

**DIOCESE IN EUROPE**  
**The Church of England**  
**Archdeaconry of Switzerland**

**Archdeaconry Synod Saturday, 30 January 2010**  
**St. Ursula's Church, Jubiläumsplatz, 3005 Berne**

**Present**

Ven Peter Potter, Archdeacon of Switzerland

Lay Canon Mrs Ann Turner, Diocesan Representative on General Synod

<b>Basel St. Nicholas</b>	Revd Geoff Read, Revd Anne Lowen, Robert Keene, Terry O'Reilly
<b>Berne St. Ursula's &amp; Neuchâtel</b>	Ven Peter Potter, Revd Linda Bisig, Hector Davie, Janet Wenger Jenny Veenendaal
<b>Geneva Holy Trinity</b>	Revd Roy Taylor, Revd Maree Wilson, Susan Kunz Ursula Macgregor, Yvette Milosevic, Mary Talbot
<b>La Côte Emmanuel Church</b>	Revd Paul Holley, Valerie Geschonke, Catherine Crocoll Revd Sarah Motley, Bill Vought
<b>Lausanne Christ Church</b>	Revd Adèle Kelham, Angela Fall, Julia Rengier
<b>Lugano St. Edward's</b>	Revd Andrew Horlock, Annie Horlock, Linda Chiesa
<b>Montreux St. John's</b>	Geoff Fookes, Joy Fookes
<b>Vevey All Saints</b>	Revd Clive Atkinson, Penny Wells
<b>Zurich St. Andrew's</b>	Revd Canon John Newsome, Revd Dan Morrow, Nick Leaver, Vicky Atchison, Miriam Keller
<b>P.T.O.s</b>	Revd Canon Peter Hawker, Revd Roy Farrar, Revd Hugh Pettingell
<b>Old Catholic Church</b>	Revd Klaus-Heinrich Neuhoff

**Apologies**

**Basel** Revd Russell Hilliard   **Berne** Brian Morgan   **La Côte** Revd Julia Chambeyron  
**Emmanuel Church Geneva** Revd John Beach, Helena Mbele-Mbong  
**Lugano** Mary Palmesino   **Vevey** Les Cutter   **Zurich** Fiona Tolhurst, Gerald Prater  
John Waygood (Partner sein)   **P.T.O.s** Revd Andrew Ling, Revd Lars Simpson,  
Revd Stephanie Meier (St. Gallen), Revd Canon Ted Karpf, Ven Colin Williams  
**Old Catholic Church** Rt Revd Harold Rein, Revd Christoph Schuler

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**MORNING SESSION >(chaired by the Archdeacon)**

The Archdeacon welcomed the speaker, Lay Canon Mrs. Ann Turner, Diocesan Representative on General Synod, and all clergy and chaplaincy representatives present. The meeting opened with a prayer.

**Revd Klaus-Heinrich Neuhoff**, representing the Old Catholic Church in Switzerland and the Willibrord Society, then spoke of the common pastoral conference with the Archdeaconry

Chapter last autumn. Some things the two churches have in common, some things are different. The new OC Bishop, Rt Revd Harald Rein was consecrated in December. The next International OC Congress, held every 4 years, will take place in Zurich this year. An invitation is extended to all. Date: 9 – 13 August 2010

Finally Revd Neuhoff made a small welcome presentation to our Archdeacon from the Willibrord Society

### **1. Approval of Minutes Synod 20 June 2009**

The minutes were approved and signed.

### **2. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising apart from a plea from Vicky Atchison to inform her of events for the Archdeaconry Diary.

#### **Address by Lay Canon Mrs Ann Turner**

Ann Turner thanked the Archdeaconry for inviting her and spoke of her role as Diocesan Representative and the way in which the General Synod of the Church of England functions. This was followed by a report on the Strategic Review Group, which is looking into ways of re-structuring the diocese with free-standing archdeacons. (See attachment for the main points of her talk)

More information also available on C of E website [www.cofe.anglican.org](http://www.cofe.anglican.org)

#### ***Eucharist***

#### ***Lunch***

After lunch Linda Bisig (Berne) showed a short film on the work done by Cecily's Fund, a charity to help AIDS orphans in Africa

### **AFTERNOON SESSION (chaired by Revd Canon John Newsome)**

### **3. Finance**

#### ***Presentation of Accounts***

In the absence of the Treasurer, Brian Morgan, Hector Davie presented the accounts. It should be noted that the archdeaconry no longer holds any money for Mürren. The balance of Sfr. 250.- was handed over to the priest-in-charge to cover expenses. On the income side, Sfr. 500.- was transferred from the British Embassy to administer on behalf of the British Embassy Discretionary Fund which they have available for British citizens in Switzerland in need of help. As expenses for 2009 were lower than expected, the Standing Committee decided that Sfr. 500.- should be paid back to each chaplaincy. The AD surplus at end 2009 amounted to Sfr. 10,319.- On the expenditure side most items were in line with the budget; Archdeaconry Travel & Expenses were very low as the Berne chaplaincy covered much of the Archdeacon's travel. This would not be repeated in 2010. Two training grants were paid out of the SAMTS fund and an extra Sfr. 200.- was donated to AGCK as a donation towards the costs of the Council of European Churches Conference which Adèle Kelham attended as the official Swiss AGCK delegate.

