

## ACTS OF SYNOD 1994

### Class 1 (Barrier Act Procedure)

No	Act	Reference
	Nil	

### Class 2 (Others)

No	Act	Reference
1	Resignation of Auditor	94.9.1
2	Memorial Minute: Rev. Dr. J.C. Andrews	94.9.2
3	Memorial Minute: Rev. D.G.C. Trotter	94.9.3
4	Memorial Minute: Mr. Alistair Cameron	94.9.4
5	Stipend Relief: Ulverstone	94.14.4
6	Stipend Relief: Armidale	94.14.5
7	Reception of Mr. C. Tuck as student for the Ministry	94.17.3
8	Ratification of decision of Central Presbytery re Rev J.S. Graham	94.18
9	Addition to Bank Account signatories	94.30.5
10	Interest rate payable on "in house" funds deployment	94.30.7
11	8:14 Foundation loan to Melbourne	94.32
12	Deacons' Courts authorised to execute lease documents	94.35
13	Appointment of Dr. Hanna as Secretary of Victorian Trust Corporation	94.38
14	Increase in basic rate of pension	94.39.3
15	Audit to include Superannuation Fund	94.39
	PRN SYNOD – 4 <sup>th</sup> August 1994	
16	Appointment of Assessors to Southern Presbytery	94A.06
17	Assessors Designated	94A.07

### CLASS 1 – ACTS WHICH HAVE PASSED THE BARRIER ACT

Nil

### CLASS 2 – ACTS OF SYNOD OF GENERAL INTEREST TO THE CHURCH

#### ACT 1 – Resignation of Auditor

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 1994

Minutes 94.9.1

The Resignation of Mr. Tom Higgins. T.; as Auditor be accepted with regret, and that he be thanked for the work that he has freely performed for this Court.

## **ACT 2 – Memorial Minute: Rev. Dr. J.C. Andrews**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 1994

Minutes 94.9.2

### **Rev. Dr. James Campbell Andrews**

Dr. J Campbell Andrews was born on 26th August, 1909 and grew up in the Hastings River district of New South Wales. He attended a local school until the age of 14, when he left to work on the family farm. At the age of 20 he was converted to Christ through the agency of Christian literature and the preaching and counsel of the Rev. M.C. Ramsay. He was accepted by the P.C.E.A. as a student for the ministry and proceeded to Sydney to prepare himself for entrance to the university. At this stage he became persuaded that God had called him to be a missionary. Completing his matriculation studies, he sailed on September 23rd, 1932, to Scotland, intending to study medicine, arts and theology simultaneously. In eight years he had completed his courses with distinction. He completed his Free Church College course in 1937, being licensed to preach on April 27th of that year. He also graduated as MA (Edin) in the same year and as MB, ChB (Edin) in 1940.

Returning to Australia in 1941, Dr. Andrews married Ruby Daisy Elvery of Alstonville. He worked as Resident Medical Officer in the Lismore Base Hospital before enlisting in the Australian Imperial Force, serving in the Medical Corps in both Australia and in Borneo. He was ordained in 1946 to missionary service in South Africa and arrived there in 1948, labouring in the Pirie district of the Free Church of Scotland mission until 1964. He then returned to Australia and was inducted to the Manning River charge in 1965. In 1970 he returned to South Africa, where he was seconded to work at the Mt. Coke Methodist Hospital at King William's Town until his retirement in 1975. He retired with Mrs. Andrews to "Lilybank", the family home, restoring it and enhancing the grounds.

Even in retirement Dr. Andrews was not idle. He worked unflaggingly in the church courts and on various committees for a number of years, before feeling the need to resign his seat on Presbytery and Synod. Even then he maintained his interest in Synod business and was always available to give advice to the Missions Committee. On the very Sunday evening when the call of God came so suddenly, he was going over his notes for a sermon on the following Lord's Day.

