

SECURITAS

Honesty. Fairness. Commitment to Serve.

School time

When does a school's duty of care begin and end?

Where there is smoke

Common maintenance tasks like welding and soldering are a leading cause of fire. Do you have the right policies and procedures in place to reduce the risk?

Meet our new Chairman

Paul Gallagher talks about the future for Catholic Church Insurances



viewpoint



I am happy to report that results for the last financial year were positive.

The insurance and investment operations of the business both performed well, although the latter suffered slightly from the general economic 'woes' which were well reported in May.

The merger between National Catholic Super Fund (NCSF) and Catholic Super is now complete. The two funds officially merged on 31 March creating a new fund, retaining the Catholic Super name, with about 75,000 members and approximately \$3.5 billion under management.

"The announcement that Mary MacKillop was to become Australia's first saint was a remarkable moment for the Church in Australia."

While the response has predominantly been positive, the decision to merge NCSF, the fund Catholic Church Insurances established more than two decades ago, with another fund has understandably brought up mixed feelings.

The merger with Catholic Super was not entered into lightly. A small fund by industry standards, NCSF had reached a point where we had to grow through the investment of a large amount of member money, or become part of another larger fund. When a merger with a fund with whom NCSF was so closely aligned presented itself, it made good sense.

I have always been very supportive of the merger. The opportunity for Catholic Church Insurances to step in as Administrator of the combined fund, virtually doubling this side of our business, was another very positive outcome.

I will be a Director of the new Catholic Super Board and Peter Haysey, another NCSF Board member, will take up the role of Deputy Chair. Peter Bugden from Catholic Super will continue to Chair the Board.

In other exciting news EvalU, our new ecclesiastical property valuation system, is now operational in all states. Making sure Church assets are adequately insured is extremely important and we are very pleased to be able to offer this service to our clients. We believe it will go a long way towards combating the problem of underinsurance and ensuring that sufficient funds are available following a loss.

While more accurate valuations are undoubtedly a good thing, we are aware that any increase in premiums will present problems for some clients so we have implemented a program to contain premium increases as much as we are able.

We have appointed a new Workers' Compensation Manager for NSW. Chris Wilson comes to our organisation with a strong background in the industry and will be responsible for the overall management of our workers' compensation portfolio in that state. Chris's appointment represents a new phase in this area of the business and we look forward to the implementation of improved policies and procedures.

It would not be possible to finish my column without a comment on the Canonisation of Blessed Mary MacKillop. The announcement in February by Pope Benedict XVI that Mary MacKillop was to become Australia's first saint was a remarkable moment for the Church in Australia and for the Sisters of St Joseph. We have a long history of working with the Sisters of St Joseph. We look forward to becoming involved in the lead up to October and supporting their celebrations, as well as the activities of dioceses across the country.

Peter Rush
Chief Executive Officer

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Chief Executive Officer

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what's new?

A passion and commitment to serve Church

Tony Cassar, Branch Manager for Catholic Church Insurances in Canberra, was acknowledged at the company's National Sales and Service conference for his outstanding service both to the company and to his clients.

Tony joined Catholic Church Insurances in 1975 as Claims Manager for New South Wales. He became Account Executive for the state soon after and spent much of the next nearly 20 years on the road, visiting clients and building strong working and personal relationships.

Tony was appointed Branch Manager for Canberra in 1994 where his focus has continued to be his relationships with clients, along with the provision of other

services such as risk management and property valuation.

"I think what has kept me with the company so long is what made me want to work for Catholic Church Insurances in the first place," says Tony. "To me, this is not simply a job but kind of like a calling, a commitment to serve Church and be part of the fabric of Church."

"I am proud to be associated with an organisation like Catholic Church Insurances and proud of what I have achieved over the past 16 years while managing the ACT Branch," he says.

"Working with my clients, getting to know them and understand their needs has been a wonderful privilege."