***Auditor's Report*** Hector Davie presented the Auditor's Report with thanks to Brian Morgan for his clear and correct view of the accounts. The Archdeacon thanked Hector Davie for his work as Auditor.

***Approval of Accounts*** The 2009 accounts were approved unanimously.

**Budget 2010**

In view of the large reserves in archdeaconry funds, it had been decided to reduce the chaplaincy quotas for 2010. Several expenses had been reduced, e.g. Choir Festival, SACEP. Total expenditure was budgeted at Sfr. 15'950.- Adèle Kelham in her capacity as AGCK delegate asked if not more should be allocated for AGCK. She is now Vice-President and in 2011/12 will be President, which will incur more expenses for the Swiss Archdeaconry. It was decided to leave the budget as it is for 2010, but to bear the situation in mind next year.

**Approval of budget** – unanimously approved.

**Appointment of Hon. Auditor** Hector Davie was re-appointed as Hon Auditor.

**4. SACEP**

Paul Holley reviewed the two successful SACEP events in 2009, with Elaine Storkey on Parenting and John Truscott on Communications training. Both have led to feedback. In 2010 the main event will be the weekend at Rüslikon Nidelbad (Zurich) with John Bell of the Iona Community. Accommodation is limited, cost ca. Sfr. 200.-/260.- Andy Horlock from Lugano is working with John Bell on the theme.

Paul Holley is resigning as Priest-in-charge of La Côte at the end of June and will therefore no longer be available for SACEP. Linda Chiesa thanked Paul for all he has done and wished him all the best in his new assignments. Roy Taylor from Holy Trinity Geneva will take over SACEP. Thanks also to Linda for her hard work.

**Retreat** Maree Wilson from Geneva is organising this as a contemplative prayer retreat  
Planned date: 24 – 26 September 2010

**Choir Festival** Adèle Kelham, Christ Church Lausanne, explained that this year the Choir Festival would take place in Lausanne from 30 April – 2 May, with singing at evensong on Saturday and at the morning service on Sunday. In addition the choirs would sing at the Cathedral Evensong on Sunday evening, at which Peter Potter will be preaching.

**Anglican Health Network**

Paul Holley has recently been instrumental in setting up the Anglican Health Network, which aims to support Anglican health providers to improve health care in the developing world. As from 1 July he will be working as full-time co-ordinator of this programme. Up to now there has been no database on what churches are doing. The aim now is to make co-ordinated micro-health insurance and medical care available to as many people as possible in the developing world. Working with churches, with support from WHO, the pilot project will be launched in Tanzania. Paul Holley hopes for a continued relationship with the Swiss Archdeaconry, if possible also with interaction faith and health discussion groups and people in communities involved with health.

**5. New representatives on Diocesan Synod**

Following the recent elections in 2009, the Swiss archdeaconry representatives on Diocesan Synod are:

Clergy – Revd. Canon John Newsome, Zurich

Lay - Vicky Atchison, Zurich and Mary Talbot, Geneva

**6. Reports**

- **AGCK-CH** written report previously distributed
- **Archdeaconry Constitution Working Party** – report coming during 2010

- **Child Protection** The aim is to get a group together to pool experience and procedure acceptable here in Switzerland which also conforms to the diocesan standards
- **Ministerial Review** (*Mary Talbot*) The review has been going on for 6 years now, two periods of 3 years. This timing is not always practical with the clergy turnover and it has been decided to run the review on an individual rolling 3 –year basis. More lay people are needed and more feedback from the clergy would be appreciated. Geoff Read (Basel) suggested that the review perhaps needs some up-dating.
- **Guidelines for the employment of clergy in Switzerland** (*Hector Davie*) Some proposed amendments to the present guidelines were distributed and comments were forthcoming, particularly on the clarity of language – nuances between *will*, *may*, *shall* for example. Please submit all comments to Hector by 31 March. The final revision should be ready for approval at the summer Synod.

## 7. Any Other Business

Clergy please remind Church Wardens to return the Annual Stipend and Review Forms.

## 8. Future Programme 2010

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|---------------------|--|
| • 30 April – 2 May  | Choir Festival at Lausanne   |
| • 28 – 30 May       | Seminar with John Bell of Iona Community at Rüschtikon<br>Nidelbad (Canton Zürich) |
| • 19 June           | Archdeaconry Synod with Bishop Geoffrey in Zürich                                  |
| • 28 – 30 June      | St. Andrew's ZH Pilgrimage to Oberammergau   |
| • 24 – 26 September | Archdeaconry Retreat   |

Many thanks to all the members of St. Ursula's Berne who looked after us at this Synod.

