Her successor is to be advised. |
| The Salvation Army: | Major Ritchie Watson |
| Uniting: | The Reverend Carol Bennett |

Alternates for Heads of Churches (appointed by any Member Churches who choose to appoint an alternate for their Head of Church)

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|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Anglican: | The Reverend Ross Ellwood |
| Catholic: | Sr Elizabeth Vagg, PBVM |
| Religious Society of Friends: | Patricia Firkin |
| The Salvation Army: | Major Christine Wright |
| Uniting: | The Reverend Rosalind Terry |



Representatives of Member Churches (appointed by the Member Churches)

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Anglican: | to be advised |
| Baptist: | to be advised |
| Catholic: | to be advised |
| Churches of Christ: | to be advised |
| Religious Society of Friends (Quakers): | Nelson File |
| The Salvation Army: | Major Michael Wright |
| Uniting: | The Reverend Jeff Gray |

Convener, Commission for Christian Ministry in State Schools (CCMISS), elected by the Annual Meeting:
Mr. David Morris

Convener, Commission for Christian World Service (CWS), elected by the Annual Meeting: to be filled
as a casual vacancy by the Executive

Executive Members elected by the Annual Meeting (up to five): Mr. Paul Hueston, Mr James Hughes, 3
positions vacant

Executive members co-opted by the Executive (up to three): to be determined

Representatives of Associated Bodies:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Principal, Jane Franklin Hall: | Professor Mark Harrison |
| Australian Church Women: | Miss Daphne Mitchell |
| ReVenture: | to be advised |



On the weekend of 10th-12th July, the inaugural Community Festival for Peace will be held in Launceston.

A diverse wealth of activities for people of all ages and interests will be held this weekend, including some activities under the auspices of various TCC member churches.

For more information, please visit the website at

<http://tamarcommunitypeace.org.au/>.

You can also visit the Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Community-Festival-for-Peace/1390334164603752>.



'Be the change you wish to see in the world'
Mahatma Gandhi

COMMUNITY FESTIVAL for
PEACE
10 - 12 JULY 2015

**PUBLIC FORUMS DANCE ART
MUSIC POETRY READING AND
WRITING SPORT EDUCATION
ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN**

Calendar of activities will be published online June 2015

Locations

- Harvest Launceston
- Launceston Mall
- QVMAG Royal Park
- St. Giles
- Northern Suburbs Community Centre

PEACE
in this context is about celebrating the roles of art, diversity, education and sport in building community cohesion and goodwill between people.

BE SOCIAL

www.tamarcommunitypeace.org.au
www.facebook.com/pages/Community-Festival-for-Peace
Instagram PeaceFestival #peacepics

COMMUNITY
This festival is about community
- your ideas and actions

This edition of *Oikoumene* needed to be produced quickly. We wanted to get the information out about the new TCC President within a week of the Annual Meeting. We also wanted to publish this before Bob Faser concludes his appointment as Liaison Officer this week.. The next edition of *Oikoumene* will include information about the outgoing President (Mr. David Morris), the incoming President (Rev. Jeff Gray), and some people who have retired from their commitments with the TCC at this Annual Meeting or soon after (Fr. Mike Delaney, Dr. Rosemary Dobber, Mr. Paul Dobber, Dr. Bob Faser, and Mr. David Peters.).