Fresh site for investments

The CCI Investment Management (CCIIM) website has been redesigned and relaunched. With easier navigation, the latest information on performance figures and unit prices are now only a click away.

Visit www.cciim.com.au to see for yourself.



Help us make history

Historian Jane Mayo Carolan has spent the last year researching the formation and operations of Catholic Church Insurances and is about to begin the serious work of writing our history.

"Church archives are rich in fact but short on insights," says Jane. "I am now looking for some 'insider' information to put flesh on the bare bones."

Can you recall when your convent burnt down or when your Church was flooded or vandalised? Are there any heroes or personalities that you would like to see mentioned in the history of Catholic Church Insurances?

If you have images, photographs, information and most importantly stories relating to claims or support received from Catholic Church Insurances in times of crisis, particularly between the years of 1960 – 1989, we would love to hear from you.

If you can help please call Clara Provenzano on **03 9934 3124** or email clara.provenzano@ccinsurances.com.au

Tipping 2010

Just past the midway point in the 2010 AFL season and we have already had our share of surprises, controversy and some brilliant footy.



Catholic Church Insurances Footy Tipping has been an exciting competition this year and as we head towards the finals and that \$1,000 first prize comes into view, things are sure to heat up.

Here are the latest winners:

- Round 1: Mike Gough
- Round 2: Chris Nielson
- Round 3: Melanie Hardy
- Round 4: Cherie O'Meara
- Round 5: Anne Watson
- Round 6: Elizabeth Monahan
- Round 7: Tania Elliott
- Round 8: Brent Russell
- Round 9: Kathryn Jackson
- Round 10: Wayde Barling
- Round 11: Larry King
- Round 12: Rania McCann
- Round 13: Janice Cambrey



Out of hours

Many would think that a school's duty of care begins the moment a student enters school grounds. However, the duty of care that a school owes to a student actually extends beyond school premises and before and after the school day.



supervision did not commence until 8.30am, five minutes before classes began. Staff who were in attendance before 8.30am provided supervision on an ad hoc basis.

The school was found to have breached its duty of care on the basis that it did not provide appropriate supervision.

Choose the right level of supervision

Duty of care in general varies for primary and secondary students. While more mature students do not require the same level of supervision and can be expected to have a greater understanding of the consequences of their behaviour, this does not excuse the school from its responsibilities.

“It is without question the responsibility of the school to ensure students are safe.”

Clear guidelines for the supervision of students who are on school grounds outside of formal class time can reduce the risk of accident, injury and litigation.

The safety of the children in a school's care is paramount. While academic excellence, sporting achievement and a supportive culture are to be strived for and admired, without a safe environment students are at a disadvantage.

Supervising students outside of school hours can be difficult, but whether they are involved in an organised activity, gathering before school hours or making their way home, it is without question the responsibility of the school to ensure students are safe.

Know when to start

An inadequate supervision program can have devastating consequences for students and their families.

Establishing and distributing a policy regarding school hours and supervision is important. However, while parents can be made aware of the school's official hours and asked to drop students off as close to the start of the day's classes as possible, many students will be dropped off early. For this reason, playgrounds should be supervised when a reasonable number of students arrive on school premises.

In 2006, a primary student sustained serious head injuries after falling from a second level balustrade while unsupervised before school.

The boy was dropped off at 8am, but while the school was aware that students began arriving from 7.45am, formal

Senior students may be able to conduct themselves appropriately and safely in many situations but their behaviour has been known to seriously threaten their own safety and the safety of others.

Each year there are reports of injuries and property damage around the end of formal classes for year 12 students. “Muck-up” days are a major issue for all schools. Without a proper system of supervision and sufficient number of teachers in place schools risk legal action if an incident or accident occurs.

In another recent case, a 15-year-old who was cycling to school on “muck-up” day was struck in the eye by a piece of fruit thrown by a year 12 student and blinded.

While the incident occurred before school hours and metres from the school grounds on a public street, the school was found to be negligent on the basis that it had failed to take reasonable care for the 15-year-old's safety and for a breach of the duty of care it owed to members of the public to control its students.