20 Feb.2010/M.Keller

**Swiss Archdeaconry Synod January 2010**  
**Lay Canon Ann Turner**  
**Diocesan Representative on General Synod**

**What is General Synod?**

- The General Synod is the national assembly of the Church of England
- It came into being in 1970 replacing an earlier body known as the Church Assembly
- It continues a tradition of synodical government which, in England, has its origins in the medieval period

**Where is General Synod held?**

- London – winter – 4 or 5 days
- York – summer – 4 or 5 days
- If required 3 days London in November

**Who attends General Synod?**

- The archbishops
- Diocesan bishops
- A number of elected suffragan bishops
- Clergy elected from each of 44 dioceses
- Laity elected from each of 44 dioceses
- Elected representatives of religious communities and armed forces
- Ex-officio members
- Observers from other churches

**Choosing General Synod representatives**

- These are chosen by the electorate in each diocese; in Europe the electorate are the archdeaconry synod representatives for laity
- All licensed clergy may vote for clergy reps
- The term of office is 5 years
- Europe has 2 clergy and 2 laity reps

**Legislation at Synod**

**By:**

- Measures which, if approved by resolution of each House of Parliament (final vote needs 2/3 majority in each house), receive Royal Assent and thereby become part of the law of England
  - Canon – these can be equated to the law of the land for the church
- “Knowledge of the Canons by the Clergy is essential for the right ordering and teaching of the Church of England.” +Eric Kemp (former Bishop of Chichester)

**Liturgy**

Synod also meets to:

- Approve, amend, continue or discontinue liturgies
- Ensure that the forms of service contained in the Book of Common Prayer continue to be available for use in the Church of England

- Decides the form in which ministers and officers of the Church of England are required to assent to the doctrine of the Church of England (the Declaration of Assent)

### **Deliberation**

- To consider any matters of religious or public interest.

Examples:

- Human trafficking
- Violent video games
- Taxation on rain water discharge

### **Finance**

Approve (or reject) the central church budget each year

### **Commissions and Committees**

- Business, legislative, standing order and appointments committees
- Commissions include:
  - Clergy discipline
  - Crown nominations
  - Diocese
  - Doctrine
  - Fees
  - Legal
  - Legal Aid
  - Liturgical

### **Archbishop's Council – 1999**

- Provides a focus for leadership and executive responsibility
- Forum for strategic thinking and planning
- Within an overall vision for the Church set by the House of Bishops, the Council proposes an ordering of priorities in consultation with the House of Bishops and the General Synod
- Take an overview of the Church's financial needs and resources

### **General Synod February 2010 Agenda**

- Legislation
- Pensions
- Mission Shaped Church, fresh Expressions
- Private Members' Motions
- Church buildings
- Liturgical business – weekday lectionary
- Diocesan Motions

### **In reply to questions relating to the above Ann Turner said:**

“Are we really on the outside here in the Diocese in Europe?” Our profile has improved greatly in recent years and we are much more accepted.

“Is Canon Law applicable in the Diocese in Europe?” Yes, we are bound by the canons, but local national laws count legally.

“Is the parliamentary model a good way for decisions to be taken?” It works in that Synod represents the minds of the people, but if the House of Bishops is opposed to a motion there is

no hope of it getting through. All changes go through a very long-winded preparatory process.

### **Strategic Review Group**

This group was set up to review the archdeaconries and the general set-up of the diocese. It is in fact not a new idea for the diocese to have free-standing archdeacons; there have been previous reviews. Two groups are working on the project

- (a) Legal and Finance, looking at the legal status of the diocese vis-à-vis the Church of England, and identifying changes
- (b) Pastoral-Mission Group, looking at the geographical structure, financial implications for chaplaincies, practical problems such as location, housing, deanery administration.

The idea would be to have 4 archdeacons, each one attached to a specific chaplaincy, but only working 20% for that church. Area deans would be the on-the-spot eyes and ears for the archdeacons and the bishop.

Funding: It is calculated that the scheme would cost 10 Euro per person per year (electoral roll church members) This must be sustainable. Housing for the archdeacons would hopefully be donated.

Vicky Atchison spoke of the survey being carried out to find out what the needs of the churches in the Diocese in Europe are. The responses received from 30 – 50% of the diocesan chaplaincies are being analysed by her; the report will be coming through in the near future. There were some surprising answers, revealing particularly that we are by no means a church only for ex-pats.

Synod representatives asked about the benefits to individual chaplaincies; how much authority the archdeacons would have; how synods, archdeaconry and at deanery level would be organised; where and with whom Switzerland would find itself. – All being worked out.

The Archdeacon thanked Ann Turner for her very lucid talk and Vicky Atchison presented her with a small token of our appreciation.