

Successful Launch for the Pelican

The new look Pelican Foundation was launched on 30th September 2008 at a function at the Boat House by the Lake in Barton, Canberra. Around sixty guests attended the function to celebrate the revamp of the Foundation and receive the announcement of funding for two exciting projects in the Diocese.

Andrew Blyth, Chair of the Pelican Foundation Board was MC for the event and formally welcomed Senator Ursula Stephens, MLA's Karin MacDonald and Brendan Smyth. Andrew talked about the Board's vision for the Foundation and the desire to facilitate engagement between the Diocese and the Community.

Bishop Allan Ewing, Vicar General of the Diocese talked about the historical roots of the Foundation that was established in the 1980's and paid tribute to the late Charles Houen who was instrumental in the establishment of the original Foundation.

Revd Neil Miller, a lecturer on Ministry Studies and Co-ordinator of Clergy Formation at St Mark's National Theological Centre gave a passionate and resonating address on "Engaging Church and Community", drawing from the book of Genesis 12:3 'and in you all the families of Earth shall be blessed'.

The Pelican Foundation was officially launched by Senator the Hon. Ursula Stephens, Parliamentary Secretary for Social Inclusion and the Voluntary Sector, Parliamentary Secretary assisting the Prime Minister for Social Inclusion. The Senator highlighting the need for social inclusion and the Pelican Foundation's potential to succeed in this area.

Tracey Matthews, Registrar and General Manager for the Diocese launched and introduced the Inaugural projects funding for 2008. This included a grant of \$90,000 to Synergy Youth to undertake a Youth Ministry Project in the Wagga area and \$60,000 to Basement Ministries to support the IceBurg Café Project at Burgmann Anglican School and their outreach work to the Currong and Allawah Flats in Civic.

It was, in all, an inspiring and enriching evening, attended by special guests and members of various Diocesan Bodies and ministries.

Revd Michael Faragher, Director of Music at Radford College was thanked for generously providing musical entertainment for the evening..

For information on The Pelican Foundation including its structure, objectives and funding principles visit www.anglicancg.org.au.

More information is also available on Synergy Youth at www.synergy.org.au and Basement Ministries at <http://basementministries.anglicancg.org.au>.