There is no right or wrong way to handle the issue of supervision before and after school. A common sense approach is likely to yield the best outcomes and while programs might vary greatly between schools, the only incorrect strategy would be to leave it to chance.

inFORMATION

From humble beginnings nearly 150 years ago, Catholic health and aged care services in Australia have grown to care for one in 10 people in a hospital or aged care bed. Now, Catholic Health Australia (CHA) is undertaking a major research project to improve the way in which these organisations care for patients and residents.

Catholic healthcare in Australia: A snapshot

- 50 private hospitals
- 6,100 private beds
- 730,000 patients treated last year
- 20 public hospitals
- 2,320 public beds
- 282,000 patients treated last year
- 267 aged care facilities
- 18,000 aged care beds

inFORMATION
SHOWING AND SUSTAINING OUR MISSIONS



Courtesy of St Vincent's Health Australia.

inFORMATION has been established to define the Catholic health sector and its diverse needs and characteristics, as well as to assess how the sector can be more effective and thrive towards 2020 and beyond.

"Catholic health and aged care providers are unique in Australia," says Catholic Health Australia CEO, Martin Laverty.

"CHA's members are both large and small organisations that, as well as caring directly for patients and residents, conduct important medical research and train some of the doctors and nurses of the future. They also include the only non-government hospitals in Australia to provide public health care and a number of vital outreach services to homeless people, refugees, indigenous people and others who are marginalised by society."

"These services and organisations have grown independently of one another over many years. We believe it is now necessary to closely examine how we as a group care for Australians, how we are organised and how we might improve the way in which we serve the community."

PricewaterhouseCoopers has been engaged to conduct the research and is looking specifically for opportunities to improve patient outcomes, address sustainability issues, grow services in line with the mission objectives and improve efficiency.

They met with key leaders in Catholic health and aged care in March and April 2010 and their preliminary findings indicate Catholic services are keen to grow and secure a healthy future for the benefit of all Australians.

Researchers have identified palliative care and sub-acute services as an existing strength. There

was also general agreement that rationalisation, with a particular focus on enhancing the health workforce and addressing workforce shortages, could benefit Catholic health and aged care services.

Growing services in line with Catholic mission is considered to be critical for the future, with a strong desire to tailor services to the needs of a community or region. These could include services targeted to Indigenous health, mental health, high-needs aged care and people with disability.

When asked about the project in the context of health reform globally, Martin said that inFORMATION mirrors a similar endeavour underway at CHA's sister organisation in America, Catholic Health Association USA.

"In the USA, as in Australia, there is community and government will for meaningful health reform," says Martin.

"As an organisation representing 10 per cent of all hospital and aged care beds in Australia, the national health reform agenda makes it timely for CHA to re-examine our own part in the health system."

Full results of the project will be shared with members and other interested parties at Catholic Health Australia's National Conference 2010 in Adelaide 23 – 25 August 2010.

All those with an interest in Catholic health and aged care are encouraged to attend the National Conference to hear the project findings and recommendations and help develop a plan for the sector's future.

For more information visit www.cha.org.au

"We believe it is now necessary to closely examine how we as a group care for Australians, how we are organised and how we might improve the way in which we serve the community."

Catholic Health Australia CEO, Martin Laverty

too hot to handle

Hot work is identified globally as a leading cause of preventable property fires. Defined broadly as any work with the potential to generate heat, sparks or flames, hot work includes commonly performed maintenance tasks like welding, soldering, grinding and gas-cutting.

Sparks from torches or tools can fly or roll long distances igniting combustible materials such as insulation and wood particles.

Any time hot work is conducted the risks are high. Sparks and molten metal, or slag, can easily ignite combustible materials located below or near hot work areas. But hot work hazards are not always so obvious.

Sparks from torches or tools can fly or roll long distances igniting combustible materials such as insulation and wood particles. Sparks can also settle in areas not easily seen and smoulder undetected for hours before igniting. Gas or other fuels can leak from poorly maintained or faulty equipment.