At the Annual Synod held in 1987, he was special guest at a luncheon held in his honour, an event at which both he and Mrs. Andrews were presented with gifts as tokens of appreciation of the services they had rendered to the P.C.E.A. over many years. We, as a Synod, give thanks to God for the life of Dr. Andrews. He was among our most cultured ministers and our finest contemporary ambassador. This was acknowledged when he was sent to Scotland to represent the P.C.E.A. at the Disruption celebrations of the Free Church of Scotland. We thank God for his life and work, and for our memories of him, and we extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Andrews and to his children, Elspeth, Annabelle, Jennifer and Jamie.

**ACT 3 – Memorial Minute: Rev. D.G.C. Trotter**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 1994

Minutes 94.27

**Rev. D.G.C. Trotter**

Synod places on record its appreciation of the work and witness of Rev. D.G.C. Trotter, M.A. (1909-1994).

Born in Wauchope, on the Hastings river in 1909, Dudley was educated initially in his native district and received some further education at High School in Taree. Conscious of a call to the ministry, he was received as a student in 1930, and in company with Campbell Andrews of the same district, studied for Matriculation in the Metropolitan Coaching College in Sydney, where both students distinguished themselves.

Possessed of an incisive mind and a retentive memory, Mr Trotter gained his M.A. Degree and completed his theological course in Edinburgh, being granted his licence to preach by the Presbytery in Scotland in 1937. He returned to Australia having been granted the status of Licentiate by the Free Church of Scotland, a circumstance which was to have repercussions in later years. He was ordained and inducted to the Maclean Charge on 10th March 1938, as the third minister of that congregation, where he laboured for ten years.

In 1939, he married Miss Christina Anderson, daughter of Elder W.J. and Elizabeth Anderson of Bob' Farm, N.S.W. Christina proved a worthy and valuable help meet to him throughout his ministry. His was an active and useful ministry at Maclean where he was held in high esteem by office-bearers and members, while his active interest in the Free Kirk Fellowship and his concern for the well-being of the youth of our church is remembered with gratitude by many who today are growing old themselves.

Mr. Trotter resigned his charge in 1948 for reasons of health and a controversial issue concerning the use of Paraphrases in public worship. He resumed farming life at Huntingdon on the Hastings as a member of the Hastings River Congregation. Following the death of his wife Christina, in Sept. 1973, Mr. Trotter was left very much alone. Some years later he moved into the town of Wauchope maintaining an active interest in the local congregation where he attended regularly as long as failing health and strength would permit.

His remaining days were spent in increasing illness and physical weakness, though his mind remained clear, in Bundaleer Nursing Home, Wauchope, where he passed quietly away on 23rd February, 1994

We express gratitude to God for the work and witness which he rendered for Christ in the course of his life, and extend our sympathy to his daughter Ruth, and to his surviving sister, Florence Shaw of Wauchope.

**ACT 4 – Memorial Minute: Mr. Alistair Cameron**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 1994

Minutes 94.9.4

**Mr. Alistair Cameron**

Alistair was born on the 10th March, 1945, and spent all his life on the family farm at Harwood Island. He professed his faith in Christ at the age of 22, at Maclean, in May, 1967, and was a tireless worker for his Lord thereafter, taking a keen interest, not only in the work of the P.C.E.A., but in other Christian endeavours, such as Gideons International, of which he was a long-serving member. For over twenty years he has served the Grafton Congregation as Precentor, taking a strong interest in the choice of suitable tunes for the psalms selected. He was ordained as a deacon in April, 1988, and as an elder on the 3rd March, 1991. He was appointed as commissioned elder from the Grafton Congregation to Synod 1993, but was unable to take his seat due to the onset of the illness which finally claimed his life. He passed to be with his Lord shortly afterwards, in June, 1993.

**ACT 5 – Stipend Relief: Ulverstone**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 1994

Minutes 94.14.4

That in accordance with the decision of Synod 1993, Ulverstone be granted 50 % Stipend Relief for the remainder of 1994 and also 50 % Stipend Relief for 1995 on a needs basis.

**ACT 6 – Stipend Relief: Armidale**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 1994

Minutes 94.14.5

That in accordance with the decision of Synod 1993, Armidale be granted 50 % Stipend Relief for the remainder of 1994 and also 50 % Stipend Relief for 1995 on a needs basis.