South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) Community Safety District Officer, Allan Foster says cutting or welding equipment can unfortunately be a common cause of structural fires and grass fires.

“The danger with hot work is that people can focus so much on the job in front of them, that they don’t notice sparks are flying towards - or have actually settled on - combustible material.

When embers settle onto combustibles they can smoulder very slowly, sometimes taking up to several hours to become a significant fire.”

The good news is that hot work fires are preventable. Some very simple steps can reduce the risk of property loss and damage.

Understand the dangers

In most cases, hot work fires occur when individuals fail to follow proper safety guidelines. Rather than being irresponsible, it is more likely that these individuals are unaware of the risks or the policies and procedures they need to follow.

Imagine this scenario. A school enlists the services of a local tradesman to carry out some urgent maintenance work on its chapel. Arriving on site on a busy school day the tradesman is directed to the chapel and given a basic explanation of the problem then left to work. During the course of the repairs, slag from a welder ends up underneath the floorboards and goes unnoticed. The tradesman finishes for the day and leaves. Three hours later the floor ignites and the chapel goes up in flames. The total damage bill ends up at more than \$1.5 million.

In this example the school's hot work policy and procedures were not discussed with the contractor with disastrous results. According to Mark Wilson, National Manager – Risk Management at Catholic Church Insurances, this is all too common.

“We are now more aware of the potential risks of having contractors on site at our Parishes and schools.”

Diocesan Business Manager, Mark Bromley

“Whether hot work is carried out by employees or contractors, hot work and fire prevention practices are an essential element of any preventative maintenance program,” says Mark.

“Before starting any hot work job, contractors or employees should discuss the project completely, including hot work policies and procedures. Any operator should be required to read and sign a hot work permit prior to the commencement of any works.”

Fire impairment, which is often associated with hot work, poses another significant risk to property.

There are times, for example when hot work is being carried out, when it is necessary to shut down or isolate fire protection systems like alarms and smoke detectors. This impairment or disablement of the very systems that warn of a fire can be just as dangerous as any hot work itself. But with adequate policies and procedures in place these outages can be managed.

A permit system for both planned and unplanned shut downs and simple strategies like attaching tags to the fire protection system indicating the reason it is out of service, can reduce the risks.

When undertaking risky but necessary operational activities like hot work, policies and procedures can eliminate the guess work and lessen the margin for human error.

Catholic Church Insurances has a series of documents designed to help. *Hot Work and Fire Impairment Sample Permits* and *Hot Work and Fire Impairment Fact Sheets* are available by calling the Risk Management helpdesk on **1300 660 827**.

RAISING AWARENESS

Hot work was just one of the topics discussed at a recent seminar in the Ballarat Diocese.

When Diocesan Business Manager, Mark Bromley looked at all the safety issues facing the large rural Diocese, he decided the best and most efficient way to get up to speed was to bring everyone together.

Catholic Church Insurances was invited to present, along with the Office of Employment Relations and the National Committee for Professional Standards, at sessions conducted in Ballarat, Horsham and Warrnambool in April of this year.

“The whole focus was on making our environments safe,” says Mark. “Identifying and preventing risk and injury to our people and property, as well as addressing the civil and compliance responsibilities that we face on a daily basis.”

“One of the things that was really pleasing for us was the number of volunteers who attended. When it comes to risk management issues, Priests cannot do it all themselves. They rely heavily on volunteers and the feedback from the volunteers who attended was fantastic.”

Mark admits that when asked as part of the presentation what hot work was, not too many hands went up.

“Most of us had never heard of hot work,” says Mark. “We have had a couple of fires in the Diocese in recent years and while these have not been the result of hot work, we are now more aware of the potential risks of having contractors on site at our Parishes and schools.”

As part of the session the group was taken through several sample risk assessments. Photos from assessments carried out at Parishes within the Diocese allowed the group to see real examples of real risks.

“You could tell by the reaction of the crowd that these Parishes were not alone,” says Mark. “I think this was one of the real advantages of bringing everyone together. We got more in touch with each other and got talking about common problems.”

A range of templates, including fact sheets and sample permits for hot work, are now available on the Diocese's website. Mark is sending a CD Rom of all the presentations to attendees and is about to start working with small groups of Parishes putting the lessons they have learned into action.

“I would like to think that we will run one of these seminars every year,” he added. “If we can deal with some of these things as a regional group - far the better for us.”



L-R: Mark Wilson (National Manager - Risk Management), Sue O'Connor - (Director, Office for Employment Relations (Australian Catholic Bishops Conference)), Br Phil Mulhall (National Committee for Professional Standards) and Mark Bromley (Business Manager, Ballarat Diocese).

A focus on relationships

Our new Chairman Paul Gallagher may bring a fresh outlook to Catholic Church Insurances' Board but says that the future is all about building on existing strengths.



Paul joined the Catholic Church Insurances Board in 2007. He became Chairman in late 2009, replacing outgoing Chairman Bill d'Apice.

Currently a Partner at BDO (Qld) in the Audit and Assurance Service division, Paul is also the Chair of the Archdiocesan Services Council and the Archdiocesan Finance Council for the Archdiocese of Brisbane.

Paul began his career at BDO as a graduate 30 years ago and was made a Partner at the young age of 25. Over the years he has played a major role in the growth of the organisation.

"When I joined the Brisbane partnership we were small" says Paul. "I happened to be in the right place at the right time and as a Partner have been able to drive my own life and control my destiny more than would be possible in many organisations. I have loved it."

Growing up in a family of, as he describes them, great volunteers, Paul inherited a strong sense of the need to give back to the community. Putting his hand up to help on various school and Church projects in Brisbane, Paul was asked to sit on the Catholic Education Finance Council and the Catholic Education Council and from there stepped into Archdiocesan roles.

He was drawn to the professional challenge of the Catholic Church Insurances Board.

"What is really critical for Catholic Church Insurances, and is so different to any other commercial operation, is that we must be cognisant of not only what clients and shareholders want, but also of the needs and demands of the Church as a whole," says Paul.

"Catholic Church Insurances is not just about providing insurance or serving our clients, it is about serving Church."

Passionate about his work, Paul says he will add value to Board processes by, "marshalling the great skills on the Board to the decisions we need to make."

"There is no doubt that any organisation will look back over the last two years and assess their achievements around the global financial crisis," says Paul. "What I think we have done well is to maintain our secure and prudential financial position, while at the same time dealing appropriately with our clients and shareholders. It is a fine balance."

The company's relationships with clients and shareholders will remain the focus for the future says Paul, building on the culture that already exists within Catholic Church Insurances.

"We know that the decision-makers within Church organisations are changing," says Paul. "We want to grow and develop with our clients."

"Our products and services are as good as any in the market today but we want to understand who our clients are as well so we can best meet their individual needs. At the end of the day, we are a trusted advisor. It is not just about selling product."

In taking on the Chairmanship, Paul congratulated and thanked his predecessor, Bill d'Apice, for his outstanding contribution and commitment to the company over the past 15 years.

**"We want to grow
and develop with
our clients."**

Paul Gallagher

Law and order

By December 2011 work health and safety laws in all states and territories will be harmonised in an effort to reduce the incidence of work related death, injury and disease.

The estimated total economic cost of work-related injuries and illnesses to Australia's economy is \$57.5 billion¹.

Currently all states, territories and the Commonwealth are responsible for making and enforcing their own work health and safety laws. Commonwealth laws apply to all Commonwealth Government employees and Comcare licensees. Although laws in all jurisdictions draw on a similar approach for regulating workplaces, there are differences in the application and detail.

This disparity is now being addressed through an intergovernmental agreement where, for the first time, governments from each state and territory and the Commonwealth have formally committed to the development of model work health and safety laws.