**ACT 7 – Reception of Mr. C. Tuck as student for the Ministry**

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April 1994

Minutes 94.17.3

Synod confirm the action of the Northern Presbytery in granting provisional recognition to Mr. Chris Tuck.

### **ACT 8 – Ratification of decision of Central Presbytery re Rev J.S. Graham**

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April 1994

Minutes 94.18

Synod ratify the decision of the Central Presbytery of 15/02/1994 which relieved the Rev. J.S. Graham of the privileges of membership in the Presbytery granted by Synod 1981, on the grounds that:

1. It is perfectly clear that the reason given by the Presbytery for its action was precisely identical to that accepted by Mr. Graham himself and embodied in the Presbytery decision of 30/11/1993 which relieved him of his Interim -Moderatorship of the South Sydney Session.
2. No dissent or complaint was entered by Mr. Graham against the decision of 30/11/1993 or against the decision of 15/02/1994.
3. While the Synod granted Mr. Graham a Presbytery seat in 1981, and he subsequently signed our Formula and was added to the Central Presbytery roll, the Synod's decision in 1981 does not invalidate the Presbytery's action in 1994, given that Mr. Graham's stated position placed him outside the Confessional commitment to which all office-bearers are pledged.

### **ACT 9 – Addition to Bank Account signatories**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 1994

Minutes 94.30.5

Rev. J.A. McCallum's name to be added to the list of authorised signatories to operate the Synod's bank account at the National Australia Bank, Eastwood Branch.

### **ACT 10 – Interest rate payable on “in house” funds deployment**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 1994

Minutes 94.30.7

The interest rate to be payable on the “in house” deployment of Missions Relief Funds to assist in the purchase of property by Armidale Deacons' Court, be at the equivalent of rates currently being earned on the funds, say 5 % p.a., to be reviewed annually in line with 30 day National Australia Bank Term Deposit rates.

### **ACT 11 – 8:14 Foundation loan to Melbourne**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 1994

Minutes 94.32

On any funds remaining on loan to the Melbourne Congregation from the 8:14 Foundation, interest shall be payable at the same rate as that charged on any Synod funds loaned to the Armidale Congregation and such payment credited to the Armidale repayments.

**ACT 12 – Deacons’ Courts authorised to execute lease documents**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 1994

Minutes 94.35

Synod authorise the local Deacons’ Courts to execute lease documents on behalf of the body corporate, The Trustees of the Synod of Eastern Australia, on condition that such leases are first sanctioned by the Presbytery of the bounds and copies provided to the Trustees as soon as practicable after signature, for report to the ensuing Synod.

**ACT 13 – Appointment of Dr. Hanna as Secretary of Victorian Trust Corporation**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 1994

Minutes 94.38

It was resolved that Rev. Dr. William John Wesley Hanna be appointed as a member of the Victorian Trust Corporation.

It was resolved that Dr. William John Wesley Hanna be appointed Secretary of the Victorian Trust Corporation.

**ACT 14 – Increase in basic rate of pension**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 1994

Minutes 94.39.3

The basic rate of the weekly pension be increased from \$54 to \$55 (married) and from \$38 to \$38.80 with effect from 1/07/1994.

**ACT 15 – Audit to include Superannuation Fund**

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April 1995

Minutes 94.39

Synod direct:

1. That the annual audit is to include the superannuation fund and all required records are to be made available to the Auditor for that purpose.
2. That from the close of this meeting of Synod the Provident Funds are to be administered by the Finance Committee.
3. That Mr. Tom Higgins be invited to continue as Auditor.

**ACT 16 – Appointment of Assessors to Southern Presbytery**

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> August 1994

Minutes 94A.06

It was resolved unanimously that Synod agree to appoint assessors to Southern Presbytery.

**ACT 17 – Assessors Designated**

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> August 1994

Minutes 94A.07

It was resolved that the Revs.E.R.Lee and A.L.Tripovich, and Mr N.A.McPherson be appointed as assessors to Southern Presbytery.

It was further resolved that the Rev.Dr. W.J.W.Hanna be appointed as an assessor to Southern Presbytery.