Safe Work Australia Chair, Mr Tom Phillips AM, describes the reforms as "a huge step forward for Australia."

"The harmonisation of work health and safety laws will build a stronger safety culture for all working Australians and we will see better health outcomes due to fewer workplace accidents and incidents."

The *Model Work Health and Safety Act*, which was endorsed by the Workplace Relations Ministers' Council (WRMC) on 11 December 2009, is not significantly different from many current work health and safety laws. Much of it is based on common policies. The number of changes will vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

One of the many advantages of the new system is that businesses and workers will be able to comply more easily with their work health and safety responsibilities because the requirements will largely be the same, regardless of how many states and territories they operate in.

Instead of spending time developing systems to comply with each jurisdiction's requirements, multi-state businesses will be able to focus on developing and implementing effective company-wide prevention strategies, cutting red tape, boosting business efficiency and providing greater certainty and protections for everyone.

Mark Wilson, Catholic Church Insurances' National Manager - Risk Management, encourages all organisations to start getting their policies and procedures in order now.

"The obligation lies with entities to manage their OHS systems and ensure compliance with the new laws by the December 2011 deadline," says Mark. "We suggest you monitor the Safe Work Australia website for updates and if you need advice, contact us."

For more information on the benefits of model work health and safety laws, visit www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au. To speak to one of our Risk Consultants, call the Risk Management helpdesk on **1300 660 827**. Clients in NSW can call Jim Sfinas, NSW Risk & OHS Manager on **02 9273 2809**.



"The harmonisation of work health and safety laws will build a stronger safety culture for all working Australians."

Safe Work Australia Chair, Mr Tom Phillips AM

- On 7 September 2009 the Senate passed without amendments the *Safe Work Australia Bill 2008 [No. 2]* and an exposure draft of the *Model Work Health and Safety (WHS) Act* was released for public comment in September 2009.
- Safe Work Australia received 480 submissions and a number of proposals raised during the public consultation process were incorporated into the re-drafted model WHS Act. The Workplace Relations Ministers' Council (WRMC) endorsed the model WHS Act on 11 December 2009.
- Model WHS Regulations, model Codes of Practice and a national compliance and enforcement policy to support the model WHS Act are currently being developed. Once approved, the model WHS Regulations will be released for public comment.
- By December 2011, each jurisdiction will be required to enact their own jurisdictional laws that mirror the model work health and safety laws.

¹ Average annual economic cost over five years from 2000/01 to 2005/06.

investing in Australia

Depending on your investment goals, Australian shares can be a valuable addition to your portfolio.

The type of investment you need depends on what you need from it. While this might seem like a 'chicken or egg?' scenario, it need not necessarily be. What you need from your investment will depend on your goals. Whether you are looking for capital growth for the future, a regular income stream or a combination of both will determine the investment that is right for you.

If your goal is growth over the long-term then you should consider investing in growth assets which include shares (also called equities) and property. Both earn moderate income from dividends or rent in the short-term and increase in value from capital gains, or the rise in asset value. This means that the total value of these investments can actually grow in the long-term.

The downside of growth assets is that they can be volatile over shorter periods. Their value can rise and fall dramatically from one day to the next. One need only look at the sharemarket for evidence of this.

What are Australian shares?

Australian shares represent ownership in an Australian company. Any returns or dividends are literally a 'share' in the profits of that business.

Companies in which you can buy and sell shares are called listed companies. According to the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC), over the past 100 years, real returns after inflation for Australian shares listed on the stock exchange have averaged around 7.5 per cent per year. This return was higher than the US or UK share markets; indeed it was the highest of any of the 16 world share markets for which useful 100 year data has been collected. However, ASIC also note that the Australian share market has seen heavy falls, lengthy periods of poor performance and plenty of company collapses.¹

Australian shares represent

ownership in an

Australian company.

Any returns or dividends

are literally a 'share' in the

profits of that business.



How to invest

You can own Australian shares directly by buying them on the sharemarket or indirectly by buying units in a managed fund that specialises in this class of assets.

CCI Investment Management (CCIIM) offers several options for investing in Australian shares. CCIIM applies a 'manager of managers' approach. Trust assets are invested with a panel of specialist managers chosen for their complementary investment styles, consistent with the CCIIM investment strategy.

Multi Manager - Multi Sector Options

The following Trusts are for investors seeking to achieve returns from both growth and defensive assets and are invested in a range of assets including Australian shares.

- CCIIM Balanced Trust
- CCIIM Catholic Values Trust
- CCIIM Growth Trust

 CCI Investment
Management Limited
Trust well placed

Multi Manager - Single Sector Options.

The Australian Equities Trust and Australian Equities Catholic Values Trust offer access to a diversified portfolio of Australian shares.

Both have the same aim; however, the Australian Equities Catholic Values Trust places emphasis on managing the underlying assets in accordance with the Catholic Values Investment policy. The policy uses positive, negative and neutral screening processes to focus on those companies in sustainable businesses and to exclude those with activities that are contrary to the fund's philosophy.

For more information regarding the CCIIM suite of products visit www.cciim.com.au or contact Brendan Mackrell, Business Development Manager on **1300 655 220** or email brendan.mackrell@ccinsurances.com.au.

Mark Daniels

National Sales Strategy and Business Development Manager



Mark Daniels joined Catholic Church Insurances in late March this year to take up a new role in the company's Client Services team.

Reporting to the Assistant General Manager – Strategy, Marketing and Sales, Mark's focus is to identify opportunities for the company to grow its business and manage the initiatives necessary to support this growth.

Mark has a strong background in insurance and sales at a state, national and international level. Most recently he worked as a wholesale broker and was responsible for the establishment and operation of dedicated, tailored insurance programs for specific industries and franchise groups.

Prior to becoming a broker, Mark was Australia and New Zealand Sales Manager for a claims management specialist. He oversaw the winning tender for the organisation's entry into the NSW workers' compensation market and worked on the start up of that business operation. Other successful tenders and projects included an HIH claims management program and Victorian workers' compensation operations. Mark was also responsible for securing large workers' compensation clients including Victoria Police.

"Catholic Church Insurances is clearly very well placed to grow both organically and through carefully chosen new business," says Mark. "What appealed to me about joining the company was the opportunity to grow the business whilst maintaining traditional and cultural values."

Mark and his wife Simone have two pre-school aged sons and have recently finished a house renovation. "The boys keep us busy and are great fun," says Mark. "And with the renovation complete I can return to my passion for restoring wooden boats." Mark is currently working on a 1947 22-foot Chris Craft Sedan Cruiser.

"What appealed to me about joining the company was the opportunity to grow the business whilst maintaining traditional and cultural values."

Mark Daniels

Jane Thorrington

National Business Development Manager – Personal Insurances



As Catholic Church Insurances' new National Business Development Manager – Personal Insurances, Jane Thorrington is responsible for building awareness of the company's new range of personal insurance products.

With over 30 years experience in the finance and insurance sectors, primarily for mutual organisations and credit unions, Jane is well placed to take this side of the business forward. She has previously worked in a Business Development Management role and as an Insurance Operations Manager and Project Manager, so she brings a diverse range of skills to the role.

Prior to joining Catholic Church Insurances Jane worked for a share registry responsible for the delivery of major capital raising projects for some of Australia's largest companies.

"After a short stint in the corporate world I quickly realised that my personal values and work ethics suited a company with a mutual philosophy," says Jane.

"I was attracted to the challenges of the role with Catholic Church Insurances in terms of developing and implementing strategies able to grow this line of business. Catholic Church Insurances' mutual principles also appealed as the company is able to put Church interests before company profits."

Jane's focus for the next 12 months is to build the awareness of Personal Insurances within Catholic Church Insurances' existing client base.

An inspiring artist

An influential artist who played a significant role in the development of contemporary Australian sculpture, Peter Blizzard OAM began his career as a graphic designer in Melbourne and created two important and endearing symbols for the Church.



Peter at his studio in Victoria.

Peter Blizzard's work spans four decades. A sculptor, painter, designer and teacher, he received a number of important public commissions during his career. The first of these commissions was to create a symbol for the Church.

In 1971 Peter was working for the Post Master General's Department as a senior designer. It was announced that Melbourne would host the 40th International Eucharistic Congress in the autumn of 1973.

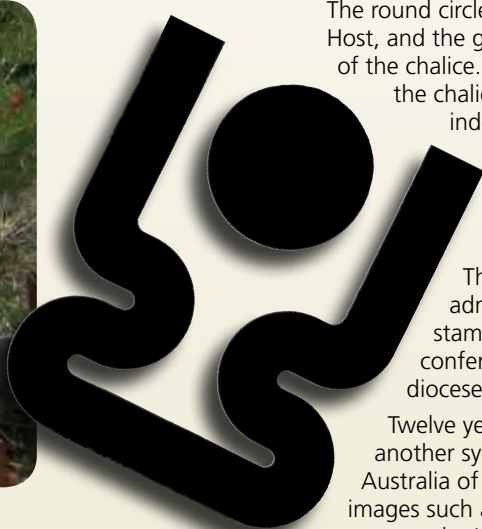
The logistics of the Congress were in the hands of Monsignor Brian Walsh, a senior cleric in the Melbourne Archdiocese. Monsignor Walsh approached contacts at the Post Master General's Department, knowing it had a strong graphic design section. Peter was invited to design the symbol that would represent the aspirations of the Congress.

While there is no surviving written brief, it is clear that the Church wanted something that would be not just a powerful statement in its own right, but also clearly and uncompromisingly contemporary. The symbol would also have to encapsulate and convey the theme of the congress – the Eucharistic command 'love one another as I have loved you'.

The symbol is a glyph, a combination of design elements intended to represent an abstract concept and conceived so it can be read identically from left to right and vice versa. Like a Chinese, Mayan or Egyptian character, it can be perceived on several levels simultaneously, depending on whether one focuses on the symbol itself or the space it inhabits. A journalist writing at the time noted the following:

"His (Blizzard) symbol for the Eucharistic Congress is ingenious - more ingenious in fact, than most casual observers would guess.

Information reprinted with permission of the Art Gallery of Ballarat.
 1 www.peterblizzard.com



The round circle represents both the Eucharist in the form of the Host, and the globe of the earth. Around this is the [white] shape of the chalice. The [black] outer shape of the design supports the chalice, representing support given to the Church. The indented outer sides are meant to signify the coming together of the faithful in Melbourne.

The complete symbol is also intended to convey the appearance of a squatting figure with arms raised above the head in praise to God.¹

The symbol gained an international audience. It was admired by Pope Paul VI and placed on Vatican City stamps. It also appeared in an invitation to attend the conference that was sent to more than 2,500 Catholic dioceses throughout the world.

Twelve years later Peter was given the opportunity to create another symbol for the Church, this time to mark the visit to Australia of Pope John Paul II. The Papal symbol incorporated images such as a Bishop's Mitre, a fish and a tongue of fire to represent the Holy Spirit and was again highly praised.

The Eucharistic Congress Symbol is still a part of the imagery of the Church today. It appears in the coat of arms of the Archbishop of Melbourne Denis Hart, who was closely involved in its celebration, and it also appears in the coat of arms of the late Archbishop Little, Archbishop Emeritus.

Perhaps this is one of the greatest measures of its success - that nearly 40 years after it was created it continues to speak to the people of the Church.

Peter Blizzard died in January 2010. For more details of his work visit www.peterblizzard.com.



The Archbishop of Melbourne, Cardinal Knox, and His Holiness Pope Paul VI admire the symbol of the 40th Eucharistic Congress, Unknown photographer c. 1972.